

Minutes
Anson County Board of Education
Special Meeting
Regular Meeting
Monday, February 24, 2020, 9:00 a.m.
Anson County Schools' Administrative Conference Room/Board Room

The Anson County Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, February 24, 2020. All members were present. Lisa Davis joined the meeting via conference call. Other in attendance were Michael Freeman (Superintendent), Howard McLean (Associate Superintendent), Holly Berry (Finance Officer), Mike Flake (Board Attorney) and Anne Hyatt (Board Clerk).

I. Call to Order

Dr. George Truman opened the meeting at 9:04 a.m. and welcomed everyone in attendance.

II. Invocation

Gay Lookabill gave the Invocation.

III. Conflict of Interest Statement

In compliance with the requirements of Chapter 138A-15(e) of the State Government Ethics Act, Chair George Truman reminded Board Members of their duty to avoid conflicts of interest and appearances of conflicts of interest under Chapter 138A. There were no conflicts of interest communicated by the members. Chair Truman then requested that if, during the course of the meeting, members became aware of an actual or apparent conflict of interest that they bring the matter to his attention. He further explained it would then be the member's duty to abstain from participating in discussion and from voting on the matter.

IV. Adopt Agenda

Marilynn Bennett made a motion to approve the amended agenda (added New Middle School discussion after the Superintendent Search Presentations, added b.1 Selection of the Superintendent Search Consultant and b.2 NCSBA Legislative Committee Nomination. Beulah Pratt seconded the motion and the agenda was unanimously adopted by the Board. Motion carried.

V. Approve Minutes

(Regular Meeting 01/27/20)

A motion was made by Frank Liles to approve the regular meeting minutes of January 27, 2020. The motion was seconded by Beulah Pratt and approved by the board. Motion carried.

VI. Superintendent Search Presentation

- NC School Boards Association

Allison Schafer and Nancy Black shared a presentation and summary of their superintendent search process and services.

- Masonboro Group

Eddie West with the Masonboro Group shared a presentation of their superintendent search proposal.

Dr. Truman and the board discussed the recent article from the Anson Record regarding the Anson County Government Finance Office upgrading to a new software package on May 1, 2020. The article explained how the new software will help finance officer, Cary Garner, provide the commissioners with data-driven analytics that will allow them to make better-informed decisions, especially when it comes to budget allocation for upcoming projects, such as the Department of Social Services building and the new middle school.

VII. **Recess**

The board recessed at 12:03 p.m.

VIII. **Reconvene Open Session**

The Board returned to open session at 4:36 p.m.

IX. **Closed Session**

George Truman entertained a motion for the Board to go into closed session for the purpose of considering a personnel action that involves an officer or employee of this Board pursuant to North Carolina General Statute 143.318.11(a)(6) and for the purpose of discussing the acquisition of real estate pursuant to North Carolina General Statute 143.318.11(a)(5). This motion was made by Mike Turner seconded by Beulah Pratt and unanimously approved by the board. The Board went into closed session at 4:44 p.m.

There was no action taken.

I. **Reconvene Open Session**

The Board returned to open session at 5:28 p.m. upon a motion by Mike Turner, seconded by Frank Liles and approved by the board. Motion carried.

II. **Public Comment**

Donna Delp and Nicole Carpenter were present to invite the board to a FFA Tour at Anson High School on March 9. Ms. Carpenter explained that an invitation would be sent soon.

III. **Chair's Report**

Public Engagement: Several board members discussed schools they have recently visited and events and activities they have participated in at the schools and within the community.

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Freeman gave a report on Budget, Human Resources, Current Job Postings, Current Projects, Facility Construction Update and Instructional Programs.

Project Updates:

- Clean-up has started at the Shelton Ballfield.
- Security System at AHS athletic fields (this request is under consent items to use lottery dollars to support this improvement)
- Will get someone to physically remove the water after it rains from the sand pit at AHS track area. Other options have been discussed but those options must comply

with NCHSAA regulations. Currently, the only approved option is to manually remove the water each time it rains.

- Trying to determine the direction with boiler needs at some of the elementary schools and an update will be provided soon.
- Received \$20,000 from the Craig Trust and will use those funds to renovate the Wadesboro Elementary School Media Center.

New Anson Middle School Project:

- Meetings are being scheduled and price points will be shared from Morris-Berg and Edifice soon.
- A meeting of the full board will be scheduled with Morris-Berg and Edifice once more information is finalized.

Instructional Programs:

- Summer programs are being finalized by the curriculum division and those plans will be shared once complete.
- Mr. Freeman shared that Joshua Greene ranked 4th at the Regional Spelling Bee that was held today (February 24).

IV. Consent Items

Upon a motion by Frank Liles seconded by Gay Lookabill, the following consent items were approved by the board: Personnel Report, Budget Amendments Distribution Request Form, Lottery Applications, Powerschool Enrollment/Registration Agreement and Sole Source Justification Form. Motion carried.

V. New Business

Selection of Superintendent Search Consultant

Upon a motion by Carol Gibson, seconded by Mike Turner, the board approved the Masonboro Group as the consultant for the superintendent search. Motion carried.

NCSBA Legislative Committee Nomination

George Truman nominated Marilyn Bennett for the NCSBA Legislative Committee. Frank Liles seconded the nomination and the board approved Marilyn Bennett to represent the Anson County Board of Education on the NCSBA Legislative Committee. Motion carried. Ms. Bennett accepted and thanked the board for the nomination.

VI. Adjourn

A motion to adjourn was made at 6:01 p.m. by Mike Turner, seconded by Gay Lookabill and approved by the board. There was no discussion. The motion carried.

Dr. George Truman, Chairperson

Mr. Michael Freeman, Secretary