

STAUNTON CITY SCHOOL BOARD
STAUNTON, VIRGINIA
Meeting Minutes
July 13, 2020

The Staunton City School Board convened for the regular monthly meeting in the Rita S. Wilson Council Chambers of Staunton City Hall, 116 W. Beverley Street, Staunton on Monday, July 13, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. with the following members present:

Robert Boyle
Ron Ramsey

Natasha McCurdy
Amy Wratchford

Christine Poulson
Kenneth Venable

Dr. Garrett Smith, Superintendent/Deputy Clerk
Brenda Lovekamp, Clerk

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:06 p.m.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Robert Boyle led the audience in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. ANNUAL REORGANIZATION

Dr. Smith explained that the first order of business was to elect a School Board Chair. He opened the floor for nominations.

A. Election/Appointment of

1) Chair

On a motion by Christine Poulson, seconded by Amy Wratchford, **Kenneth Venable** was nominated for the position of School Board Chair.

Hearing no further nominations, the nomination process was closed. The School Board voted as recorded below:

Votes: Kenneth Venable—aye Christine Poulson—aye Robert Boyle—aye
 Natasha McCurdy—aye Amy Wratchford—aye Ron Ramsey—aye

Kenneth Venable was named Chair of the Staunton City School Board for the 2020-2021 school year.

B. Dr. Smith turned the meeting over to the Chair, Kenneth Venable. The meeting continued with the election/appointment of the following:

1.) Vice-Chair

The Chair opened the floor for nominations for the position of School Board Vice-Chair.

Amy Wratchford was nominated for the position by Ronald Ramsey, seconded by Christine Poulson. Hearing no further nominations, the nomination process was closed. The School Board voted as recorded below:

Votes: Kenneth Venable—aye Christine Poulson—aye Robert Boyle—aye
 Natasha McCurdy—aye Amy Wratchford—aye Ron Ramsey—aye

Amy Wratchford was named Vice-Chair of the Staunton City School Board for the 2020-2021 school year.

2.) School Board Clerk

On a motion by Natasha McCurdy, seconded by Robert Boyle, the Board voted unanimously to appoint Brenda Lovekamp as Clerk of the Board for 2020-2021.

3.) School Board Deputy Clerk

On a motion by Natasha McCurdy, seconded by Ronald Ramsey, the Board voted unanimously to appoint Garrett Smith as Deputy Clerk of the Board for 2020-2021.

C. Appointment of Designee of Superintendent

On a motion by Christine Poulson, seconded by Amy Wratchford, the Board voted unanimously to approve the recommendation of the Superintendent to use any member of the senior leadership team as the Superintendent's designee for 2020-2021 in the event that the Superintendent is unable to attend a School Board meeting.

STAUNTON CITY SCHOOL BOARD
STAUNTON, VIRGINIA
Meeting Minutes
July 13, 2020

D. Approval of School Board Meeting Dates

On a motion by Robert Boyle, seconded by Natasha McCurdy, the Board voted unanimously to approve the schedule of regular meeting dates for 2020-2021.

E. Approval of School Board Member Assignments

On a motion by Amy Wratchford, seconded by Ronald Ramsey, the Board voted unanimously to approve the 2020-2021 assignments, as determined by the School Board members.

F. Approval of VSBA Code of Conduct

On a motion by Ronald Ramsey, seconded by Christine Poulson, the Board voted unanimously to approve the VSBA Code of Conduct, as presented.

IV. AWARDS, RECOGNITIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

The Chair welcomed Ronald Ramsey back to the School Board. Mr. Ramsey expressed his appreciation for the opportunity to serve on this Board again.

V. REPORTS

A. Reports from Superintendent

1. Dr. Smith confirmed the oaths of office for the newly elected/re-elected School Board members.
2. Dr. Smith announced that the school division policy manual is available online on the division's website.
3. Dr. Smith announced a street address change for Staunton High School: 1301 N. Coalter Street, Staunton.
4. Dr. Smith, Stephanie Haskins and Dr. Jelisa Wolfe provided a report on the school re-opening plan for 2020-21, the process of developing the plan, and the efforts to readjust it as new information and guidance came forth.

B. Reports from School Board Members

School Board members reported attending various school activities and events, as well as the following additional reports relative to their service on the Board:

Natasha McCurdy:

- Participated in virtual training sessions with SCS University, PTAs, etc. -- lots of planning and preparing for next school year.

Amy Wratchford:

- Enjoyed reading at home to help broaden perspective on anti-racist approaches to life and school.

Robert Boyle:

- Enjoyed the graduation ceremonies this year. Impressive events for our graduates.

Christine Poulson:

- Participated in a community webinar regarding racism in schools.
- Participated in SCS University session on trauma.

Kenneth Venable:

- Attended the SHS graduation activities. Parents and students have shared their appreciation for the increased personal time this year.

V. PUBLIC INPUT

The Chair opened the public input portion of the meeting:

- Christine Hawley, President of the SEA, spoke to provide SEA's initial feedback regarding the division's response to the Coronavirus pandemic and reopening plan for the 2020-21 school year.

The Chair noted that the requirement for social distancing has created limited seating capacity and therefore an alternate call-in procedure was provided for public input by any who were listening to the meeting via the website or SCS-TV13. He noted that Mr. Lundquist, Director of Technology was serving as the host for any

STAUNTON CITY SCHOOL BOARD
STAUNTON, VIRGINIA
Meeting Minutes
July 13, 2020

citizens calling in who would like to comment at this time. He reminded any speakers to please identify themselves by name and address and to keep their comments to two minutes or less. Mr. Lundquist indicated there was one caller in the queue for public input:

- Nicholas, Middlebrook Avenue, spoke about face masks in elementary schools.

VI. CONSENT AGENDA

The Chair invited Board members to review the items listed on the consent agenda and indicate if there were any of those listed that the Board would like to vote on separately.

On a motion by Amy Wratchford, seconded by Robert Boyle, the Board unanimously approved the following consent agenda items:

- **Minutes for Regular Meeting on June 12, 2020, Called Work Session on June 19, 2020 and Called Meeting on June 25, 2020**
- **Personnel Actions as per attached exhibit**

V. ACTION ITEMS

A. Approval of VSBA Policy Services Agreement

Dr. Smith reviewed with the Board the briefing regarding the agreement for continued participation in VSBA Policy Services.

On a motion by Christine Poulson, seconded by Natasha McCurdy, the Board voted unanimously to approve the VSBA Policy Services Agreement, as presented, and authorized the Chair to sign the agreement.

B. Approval of 2020-2021 Calendar Revision

Jonathan Venn, Chief Human Resources Officer, reviewed the request to amend the 2020-2021 academic calendar to reflect the new start date approved by the School Board in June and accommodating the revised instructional schedule as outlined in the reopening plan, staff contract days, etc.

On a motion by Natasha McCurdy, seconded by Robert Boyle, the Board voted unanimously to approve the revised 2020-2021 Academic Calendar, as presented.

C. Approval of Shelburne HVAC Upgrade

Earl McCray, Director of Operations, reviewed the request to upgrade the control system for trunk 3 of the HVAC system at Shelburne Middle School. He explained that his staff completed the wiring for this project at a significant savings to the school division, and that funding for this would come from the CIP.

On a motion by Robert Boyle, seconded by Ron Ramsey, the Board voted unanimously to authorize the upgrade of the HVAC system as described, using CIP funds for this work.

D. Approval to Surplus Vehicle

Earl McCray, Director of Operations, reviewed the request to surplus the designated vehicle as described.

On a motion by Amy Wratchford, seconded by Natasha McCurdy, the Board voted unanimously to authorize the surplus/disposal of the listed vehicle, as noted.

Having reached the end of the agenda, the Chair declared the meeting adjourned at 6:58 p.m.


CLERK / DEPUTY CLERK OF THE BOARD


CHAIR OF THE BOARD