MEETING OF THE BENTON COUNTY

BOARD OF EDUCATION

BENTON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

June 11, 2018

BE IT REMEMBERED that on this the 11th day of June, the Board of Education, Benton County, met at the Office of the Superintendent with the following members present:

Gary Elliott President

Katrina McGregor Vice-President

Erma Poplar Secretary

Betty Page Member

Brian Gresham Member

The following persons were present:

Lori Whaley Shaw Damon Ladner Jane Hubbard

Michael Cathey Merri Gadd Melanie Wilbanks

Michelle Lawson Krystal Estes Amanda Ford

Beverly Estes Lana Estes Brenda Mason

Althera Evans Marjorie Jimmerson Shonika Hamilton

Demetria Jimmerson Sheila Clifton Ayesha Brooks

Rosie Ladd Mary Garrison Vicky Everett

Chris Woolbright

WHEREUPON, the following business was transacted:

Candace Sanders recorded the minutes of this meeting.

President Elliott called the meeting to order at 5:40 P. M.

Member Gresham opened the meeting with prayer.

Vice-President McGregor made a motion to approve the minutes from the May 7th and May 14th board meetings. Secretary Poplar seconded the motion. Members voted as follows:

Elliott Aye

McGregor Aye

Poplar Aye

Page Abstain

Gresham Aye

Member Page stated that she abstained because she left the May 7th meeting early and was not in attendance for the May 14th meeting. The motion passed.

Member Page requested the addition of “Ethical Issues” as Item 19C. Secretary Poplar made a motion to approve the amended agenda. Member Gresham seconded the motion. Members voted as follows:

Elliott Aye

McGregor Aye

Poplar Aye

Page Aye

Gresham Aye

The next item on the agenda was Introduction & Welcome of Guests. Superintendent Bostick stated that, due to schedule conflicts, his guests were unable to attend. Member Page made a motion to table this item. Member Gresham seconded the motion. Members voted as follows:

Elliott Aye

McGregor Aye

Poplar Aye

Page Aye

Gresham Aye

The motion passed.

Ms. Krystal Estes had requested to address the board concerning a bullying issue at Ashland Elementary School. However, Ms. Estes spoke with Superintendent Bostick prior to the meeting and chose not to address the board at this time.

At this time, President Elliott gave the floor to Mrs. Marjorie Jimmerson. Due to confidentiality concerns, Member Page made a motion to enter executive session. Secretary Poplar seconded the motion. Members voted as follows:

Elliott Aye

McGregor Aye

Poplar Aye

Page Aye

Gresham Aye

The motion passed and the board entered executive session at 5:47 P. M. with the following parties present: all board members, Superintendent Bostick, Mrs. Sanders, Mrs. Marjorie Jimmerson and Mrs. Demetria Jimmerson. Subsequently, Member Page made a motion to exit executive session. Vice-President McGregor seconded the motion. Members voted as follows:

Elliott Aye

McGregor Aye

Poplar Aye

Page Aye

Gresham Aye

The motion passed and the board exited executive session at 6:30 P. M. No action was taken during executive session.

President Elliott gave the floor to Ms. Vicky Everett. Ms. Everett wished to follow-up on a previous discussion regarding a consolidation study. Superintendent Bostick stated that once the new budget is outlined, he will contact Ms. Lekeshia Perry in regard to this matter.

At this time, the board recognized Mrs. Sheila Clifton. Mrs. Clifton expressed concerns that, in spite of the policy regarding FFA, the FFA Alumni Association has not been afforded any opportunity to assist students or to work with the local chapter.

President Elliott gave the floor to Mr. Chris Woolbright. Mr. Woolbright stated that his concern was related to the Junior High Math grades at Hickory Flat Attendance Center. Other parents commented that they were present for the same reason. Vice-President McGregor made a motion to enter executive session in order to discuss student information. Member Gresham seconded the motion. Members voted as follows:

Elliott Aye

McGregor Aye

Poplar Aye

Page Aye

Gresham Aye

The motion passed and the board entered executive session at 6:44 P. M. Subsequently, Member Page made a motion to exit executive session. Secretary Poplar seconded the motion. Members voted as follows:

Elliott Aye

McGregor Aye

Poplar Aye

Page Aye

Gresham Aye

The motion passed and the board exited executive session at 7:25 P. M. No action was taken during executive session.

Ms. Michelle Carter presented the monthly financial review. Vice-President McGregor inquired about possible dates for discussion of the FY 2018-2019 budget. Ms. Carter replied that the dates have not been finalized as she is still completing the Accounts Payable closing for the current year.

The next item for discussion was the Safe Room Project. Member Page made a motion to table this item. Secretary Poplar seconded the motion. Members voted as follows:

Elliott Aye

McGregor Aye

Poplar Aye

Page Aye

Gresham Aye

The motion passed.

Superintendent Bostick presented letters of resignation from the following personnel: Misty Wilder, Sandra Hobson, Christopher Winburn, and Jennifer Fuller. Member Page made a motion to accept the resignations. Member Gresham seconded the motion. Members voted as follows:

Elliott Aye

McGregor Aye

Poplar Aye

Page Aye

Gresham Aye

The motion passed.

Superintendent Bostick presented a recommendation on behalf of Ms. Rosie Ladd (Principal, AMHS) to hire Mr. Michael Cathey as History teacher for the 2018-2019 school year. Member Page made a motion to enter executive session to discuss a personnel matter. Member Gresham seconded the motion. Members voted as follows:

Elliott Aye

McGregor Aye

Poplar Aye

Page Aye

Gresham Aye

The motion passed and the board entered executive session at 7:34 P. M. Subsequently, Member Page made a motion to exit executive session. Member Gresham seconded the motion. Members voted as follows:

Elliott Aye

McGregor Aye

Poplar Aye

Page Aye

Gresham Aye

The motion passed and the board exited executive session at 7:39 P. M. No action was taken during executive session. Secretary Poplar made a motion to approve the recommendation to hire Mr. Cathey. Member Gresham seconded the motion. Members voted as follows:

Elliott Aye

McGregor Aye

Poplar Aye

Page Aye

Gresham Aye

The motion passed.

Superintendent Bostick presented a recommendation on behalf of Ms. Jane Hubbard (Principal, HFAC) to hire Mr. James Baker as a Physical Education Assistant for the 2018-2019 school year. Vice-President McGregor made a motion to approve the recommendation. Secretary Poplar seconded the motion. Members voted as follows:

Elliott Aye

McGregor Aye

Poplar Aye

Page Aye

Gresham Aye

Superintendent Bostick presented a recommendation on behalf of Ms. Jane Hubbard (Principal, HFAC) to hire Ms. Angela Gossett as Science teacher for the 2018-2019 school year. Vice-President McGregor made a motion to approve the recommendation. Secretary Poplar seconded the motion. Members voted as follows:

Elliott Aye

McGregor Aye

Poplar Aye

Page Aye

Gresham Aye

The motion passed.

Superintendent Bostick presented a recommendation from Ms. Jane Hubbard (Principal, HFAC) to hire Ms. Samantha Morris as a First Grade teacher for 2018-2019. Due to the absence of all required paperwork, Secretary Poplar made a motion to table this recommendation. Member Page seconded the motion. Members voted as follows:

Elliott Abstain

McGregor Oppose

Poplar Aye

Page Aye

Gresham Aye

The motion passed. At this time, Ms. Hubbard asked if the recommendation could be brought back if the necessary documents could be obtained prior to the conclusion of the meeting. The board agreed to allow this.

Superintendent Bostick presented a recommendation from Dr. Merri Gadd (Director, BCCTC) to hire Mr. Damon Ladner as Agriculture & Natural Resources teacher and FFA sponsor for the 2018-2019 school year. Member Page made a motion to enter executive session to discuss a personnel matter. Vice-President McGregor seconded the motion. Members voted as follows:

Elliott Aye

McGregor Aye

Poplar Aye

Page Aye

Gresham Aye

The motion passed. Subsequently, Member Page made a motion to exit executive session. Secretary Poplar seconded the motion. Members voted as follows:

Elliott Aye

McGregor Aye

Poplar Aye

Page Aye

Gresham Aye

The motion passed and the board exited executive session at 8:05 P. M. No action was taken during executive session.

Secretary Poplar made a motion to approve the recommendation to hire Mr. Ladner. Member Gresham seconded the motion. Members voted as follows:

Elliott Aye

McGregor Aye

Poplar Aye

Page Aye

Gresham Aye

The motion passed.

Superintendent Bostick presented a recommendation to hire Ms. Shonika Hamilton as the Human Resources Director for the 2018-2019 school year at a salary of $25,000.00. Member Page made a motion to enter executive session to discuss a personnel matter. Secretary Poplar seconded the motion. Members voted as follows:

Elliott Aye

McGregor Aye

Poplar Aye

Page Aye

Gresham Aye

The motion passed and the board entered executive session at 8:09 P. M. Subsequently, Member Page made a motion to exit executive session. Member Gresham seconded the motion. Members voted as follows:

Elliott Aye

McGregor Aye

Poplar Aye

Page Aye

Gresham Aye

The motion passed and the board exited executive session at 8:21 P. M. No action was taken during executive session.

Vice-President McGregor made a motion to approve the recommendation to hire Ms. Hamilton. Secretary Poplar seconded the motion. Members voted as follows:

Elliott Aye

McGregor Aye

Poplar Aye

Page Aye

Gresham Aye

The motion passed.

Superintendent Bostick presented recommendations for summer maintenance personnel. Member Page requested a point of clarity on this matter from Attorney Shaw. The board agreed to move on to the remaining items while this was being researched.

Superintendent Bostick presented a request on behalf of Dr. Merri Gadd (Director, BCCTC) for Jane Autry and Karen Patterson to attend a professional development conference. Vice-President McGregor made a motion to approve the request. Member Gresham seconded the motion. Members voted as follows:

Elliott Aye

McGregor Aye

Poplar Aye

Page Aye

Gresham Aye

The motion passed.

Superintendent Bostick presented a recommendation for Ms. Amanda Ford to fulfill the position of Instructional Coach at Hickory Flat Attendance Center for the 2018-2019 school year. The salary for this position is $55,000.00. 50% funding will come from the District; the remaining 50% will come from Title I funding. Member Page made a motion to enter executive session to discuss a personnel matter. Member Gresham seconded the motion. Members voted as follows:

Elliott Aye

McGregor Aye

Poplar Aye

Page Aye

Gresham Aye

The motion passed and the board entered executive session at 8:26 P. M. Subsequently, Member Page made a motion to exit executive session. Vice-President McGregor seconded the motion. Members voted as follows:

Elliott Aye

McGregor Aye

Poplar Aye

Page Aye

Gresham Aye

The motion passed and the board exited executive session at 8:38 P. M. No action was taken during executive session.

Vice-President McGregor made a motion to approve the recommendation of Ms. Ford. Member Gresham seconded the motion. Members voted as follows:

Elliott Aye

McGregor Aye

Poplar Oppose

Page Oppose

Gresham Aye

The motion passed.

Superintendent Bostick presented the Extracurricular Salary Supplement Scale for 2018-2019. After a brief discussion, the superintendent suggested that the item be tabled until further notice. Member Gresham made a motion to table the supplement scale. Member Page seconded the motion. Members voted as follows:

Elliott Aye

McGregor Aye

Poplar Aye

Page Aye

Gresham Aye

The motion passed.

At this time, Ms. Hubbard stated that she had received the necessary documents to complete the recommendation packet for Ms. Samantha Morris.

After allowing time for the board to review the documents, President Elliott entertained a motion to approve the recommendation. Vice-President McGregor made a motion to approve the recommendation of Ms. Morris. President Elliott twice asked for the motion to be seconded. The motion failed due to lack of a second.

Superintendent Bostick presented a request for a student residing in Marshall County to be enrolled at Hickory Flat Attendance Center for the 2018-2019 school year. The student has previously attended HFAC, and a release from the Marshall County Board of Education accompanied the request. Member Page made a motion to approve the request. Member Gresham seconded the motion. Members voted as follows:

Elliott Aye

McGregor Aye

Poplar Abstain

Page Aye

Gresham Aye

The motion passed.

Superintendent Bostick presented the Inter-agency Agreement & Service Intent Letter between Benton County School District & Lifecore Health Group for 2018-2019. This agreement allows for the provision of mental health services to students meeting the appropriate criteria. Member Page made a motion to approve the agreement. Secretary Poplar seconded the motion. Members voted as follows:

Elliott Aye

McGregor Aye

Poplar Aye

Page Aye

Gresham Aye

The motion passed.

Superintendent Bostick presented a proposal for Risk Management & Insurance Services from Fisher Brown Bottrell Insurance, Inc. Secretary Poplar made a motion to approve the proposal. Member Gresham seconded the motion. Members voted as follows:

Elliott Aye

McGregor Aye

Poplar Aye

Page Aye

Gresham Aye

The motion passed.

Member Page made a motion to approve Claims Docket #059990-060074. Secretary Poplar seconded the motion. Members voted as follows:

Elliott Aye

McGregor Aye

Poplar Aye

Page Aye

Gresham Aye

The motion passed.

The next item was fixed asset disposals. Member Gresham made a motion to approve the disposals. Vice-President McGregor seconded the motion. Members voted as follows:

Elliott Aye

McGregor Aye

Poplar Aye

Page Aye

Gresham Aye

The motion passed.

Item 19A “Transitional Math Class” was previously addressed during parent/public comments.

Member Gresham made a motion to enter executive session to discuss Item 19B “Personnel Matter.” Secretary Poplar seconded the motion. Members voted as follows:

Elliott Aye

McGregor Aye

Poplar Aye

Page Aye

Gresham Aye

The motion passed and the board entered executive session at 9:25 P. M. Subsequently, Member Page made a motion to exit executive session. Secretary Poplar seconded the motion. Members voted as follows:

Elliott Aye

McGregor Aye

Poplar Aye

Page Aye

Gresham Aye

The motion passed and the board exited executive session at 9:35 P. M. No action was taken during executive session.

After a brief discussion, Member Page made a motion to enter executive session to discuss ethical concerns. Secretary Poplar seconded the motion. Members voted as follows:

Elliott Aye

McGregor Aye

Poplar Aye

Page Aye

Gresham Aye

The motion passed and the board entered executive session at 9:43 P. M. Subsequently, Member Page made a motion to exit executive session. Secretary Poplar seconded the motion. Members voted as follows:

Elliott Aye

McGregor Aye

Poplar Aye

Page Aye

Gresham Aye

The motion passed and the board exited executive session at 9:58 P. M. No action was taken during executive session.

There will be a work session and special called meeting on Thursday, June 21, 2018, at 5:30 P. M.

Member Page made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Secretary Poplar seconded the motion. Members voted as follows:

Elliott Aye

McGregor Aye

Poplar Aye

Page Aye

Gresham Aye

The motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 9:59 P. M.

Attest:

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Gary Elliott, President

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Katrina McGregor, Vice-President

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Erma Poplar, Secretary

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Betty Page, Member

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Brian Gresham, Member