Kenny Howell

Managing Editor

The Wilson County School Board approved the contract with new Director of Schools Dr. Donna Wright.

“What an honor and privilege to serve as the new Director of Schools,” Wright told the School Board.

The contract was approved unanimously. Wright will begin the position July 1.

The board thanked Mary Ann Sparks who had filled in as the Interim Director of Schools while the search took place.

“It’s been an honor,” said Sparks. “I’ve really enjoyed it and learned a lot.”

County Attorney Mike Jennings let the board know in his remarks that the School System has filed suit against the City of Mt. Juliet to protect themselves in an ongoing negotiation about liquor by the drink tax.

The cities have been collecting taxes on liquor by the drink for the past several years, but were unaware that a portion was supposed to go to the school system.

“It’s not a lawsuit out of animosity,” said Jennings. “It’s a lawsuit to protect our rights.”

A new law states that school systems have to file by June 1 to have the case heard in the county. If not, it would be moved to Davidson County.

Jennings said that he had talked with City of Mt. Juliet leaders about the lawsuit, and they understood why it was filed. He said that he is hopeful that an agreement will be reached soon.

The School Board accepted an agreement Friday with the City of Lebanon on their portion owed to the school system.