



BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Meeting:
Place:
Location:
Date:
Time:

Special Board Meeting
Board Room/Virtual
319 W. Fourth Street
January 12, 2021
7:03 P.M.

This meeting was posted online for at least 72 hours as permitted by the suspended portions of the Texas Open Meetings Act as approved by Governor Abbott. The meeting was livestreamed at the following web link: <https://youtu.be/SwWlvK66RTw>

THE EXCLUSIVE WAY TO PARTICIPATE IN PUBLIC COMMENT IS TO REGISTER NO LATER THAN 5:45 P.M. ON JANUARY 12, 2021, AT THE FOLLOWING WEB LINK: <https://www.wisd.us/superintendentboard/new-page>

MINUTES

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Armando Cuellar, Board President.

II. Establishment of a Quorum

A full quorum was established. The following board members were present.

Armando Cuellar, President
Dr. Jaime Rodriguez, Vice President
Jesse Trevino, Secretary
Marcos De Los Santos, Trustee
Andrew Gonzalez, Trustee
Isidoro Nieto, Trustee
Jaclyn Sustaita, Trustee

III. Public Comments

None

The public had the opportunity to participate in public comments by registering no later than 5:15 p.m. at the following web link: <https://www.wisd.us/superintendentboard/new-page>.

IV. Discussion and Possible Action for the Board to Rank the Attorney Firms that Responded to the Request for Qualifications to Provide Legal Services to the District (RFQ #21-01-21)

During the December 17, 2020 Regular Board Meeting the Board approved the Administration to release a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for attorney firms to provide legal services to the district. An advertisement was placed in The Monitor on December 23 (Wednesday) & 27 (Sunday), 2020. The Request for Qualifications was released on December 23, 2020 with a deadline of Wednesday, January 6, 2021.

The following criteria relating to experience was requested in the Request for Qualifications:

1. Licensed to Practice as Attorney(s) in the State of Texas
2. Have at least 5 years of experience in the field of School District Law (all areas).

A total of three (3) Qualification Statements were received from the following attorney firms:

- >O'Hanlon, Demerath & Castillo – Austin, Texas/Pharr, Texas
- >Law Office of Eloy Sepulveda - Weslaco, Texas
- >Walsh, Gallegos, Trevino, Russo & Kyle, PC – Austin, Texas/Harlingen, Texas

Dr. Canales provided the following information on the ranking process:

- A subsequent special called meeting will be scheduled for the Board to:
 - >Approve a contract with the attorney firm ranked #1. In the event that the Board is not able to negotiate a contract with the attorney firm ranked #1, negotiations will be terminated.
 - >Then contract negotiations will be initiated with attorney firm ranked #2. In the event that the Board is not able to negotiate a contract with the attorney firm ranked #2, negotiations will be terminated.
 - >Then contract negotiations will be initiated with attorney firm ranked #3. In the event that the Board is not able to negotiate a contract with the attorney firm ranked #3, negotiations will be terminated.
 - >The procurement process will start all over again.

Each board member received a summary of qualifications of each firm and a ranking sheet. One board member attended the meeting virtually and received a ranking form as well.

The board members took a few minutes to rank the firms from #1 to #3 with #1 being the top selection. The attorney firm with the lowest overall score was considered the highest ranked firm.

The results of the ranking were as follows:

1. Walsh, Gallegos, Trevino, Russo & Kyle, PC – Austin, Texas/Harlingen, Texas
2. Law Office of Eloy Sepulveda – Weslaco, Texas
3. O'Hanlon, Demerath & Castillo - Austin, Texas/Pharr, Texas

Andrew Gonzalez made the motion to approve the results of the ranking as presented. Dr. Jaime Rodriguez seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

V. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:13 p.m.