

**MINUTES
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
Denmark-Olar Board Room
Bamberg County, South Carolina
June 8, 2020 – 5:00 p.m.**

Members Present: Beverly Bonaparte, Chairman
Blossom Thompson, Vice Chairman (*participated by phone*)
Loretta P. Goodman, Secretary
Tonie Holman
Larry Bias

Also Present: Thelma Sojourner, Superintendent

CALL TO ORDER

Mrs. Bonaparte called the regular meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. In accordance with the SC Code of Laws, 1976, section 30-4-80(e) as amended, the following had been notified of the time, date, place and agenda of the meeting: WIIZ Radio Station, Barnwell; *The Advertiser-Herald*, Bamberg; and *The Times and Democrat*, Orangeburg.

ROLL CALL

Roll Call was conducted with attendance as recorded above.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

A moment of silence was observed.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The meeting agenda was unanimously approved without objection.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the regular meeting held May 11, 2020 were unanimously approved as written without objection and signed by all members present.

The minutes of the special meeting held May 19, 2020 were unanimously approved as written without objection and signed by all members present.

The minutes of the special meeting held May 21, 2020 were unanimously approved as written without objection and signed by all members present.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business for discussion.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business for discussion.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

No report was provided.

SECTION 1 - FINANCE

- **Finance Report**

Mr. Anderson provided the finance report which was received as information.

- **Proposed Continuing Resolution for General Fund Operating Budget-2020-2021 FY**
Mrs. Goodman read the proposed continuing resolution into record (Attachment 1) and moved that the board adopt the resolution as written. Mr. Bias seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

SECTION 2 - CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

- Dr. Ruby Johnson reported that the special education extended program would operate virtually June 8-July 2 with approximately 20 students and two teachers; a four-week summer program is planned for grades 1-8 to operate July 6-30, 2020; and that staff development plans are being discussed. The report was received as information.

SECTION 3 - ORGANIZATION AND ADMINISTRATION

- **Attorney Fees**
Mrs. Goodman moved that the May 31, 2020 attorney invoice be reviewed during Executive Session with action to follow upon return to Open Session. Mr. Bias seconded the motion which passed unanimously.
- **Legislative Update**
Dr. Sojourner stated SC School Board Association would be conducting its School Law Conference virtually this August and that the SC Association of School Administrators had sent correspondence addressing its support for fairness to all persons. The report was received as information.
- **Second Reading of Proposed 2020-2021 School Year Calendar**
Mrs. Goodman moved that the proposed 2020-2021 school year calendar be given second reading approval. Mrs. Thompson seconded the motion which passed unanimously.
- **Second Reading-Families First Coronavirus Response Act Administrative Rule-GCC-R(2) for Professional Staff**
- **Second Reading-Families First Coronavirus Response Act Administrative Rule-GDC-R(2) for Support Staff**
Mrs. Goodman moved that the policies be given second reading approval. Bishop Holman seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

SECTION 4 - SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Sojourner provided the following:

- Expressed condolences to Mrs. Thompson in the passing of her brother and granddaughter, and to Mrs. Brenda Funches in the passing of her son
 - Shared pictures of the commencement exercises and graduation
 - Disinfectants had been purchased for classrooms
 - Pick-up truck purchased for the maintenance staff
 - Donation of more than 200 refurbished instruments
 - Summer hours to be determined
 - Planned consolidation update meeting scheduled for June 16 to discuss special education services and contracted providers
 - Consolidation consultant applicants narrowed to three finalists
 - State superintendent's concern that students are receiving adequate education although positive corona virus cases are still increasing and that work on school reopening guidelines is ongoing
 - Bamberg County Emergency Preparedness Office intent to hold a DHEC drive-through testing site at the middle school on June 19
 - Reminded board members of election day on June 9.
- The report was received as information.

SECTION 5 - EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mrs. Goodman moved that the board enter Executive Session to discuss the following:

- Employment/Personnel Recommendations/Matters
- Student Personnel Matters

- Contractual Matters
- Legal Matters/Counsel

The motion was seconded by Bishop Holman and unanimously approved.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

The board voted unanimously to return to Open Session.

ACTION ON EXECUTIVE SESSION ITEMS

- **Employment/Personnel Recommendations/Matters**

Mrs. Goodman moved that the employment/personnel recommendations provided be accepted. Mr. Bias seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

- **Student Personnel Matters**

Mrs. Goodman moved that releases be granted for the 2020-2021 school year for the following students: (initials) JFJ, RTJ, Jr., LC, LC, SW, Jr., WW, AW, and MW. Mr. Bias seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

- **Contractual Matters**

No action was taken.

- **Legal Matters/Counsel**

Mrs. Goodman moved that the attorney invoice for \$5,568.30, which covered April and May 2020, be approved for payment. Mr. Bias seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned without objection at 6:27 p.m.

Submitted by,

Approved:

Prepared by
Deborah Anderson