

**Minutes  
Charter Authorizing Panel  
December 13, 2016**

The Charter Authorizing Panel met on Tuesday, December 13, 2016, in the auditorium of the Department of Education building. Deborah Coffman, Chair, called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

**Present:** Deborah Coffman, Chair; Dr. Mark Gotcher, Vice Chair; Stacy Smith; Bobby Lester; Ivy Pfeffer; Greg Rogers; Dr. Eric Saunders; Annette Barnes

**Absent:** Lisa Haley

The transcription of this meeting may be accessed on the Arkansas Department of Education website at the following:

<http://www.arkansased.gov/about-ade/charter-authorizing-panel/minutes/archive/2016>

**Reports**

**Report-1 Chair's Report**

Ms. Coffman welcomed the members of the Panel and the audience. She introduced the Panel members and then recognized state legislators in attendance.

Ms. Coffman provided the audience with instructions pertinent to the proceedings.

**Consent Agenda**

It was moved by Dr. Gotcher, seconded by Ms. Smith, and carried unanimously to approve the consent agenda.

Items included in the Consent Agenda: Minutes – October 19-21, 2016.

**Action Agenda**

Staff Attorney Jennifer Davis provided the Panel with directions for the proceedings. She also explained the public voting procedures to the Panel and the audience.

**A-1 Request for District Conversion Public Charter School Amendment: Fayetteville Virtual Academy**

Associate Superintendent Dr. Kim Garrett presented the Panel with Fayetteville Virtual Academy's amendment request.

A question and answer period followed.

It was moved by Dr. Saunders, seconded by Ms. Smith, and carried unanimously to approve the amendment request.

**A-2 Request for District Conversion Public Charter School Renewal: Badger Academy, Beebe**

Superintendent Dr. Belinda Shook presented the Panel with Badger Academy's, request for renewal.

A question and answer period followed.

It was moved by Dr. Saunders, seconded by Ms. Pfeffer, and carried unanimously to approve the application request for a five (5) year renewal term.

**A-3 Request for District Conversion Public Charter School Renewal: Cabot Academic Center of Excellence**

Superintendent Dr. Tony Thurman presented the Panel with Cabot ACE's request for renewal.

A question and answer period followed.

It was moved by Dr. Saunders, seconded by Dr. Gotcher, and carried unanimously to approve the application request for a five (5) year renewal term.

**A-4 Request for District Conversion Public Charter School Renewal: Cross County Elementary Technology Academy**

Superintendent Carolyn Wilson presented the Panel with Cross County Elementary Technology Academy's, request for renewal.

A question and answer period followed.

It was moved by Dr. Gotcher, seconded by Mr. Lester, and carried with a 4-to-3 vote to approve the application request for a five (5) year renewal term.

**Adjournment**

It was moved by Ms. Barnes, seconded by Dr. Saunders, and carried unanimously to adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 11:09 a.m.

*Minutes recorded by Kelly McLaughlin*

  
Deborah Coffman, Charter Authorizing Panel Chair