The September 8, 2015 regular meeting of the Echols County Board of Education was called to order at 7:32 PM by Chester Register.

Board members present were Bo Corbett, Rocky Crosby, Chester Register and Florence Staten.

Following the invocation and pledge to the flag, Rocky Crosby made a motion to approve the agenda. Florence Staten seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

Florence Staten made a motion to approve the August 11, 2015 and the August 31, 2015 meeting minutes. Bo Corbett seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

VISITORS

Carol Isgro and Matthew Christie, a student, presented the concept for the student newspaper. The Paw Press will publish its first edition in the September issue of the Echols Echo. They presented a mock-up of the paper and a copy of their procedures. The Board made several suggestion for additions to the content including citizen interviews among others. The Board looks forward to reading the first edition.

BUDGET AND FINANCE

Dr. Jewell advised the Board that the PreK budget was underfunded from the state by $19,000. This shortfall would come from sparsity monies.

Rocky Crosby made a motion to approve the Accounts Payable register. This was seconded by Bo Corbett. Motion passed 4-0.

Mr. Register asked the Superintendent to follow up on the radiator issue with the tow company to check to see if damage was negligent on their part. It was also requested that research be done to determine if the bus was under warranty.

REPORTS

Mr. Rosser informed the Board that the state pays for PSAT and that we have increased the number of students taking the ACT. Mr. Rosser also explained the Move On When Ready Program which will effect policy IHF(6) Graduation Requirements. The Superintendent will relay needed changes to the Board in the October meeting.

Mr. Beale explained that the EOC/EOG waiver for 8th grade students will mean students only take EOC(End of Course) test. ECES population has dropped by 15 students due to regular migrant transience.

The Superintendent informed the Board of the welding ventilation system award to Paul King, and that our copiers will need to be bid again this year. The RFP will be constructed to include the 4 that will go off lease in June 2017 in addition to the 4 that need to be replaced currently.

Rocky Crosby made a motion to approve the advertisement for a new Migrant paraprofessional recommended in the Federal Program Director’s report. The motion was seconded by Bo Corbett. The motion passed 4-0.

FIELD TRIPS

Rocky Crosby made a motion to approve all field trips except the Biology Field Trip to Atlanta and the 7th Grade Field Trip to the Georgia Aquarium. Florence Staten seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0. Mr. Rosser and Mr. Beale were asked to have the two teachers who requested these trips to consider alternate sites. The Superintendent was asked to make a recommendation based on distance for field trips.

1. Counseling -Suicide Prevention – 9/14/15

2. Counseling-Wiregrass – 9/22/15

3. Fellowship of Christian Athletes- 9/26/15

4. Biology – Atlanta 11/13/15

5. Kindergarten - Raisin’ Cane 11/19/15

6. 7th Grade - Georgia Aquarium 3/11/16

7. 3rd Grade - Jekyll Island 4/29/16

8. Seniors – College Campus Tours 10/2/15

FUND RAISING REQUESTS

Florence Staten made a motion to approve all fund raising requests as presented. Bo Corbett seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

1. MS FFA – Pepsi Truck Sale 9/21-10/2(Corbett)

2. Junior Prom – Chick Fil-A 9/25,10/23,11/20 (Register)

3. Cross Country – T-shirts 10/2-10/16 (Hamm)

4. MS Boys Basketball – Pizza Sale 10/26-11/13 (Garner/Hamlett)

FACILITIES REQUEST

Rocky Corbett made a motion to approve all facilities requests as presented. Bo Corbett seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

1. Taste of Echols 9/14/15 (Stone-Cafetorium)

2. Farm Bureau Banquet 11/22/15(Stone-Culinary)

 NEW BUSINESS

Rocky Crosby made a motion to approve the resignation of Andrea Slawinski, Special Education Paraprofessional. Bo Corbett seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0

Florence Staten made a motion to approve the purchase of $4,769.85 to Atlantic Telecom and $7,863.30 to Invision for e-rate projects that are 85% federally funded. These figures represent the District’s 15% match. Bo Corbett seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

Bo Corbett made a motion to waive graduation requirements for a transfer student, Jessica Aguilar per policy. Florence Staten seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

Florence Staten made a motion to approve the use of a metal detector on school grounds by a private citizen. Bo Corbett seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

The Superintendent requested that the Board consider going to a digital format for the Board packet to save on copy expense. Florence Staten made a motion to move to a digital board packet. The motion did not receive a second.

OLD BUSINESS

JBCBA-Tuition Florence Staten made a motion to approve new administrative regulations . Bo Corbett seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

DIE- Fraud Rocky Corbett made a motion to adopt the policy. Bo Corbett seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

GARH-Leave A discussion was held about the policy versus past practice regarding this issue. Florence Staten made a motion to accept language that would explicitly state that vacation leave before or after holidays was not permissible. “Employees will not be allowed to extend vacations using personal days.” Also covered in the motion was a change in language under Military Leave to “In the event that State or Federal government actions result in an employee being ordered to military duty” Bo Corbett seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

EEE-Wellness Florence Staten made a motion to add the local wellness policy as an exhibit . Rocky Corbett seconded. Motion passed 4-0. There was discussion around offering incentives to encourage wellness by offering a once a semester drawing or a Blue Jeans Week .

OTHER

Rosa Robinson informed the Board she will deliver the completed job description packet by Thursday, September 10, 2015.

The Board meeting was adjourned at 8:54 PM by Chester Register.