

Beecher Community School District

A regular meeting of the Beecher Board of Education was held on July 1, 2015 in the Coates Administration Building Board Room, 1020 W. Coldwater Road, Flint, MI 48505 and was called to order at 6:00 PM by Board President, Michele Loper.

Member in attendance were: Joyce Jackson, LaSonya Larry, Michele Loper, Reginald Mays, Mary Rankins, Marvin Smoot and Ocellar Denson Watson.

Old Business

A. Minutes of June 3, 2015 (Regular Meeting) and Minutes of June 24, 2015 (Special Meeting) – Board Secretary Smoot

Motioned by Mr. Smoot supported by Ms. Jackson to approve the Minutes of June 3, 2015 (Regular Meeting) and Minutes of June 24, 2015 (Special Meeting).

All present voted yes on roll call vote (Mr. Mays, Ms. Larry, Ms. Jackson, Mr. Smoot, Mrs. Rankins, Ms. Watson, and Mrs. Loper).

Motion carried.

B. Old Business – Board Members

Mr. Mays – None

Ms. Larry discussed the following: I had asked for information about why we have two interventionist working at the high school and I didn't get any information back; on behalf of MASB, I have recognitions for some board members and employees. She said she couldn't attend but she wanted me to make sure Dr. Talison did the recognitions.

Ms. Jackson and Ms. Larry discussed the following: I had asked a while ago about the students who were kicked out for 180 days for theft and it was said the computers crashed and we don't have that information. I want to know how is it being checked who is supposed to be in and who is not. I would like the information of students who were suspended for 180 for theft from the district. Is there any answer as to what the answer is that I can't get it? I had asked for information when the police was called to Dailey on the 21st of April, I have not received that information and I would like to get that information. I asked the reason why I got the wrong water bills when I asked for the bills. I want to know how that happened that I received the wrong bills. I asked for information for the track meet when the students were let into the game free because it was going to be taken care of, and I was told that the funds came from a fund from the district, I have not received that information but it was said that the superintendent was going to pay for the students to get into the track meets. I haven't received that. I want to know what fund it is that the district is paying for the children that went to that meet and the main things is why myself, as a board member, didn't know that these funds were going to be used. I want to know what meeting date it was that it was voted for us to donate this money from a fund for these students. This isn't the first time I've asked for it and I would like to know the reason and the hold-up for all of these things that I am asking for; with the resignation from Mr. Jacob

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Hawkins, there were offers made to Courtney Hawkins and Mary Randle. With Mr. Hawkins rescinding his resignation and you all voting for him to keep his position, I would like to know what is going to happen now with Mr. Courtney Hawkins and Mary Randle with the offer that they were given as far as doing some of his job when he resigned? I want to know what's going to happen now since things are reversed and it was voted to keep him here. I want to know what good is it to have a flag on the field that you can't see? We have a new sign on the field, a new flag and the sign is in front of the flag. The visitors can see it fine but there's not a spot on the home side that you can see the flag. What's the purpose? I have a problem with it especially when this district that is scrapping for money has paid \$1,200 for a sign to be here. There has not been any information or anything said about the flag being hidden by the sign. This is ridiculous when it cost \$1,200 for that flag to go up. If you're over a department, I would think that you would go and check to see what the workers are doing when they're doing something. They're putting up the flag pole and you can't tell that the flag pole is not high enough for the fans to see it? That's ridiculous. What's going to happen now? Is it going to stay there or what? Beecher is not a joke to me but it's a joke to a whole lot of people and I truly do not appreciate the way that people have been misusing this district these last 5-6 years. I have a problem with it and I don't care what people think or say, this is a playground for somebody to just get paid and it's not one person, it's a couple of people. They are just getting paid to be here and I don't appreciate it; it has been recognized that the flagpole was pulled too far back. It didn't come before the board, but he did say after our last meeting that he noticed the flagpole was too far back and it needed to bring it up some. It has been recognized; at the board meeting? At the last meeting we had and voted on his contract, he brought it to my attention that he noticed the flagpole being too far back; if someone is doing something and you're a supervisor, you should be out there in the first place. You don't let anyone just stand alone and do work; I understand what you're saying but it was brought to my attention; when it happened it should have been brought to our attention there's been a mistake on the field. That is something that never should have happened. When you're going out to get materials for this district and you knew how high the sign was going to be and you knew what the request was for, you would automatically know that the flagpole has to be higher than the sign. I'm a girl and I know that so I expect men to know it. There is no excuse. How much is it going to cost to be redone?

Mr. Smoot discussed the following: I would like to ask for a moment of silence for the grandmother of Monte Morris who passed away on Sunday, June 28, 2015.

Mrs. Rankins – None

Ms. Watson – None

Mrs. Loper – None

New Business

A. Public comments on agenda items only

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None

B. Business from Central Office/Informational Items – Dr. Talison, Superintendent

Motioned by Ms. Jackson supported by Mr. Smoot to accept the resignation letter for the purpose of retirement from Shirley Taylor, Custodian at Coates Administration Building, effective Tuesday, June 30, 2015.

All present voted yes on roll call vote (Mr. Mays, Ms. Larry, Ms. Jackson, Mr. Smoot, Mrs. Rankins, Ms. Watson, and Mrs. Loper).

Motion carried.

C. Field Trip Approval

1) 21st Century Before & Afterschool Programs

- Motioned by Ms. Jackson supported by Mr. Mays to approve the K-12th Grade field trip to Michigan State University in East Lansing, MI departing Thursday, July 23, 2015 at 8:30 AM and returning at approximately 2:30 PM. A tentative roster is included with the final roster to be on file prior to departure.

All present voted yes on roll call vote (Mr. Mays, Ms. Larry, Ms. Jackson, Mr. Smoot, Mrs. Rankins, Ms. Watson, and Mrs. Loper).

Motion carried.

- Motioned by Ms. Jackson supported by Mr. Smoot to approve the elementary field trip to Ann Arbor Hands On Museum in Ann Arbor, MI departing Thursday, July 30, 2015 at 8:30 AM and returning at approximately 1:30 PM. A tentative roster is included with the final roster to be on file prior to departure.

All present voted yes on roll call vote (Mr. Mays, Ms. Larry, Ms. Jackson, Mr. Smoot, Mrs. Rankins, Ms. Watson, and Mrs. Loper).

Motion carried.

Dr. Talison stated the Beecher Early Head Start monthly reporting information for June 2015 is in your packet, which includes the Enrollment Numbers, Home Visit Socialization Completion/Meal Counts, Financial Reports including Credit Card Usage, Parent Policy Committee Meeting Agenda and Minutes, and Office of Head Start Communications.

D. Donation Acceptance

Motioned by Mr. Smoot supported by Ms. Jackson to accept the donation of boxes from Genesee Packaging Company to Beecher Adult & Alternative Education Center.

All present voted yes on roll call vote (Mr. Mays, Ms. Larry, Ms. Jackson, Mr.

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Smoot, Mrs. Rankins, Ms. Watson, and Mrs. Loper).

Motion carried.

E. 2015 School Building and Site Bonds, Series II Resolution Adoption

Motioned by Mr. Mays supported by Ms. Watson to adopt the 2015 Building and Site Bonds, Series II Resolution.

(Mrs. Rankins, Dr. Talison, Ms. Jackson and Ms. Larry discussed the original bond stated it was for the purpose of remodeling school buildings and athletic facilities. What buildings have we remodeled with part of the bond money? Dailey & Tucker with the air conditioning units; what have we done to uplift the buildings, there has been no windows put in? The windows will be put in this summer; what are we doing for the buildings? You're saying we can't put in the cameras, air conditioners for the high school, etc. Why was the high school left out? The whole premise behind the bond was athletic and bond facilities. The high school was never a part of the bond conversation, it was the two elementary schools, preparing those two buildings, build a track, and redo the bleachers. It was very specific language in the bond; it wasn't spelled out like you said, it says athletic facilities and school buildings. The cameras are 7 years old, why couldn't you get a quote from the company to do the same job? The quote you received was from the GISD because they are doing a county-wide bid, and you get cheaper quotes by the bigger number and that that was the cheapest quote per unit. This is the second release of the \$300,000 to finish the bleachers and the lighting in the field house. That's what the money was earmarked for. Replacing bleachers on both sides; air conditioning at Dailey and Tucker; when the bond first came out, I feel the parents were misled about the bond. It did say updates for school buildings, but when it came back for the second and third times you started putting school names in it. A lot of people didn't want to pass the bond because we had a hard time. If the bond was for athletics only, they didn't want to pass it. The high school looks terrible. We don't have signs out here saying where the high school is. We should be taking care of our high school and lifting our kids up to make them want to be there. All schools should have mentioned in this bond. You have an athletic field that looks better than the high school; I want to know the information that we're voting on tonight just came today, why? I've asked things and I didn't have any problems with what's in the bond, but to just get this information, I do not trust everyone and for me to just receive this information at 4 PM and I have a meeting at 5:30 PM, no that is not what I want and I don't appreciate it. I don't see why we received the information in a last minute packet. This is not acceptable. I asked information about the 3rd floor when it was re-done. I wanted to see information in this bond that said we could use money for the 3rd floor. I was told that it wasn't but it was said in a meeting that money could be used from the bond for the 3rd floor, which is a violation, and I will not be a part of the violation. I want to see all of the renovations that were done up there, I want to see that information and where the money came from. We didn't have any money so where did all of the money come from to do the 3rd floor?)

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All present voted yes on roll call vote (Mr. Mays, Mr. Smoot, Mrs. Rankins, Ms. Watson, and Mrs. Loper; Ms. Jackson and Ms. Larry voted no).

Motion carried.

(Ms. Jackson, Mrs. Loper and Dr. Talison discussed the timelessness of receiving the information, questions that arose from the information, when the information was requested, and why the information was received at the last minute from the Thrun Law Firm)

F. NEOLA Volume 29, Number 2, March 2015 Policies – 2nd Reading

Mrs. Loper stated this is considered the second reading of NEOLA Volume 29, Number 2, March 2015 Policies. Board members, if you have corrections or changes, please let me know prior to the next board meeting as at that time they will be considered for adoption.

G. Other Business – Board Members

Ms. Watson – None

Mrs. Rankins, Mrs. Loper, Ms. Jackson, Ms. Larry, and Mr. Mays discussed the following: I would like to suggest we have two meetings together (*policy and personnel*) (*building & site and finance*) because when we have meetings there are a lot of questions and when we had committee meetings, it was up to the committee to get all of the questions and bring them to the entire board and they would explain things and move on. I would like the board to consider this so that we can get a better understanding of things; I would like to recommend we have a meeting with all administrators including the business office so that we can get a new start for the new year so that we can hear what we were doing wrong in the past with Title Funds and what we can and cannot do. I would like for the meeting to be set for the first Tuesday in August so that we can get the new year started off on the right foot; I would also like to have the parent facilitators there as well; if you remember I did say when the committees were broken up that it wasn't going to work and it has not worked; if you remember one of the reasons we stopped the committee meetings is because we had board members saying they didn't trust the three people that were meeting and they needed more information, therefore that was one of the reasons we had the meetings as committees of the whole so that everyone could hear the information at the same time and ask questions; whether it is a committee or not, you are still going to get questions. If we can request the individual responsible to come to the meeting, we can ask them the question directly, regardless of what it is, we can get the answer right then.

Mr. Smoot – None

Ms. Jackson – None

Ms. Larry discussed the following: When we have committee meetings of the whole and we ask for information, it should get back to us in a timely manner and

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we won't have to go through this at our first meeting of the month and everybody out here hearing what we're talking about. Ms. Jackson has been asking for stuff for a long time and I don't know if she got the right answer or she's not getting the right information, put the right information out and give her the right answer. I asked for something a couple of weeks ago and I still haven't got the right answer; we had a working committee and it was said we have about \$15,000 left from the 2007 bond money. We didn't talk about looking at Tucker to put anything in their building. We talked about Dailey and the high school, so why did you estimate Tucker in with cameras, paper towel blower, etc.? If you can't do both schools, just take one school and try to do something with the \$15,000. Tucker and Dailey don't need anything else. You need to focus on the high school because it looks terrible. Nobody ever talks about what we're going to do inside and outside for the high school and that is our main problem down there and the kids. Those are the kids that are leaving our district. When they get to the 9th grade they drop out and go somewhere else. Take the \$15,000 and make it look like a high school; when we talked about the cameras and air conditioning, I can't understand why Tucker and Riley are involved in this estimate. We talked about Dailey and the high school; since we closed Riley Adult, who is going to be responsible for keeping an eye on the building? (It is monitored by Security Corp). What type of security are we going to have since the building is closed? When you gave us the estimate, how many estimates did you give us to put everything in the buildings, Dailey and the high school? I thought you were supposed to give three estimates; if you read the email from the beginning to the end, I let you know that I researched everything; there should have been three estimates so that we can choose from and make our decision; if you don't want to work for Beecher, leave. We can always replace you, it's not like the school is going to be shut down, the kids are going to be lacking, but I have a problem and an issue when someone comes to our school district talking about what they have done for Beecher, Beecher wasn't this until I did this, and this, and this. Beecher is going to be here in the same spot whether you're here or if you leave. If you are paid to get a job done, then that's what you're supposed to do, but don't come back and say "I did this for Beecher," "if it wasn't for me Beecher wouldn't have had this," "I took Beecher up out of this." I'm tired of hearing this and then you're asking for raises. How are you going to ask for raises and we are closing schools, and laying teachers off. I'm not understanding this. If you don't like what you do, leave because you can be replaced and our kids aren't going to be hurting for nothing. That's what you got a school board here for.

Mr. Mays – None

Mrs. Loper – None

G. Public Comments

Public Comments were received from:

Sheila Thorn, Beecher OP President – A written transcript was presented to the board of education by Mrs. Denson, Beecher OP Vice-President (see

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attachments).

Dr. Talison recognized and presented Ms. Larry, Mrs. Loper, Ms. Watson, Mrs. Connie Palmer and Mr. Luther Brown with certificates for participating with Michigan Association of School Board Fiscal Leadership Collaborative.

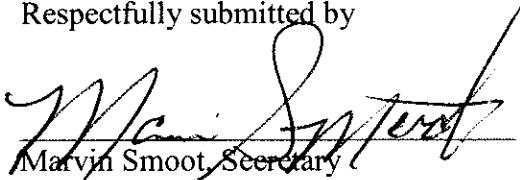
H. Adjournment

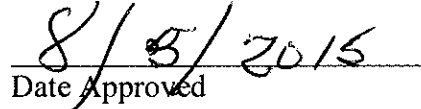
Motioned by Mrs. Rankins supported by Mr. Smoot to adjourn the regular board meeting at 7:03 PM.

All present voted yes on roll call vote (Mr. Mays, Ms. Larry, Ms. Jackson, Mr. Smoot, Mrs. Rankins, Ms. Watson, and Mrs. Loper).

Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by


Marvin Smoot, Secretary
Beecher Board of Education


Date Approved

Minutes taken by Terrie A. Seltzer

Good Evening Board Members,

Please consider this a follow up from the June 24, 2015 Working Committee of the Whole meeting when I spoke - asking for clarification regarding the proposed reduction of the Administrative Assistant BOP clerical position to the Director of State and Federal Programs.

1. I asked how the proposed reduction of hours could be part of the Deficient Elimination Plan (DEP) when my understanding was the DEP was regarding General Funds - NOT State and Federal funds.

Yesterday we received the attached memo; myself and the BOP Vice President Mrs. Denson met with Dr. Talison, Linda Cottrell, Luther Brown and Connie Palmer and were told that:

- a. Dr. Talison told us that the 6-15-15 dated memo was incorrect and items #1 and 3 on the attached memo were correct and this memo was for informational purposes only. Dr. Talison went on to say that the Board already approved items #1 and 3 and if the responsibilities of the Adult and Alternative Education secretarial work isn't merged with the Maintenance, Transportation and Operation Secretary position that job would be reduced, item # 3 is just adding duties to keep the position full time. However that's changing the job description of which a Letter of Agreement with the BOP needs to take place just like it happened when the 9GA work was added to that position.
- b. He also went on to say that the State and Federal grant was submitted to the state for approval with the above mentioned position (Administrative Assistant to the Director of State & Federal Programs) being reduced to .70 which equals 5.6 hours per day (reduction of 2.4 hours per day). He stated that the job description indicates half-time curriculum and half-time State & Federal (attached job descriptions). And that the district can't support the .30 from general funds.
- c. Per Luther Brown, GISD Shared-Time Regional Manager he stated only 10% of the grant can support administrative cost. He also stated per Mike McGraw from the MDE the state is no longer allowing a full time secretary and director. He stated that they won't have a definite answer as to the reduction until the grant is approved by the state of which it still could be reduced to 50% part-time. They are hoping to have an answer by next week based on the holiday weekend.

- d. Conversation was had regarding both positions' being reduced to part-time of which we were told this department couldn't function without a full time director.
- e. As you can see from the attached Administrative Assistant (Level III) job description dated 7-19-10 and the Administrative Assistant (Level III) Title I Federally Funded job description dated 2-24-14 both are identical other than Performance Duties & Responsibilities # 23 which was removed from the most current job description. I had the understanding that after the retirement of the previous curriculum director Dr. Talison took on those responsibilities, therefore the full-time position of the Administrative Assistant that is being proposed for reduction based on state and federal funds would still need clerical support of which in the past has been funded through general funds at 30%. I am asking the Board to please give this option of supporting the position with general funds at 30% as in the past years careful thought, consideration and review.

Board Follow-Up on 7-1-15

attachments: Memorandum dated 6-30-15

Job Descriptions dated 7-19-10 and 2-24-14