

Action Item

Date: November 14, 2011 Division: Finance

Subject: Call for Proposals to Lease Mineral Rights at Harmon and Killough Campuses

Background Information:

- In 2007 LISD leased its minerals for three years. The lease expired before any wells could be drilled. Due to the strong feelings in the community associated with gas drilling in a heavily populated area the district has declined several opportunities to renew its mineral leases.
- Two energy companies, Titan and Williams, both are seeking to drill gas wells near LISD
 property. Both companies have filed Rule 37 requests for exceptions to the state law that would
 restrict the distance the wells could come to LISD property. This exception, if granted, would
 allow the gas to be extracted very close to the LISD property line.
- To date, LISD has filed protests against the Rule 37 requests of the two companies. Hearings may be scheduled later in December.
- Staff is requesting permission to advertise for proposals for mineral leases for the Harmon and Killough campuses only.

Administrative Consideration:

- Absent a significant legal fight, there is little LISD can do to prevent the proposed gas wells
 from being drilled by the respective gas companies. And, if the Rule 37 exception were to be
 granted by the Railroad Commission, the companies would drill right to the district property
 line (although the actual pipe would be some 8000 feet below ground) and very likely impact
 some of the minerals owned by LISD.
- Staff is requesting the opportunity to seek proposals for the minerals for these two campuses as
 a method to determine both the value of the asset as well as an opportunity to negotiate some
 safeguards to the students on those campuses through the lease contract. Those restrictions
 could include: restricting the distance from LISD property in which a well could be drilled (the
 wells being planned are in the City of Lewisville; the cities in the area govern the well location
 by ordinance but LISD could, by agreement, extend those distances) and testing regularly for air
 quality in the schools.
- Proposals would be solicited for these two campuses only. If approved the district would advertise for three weeks and open the proposals on Wednesday, December 7, 2011. The results would be considered at the December 12th Board meeting.

Recommendation:

 That staff be authorized to solicit proposals for mineral leases for the Harmon and Killough campuses only.

Timeline/Report:

· Results of the solicitation will be presented at the December Board meeting.

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