

Minutes
State Board of Education
Special Meeting, Monday, December 13, 2004

The State Board of Education met for a specially called telephone conference call session on Monday, December 13, 2004. The call originated in Room 303A of the State Education Building at 9:00 a.m. Dr. Jeanna Westmoreland, Vice Chairman presided.

The following Board members reported present: Dr. Jeanna Westmoreland, Vice-Chairman; Sherry Burrow; Shelby Hillman; Dr. Calvin King; Randy Lawson; MaryJane Rebick; Diane Tatum; and Dr. Naccaman Williams.

The following Board members were absent: JoNell Caldwell.

Dr. Charles Watson called the roll and determined that a quorum was present.

Dr. Westmoreland called the meeting to order and recognized Dr. Ken James. Dr. James asked Patricia Martin to present the first item.

Review of Loan and Bond Applications

Ms. Martin stated this special meeting was necessary to accommodate scheduled sale of bonds in some of the districts that await approval of the requests that are under consideration.

Dr. Williams asked if the accompanying spreadsheet reflects the total debt ratio of the districts under consideration. Ms. Martin responded yes with the exception of debt related to energy conservation measures.

Ms. Rebick moved approval of the requests as presented. Mr. Lawson seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously.

Personnel Recommendation

Dr. James was asked to present the personnel recommendation. He stated that the recommendation to be made is to fill the position of Director of Facilities with an interim director, which can best meet the staffing needs at this time. Dr. James described the facilities work as on-going and involving various committees as the study continues. He noted that Dave Floyd has been an integral part of the Department's staff in supporting the facilities work and is well respected for his knowledge and commitment in this area. Dr. James stated that he has talked with Mr. Floyd concerning the option of his assuming the interim position.

Dr. James stated that the position could be re-advertised after the first of the year seeking a full-time director to fill that position.

Ms. Rebick asked if Mr. Floyd were interested in the position as full time. Dr. James responded that he was very willing to serve in the interim capacity and do whatever is necessary to move the work forward.

Dr. Williams noted that he supports the recommendation and that he knows that Mr. Floyd is very knowledgeable about facilities issues and is well respected across the state.

Ms. Tatum asked about the timeline to pursue a permanent director. Dr. James suggested that in order to find the right combination of skills and knowledge to fill the position, some "tweaking" to the requirements specified in the legislation may be needed. For example, a full-time architect may not be the best type of person for that position. Some change in the job requirements in the legislation will be sought during the session.

Ms. Hillman asked for clarification on the recommendation. Dr. James responded that he is requesting Mr. Floyd be approved for an interim position only. Any other action would be considered at a later date.

Ms. Hillman moved that Mr. Floyd be approved as interim director of facilities. Mr. Lawson seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously.

Mr. Floyd was recognized. He expressed his appreciation to the Board for the vote of confidence. He also stated that he was not qualified to fill the director's position as it is currently written because he is not a licensed architect. However, he did state that he would consider applying for the full-time position if or when the qualifications are revised. He stated he understands the importance of this work and he is pleased to have the opportunity to prove himself as interim.

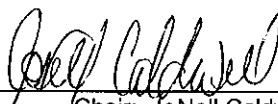
Dr. Westmoreland asked if there was other business. Hearing none, Ms. Hillman moved adjournment. Ms. Rebick seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 a.m.

The minutes were recorded and reported by Dr. Charles D. Watson.



Director: Dr. Kenneth James



Chair: JoNeil Caldwell