TULARE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES

The Tulare County Board of Education met for a virtual regular Board Meeting on Wednesday, July 8, 2020, at 3:00 p.m. via a video/teleconference call.

VIRTUALLY PRESENT
Board Members
Celia Maldonado-Arroyo, President
Tom Link, Vice President
Judy Coble
Joe Enea
Debby Holguin
Pat Hillman
Chris Reed
Tim A. Hire, Ex-Officio Secretary

VIRTUALLY PRESENT
Staff Members
Rob Herman, Public Information Officer
Marlene Moreno, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent
Jeff Ramsay, Director, General Services
Julie Berk, Administrator, Assistant Superintendent, Student Support Services
Charlene Stringham, Assistant Superintendent, District Support Services
Dr. Wayne Lacy, Director, Information Systems
Dr. Fernie Marroquin, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services
John Rodriguez, Director, Human Resources
Lynne Goodwin, Administrator, CFNLP

GUESTS
Guests as listed in the register including Desiree Serra.

CALL TO ORDER
Pledge of Allegiance/
Welcome
Board President Maldonado-Arroyo welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order. Tom Link led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ADA
ACCOMMODATIONS
President Maldonado-Arroyo reported that the ADA accommodations had been met.

PUBLIC COMMENT
Members of the public did not address any matter of jurisdiction.

CONSENT CALENDAR
It was moved by Enea, seconded by Link to approve the minutes for the Regular Board Meeting of June 10, 2020, Countywide Registration of Credentials and all donations received. Motion carried with the following votes: Ayes: Reed, Enea, Holguin, Coble, Link and Maldonado-Arroyo. Board Member Hillman abstained.
Lynne Goodwin asked for the Board to approve an amendment for the Department of Health Care Services 19-96071. It was moved by Coble, seconded by Enea to approve the amendment for the Department of Health Care Services 19-96071. Motion carried with the following votes: Ayes: Reed, Enea, Holguin, Coble, Hillman, Link and Maldonado-Arroyo.

Jeff Ramsay asked the Board for approval on the first phase of the LTE project. It is a Tulare County wide private network similar to Verizon and ATT. It is like having a hotspot provided for our students. First phase is to authenticate with the Central California Learning Network (CCLN). One bid was received from Star Solution. Celia asked how long will the project take from start to end. Mr. Ramsay advised that Porterville/Burton area will hopefully start running in November. Then they will need to look at cell tower locations and how many are needed. Joe asked if this network is available to all students. We are trying to reach out to all students especially those on the borders of Tulare County. We also want work with adjacent counties. Kings county has already done this but is keeping their connectivity for their own county. It was moved by Link, seconded by Hillman to accept the bid for RFP #20.05 LTE eCORE Project. Motion carried with the following votes: Ayes: Reed, Enea, Holguin, Coble, Hillman, Link and Maldonado-Arroyo.

Tim applauded TCOE staff for adapting to working from home. Mr. Hire reported that our office had to postpone our reopening for a couple of weeks. Our office is closing books on fiscal year end items. HR staff and business services are open. Jeff Ramsay and Conan Palmer constructed plexiglass barriers in places where needed. Tim discussed the budget. Budget is built on federal dollars. If dollars don’t come in, we will be doing deferrels. We anticipate the budget to be twice as bad as what happened in 2008. Layoffs of certificated staff have been prohibited from July 1, 2020 through July 1, 2021. This could be problematic. We can not lay off classified staff who are working in transportation and nutritional/cafeteria services. SCICON is currently closed but may reopen in January.

Mr. Enea asked if TCOE had any staff that have tested positive for Covid. Mr. Hire advised that three people have tested positive from our staff. Our ability to keep people at work will be how diligent people are about following check-in protocols at work once we return to work. President Trump is pushing for all students to return to school five days a week. Celia asked if it is up to each district superintendent to make that decision. Superintendent Hire said yes. Celia asked about the unequal pay issue that was brought up by FCOE. Has there been any in our county? Tim said we have not looked into this for our county. Debby asked, regarding virus protocols, how does it work when our staff goes to other districts and meeting their protocols. We will adhere to our protocols on their sites but will not let our staff go to other sites if they don’t have safe protocols.
NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING  August 12, 2020 – 3:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT  Meeting adjourned at 3:32 p.m.