

MOORE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

**Special Called Meeting
June 17, 2015**

MINUTES

The Moore County Board of Education met at a special called meeting on Wednesday, June 17, 2015, in the auditorium of Carthage Elementary School in Carthage, North Carolina.

Board Chair Bruce Cunningham called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

The following Board members were present:

Bruce Cunningham, Jr.
Ed Dennison
Charles Lambert
Laura Lang

Also present for the meeting were Superintendent Robert Grimesey, Jr.; staff members Sonya Potter, Amber Rach, Anita Alpenfels, Eric Porter, Lisa Troutman, John Birath, and Marc Bergin; and Board Attorney Neal Ramee.

At approximately 6:31 p.m., Chair Cunningham made a motion to recess the meeting and reconvene at the Old Historic Courthouse in Carthage North Carolina at 7:15 p.m. because of problems with the air conditioning at Carthage Elementary School. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

Prior to the reconvening of the official meeting, the Board attended a ceremonial administration of the oath of office to new Board member Pamela Thompson the Old Historic Courthouse. The swearing in was open to the public as a preliminary matter prior to the call to order. The oath was administered by Clerk of Superior Court Susan Hicks at approximately 7:03 p.m.

At 7:15 p.m., Board Chair Bruce Cunningham called the meeting to order.

Mr. Dennison made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Lambert and unanimously approved.

The Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of Silence were observed.

Mr. Dennison made a motion to formally accept the resignation of Board member Becky Carlson effective at noon on June 14, 2015. The motion was seconded by Mr. Lambert and unanimously approved.

After some preliminary discussion, Mr. Dennison made a motion to appoint Ms. Helena Wallin-Miller as a new member to the Board of Education for District II. Mr. Ramee explained that, as a procedural matter, appointments are by nomination, all members must have the opportunity to nominate candidates for any vacant seat, and the Board must then vote on each nominee, in turn, until one receives a majority. Mr. Dennison reframed his motion as a nomination to appoint Ms. Helena Wallin-Miller for the vacant District II seat. After confirming that there were no additional nominations, Chair Cunningham declared the nominations closed. Ms. Lang and Mr. Cunningham spoke in support of the nomination. The Chair called for a vote, and Ms. Wallin-Miller's appointment to the Board was approved unanimously.

Board members discussed the process for filling the two remaining vacancies on the Board. Chair Cunningham stated that he believed it was prudent to hold off filling the remaining vacancies until after the two new members had a fair opportunity to review the applications that had been received and not to proceed with additional appointments at the June 22 meeting. Mr. Lambert concurred and added that he would also like more time to review applications. Mr. Dennison concurred. In response to a question from Mr. Dennison, Mr. Ramee confirmed that it would be legally permissible to make copies of the applications received available for public inspection at the school system's central office.

Ms. Lang suggested that the Board take action at its June 22 meeting to fill the vacant seat on the Sandhills Community College Board of Trustees that would be left by the resignation from that Board by new Board of Education member Pamela Thompson. Chair Cunningham and Mr. Dennison indicated their agreement. Board members briefly continued discussing the process for filling the two remaining vacancies on the Board.

During the "Board Comments" portion of the meeting, Ms. Thompson expressed her appreciation for the community, her family, Robbins community, her colleagues at Sandhills Community College, and the Moore County Commissioners. She also stated that she is looking forward to serving on the Board and being available to the teachers, students, parents and the community to work in the best interests of students.

Mr. Dennison stated that the appointment of new Board members was an important process and that new members need not be educational experts but should be able to collaborate and work together with other members.

During the "Superintendent's Comments" portion of the meeting, Superintendent Grimesey asked the Board to consider the following items at its June 22 meeting: the appointment of a new member of the Sandhills Community College Board of Trustees, the administration of the oath of office to new Board member Helena Wallin-Miller, personnel matters, and a potential purchase of real property.

There being no further business, Ms. Thompson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Dennison seconded, and the motion was approved unanimously. The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:34 p. m.

Bruce T. Cunningham, Chair
Moore County Board of Education

Dr. Robert P. Grimesey, Jr., Superintendent
Secretary to the Board