

**STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA
COUNTY OF LOGAN**

A special meeting of the Logan County Board of Education was held at the Administrative Offices of Logan County Schools, Conference Room on Wednesday, August 3, 2016 at 5:00 p.m.

Call to order

The meeting was called to order by Board President Paul Hardesty. Those present were, Jeremy Farley, Debbie Mendez, Dr. Ed White, Dr. Pat J. White, and Darlene Dingess Adkins, Acting Superintendent was acting Secretary,

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Debbie Mendez.

Moment of Silence

A moment of silence was observed.

Public Speakers, Presentations and Recognitions

Acting Superintendent Darlene Dingess Adkins recommended approval of the following action items:

Action Items

Dr. Pat J. White made the motion to approve the following action items. Mrs. Mendez seconded the motion. Motion carried, vote was 5-0.

- a. Approval of Agreement with Logan County Board of Education and Logan County Housing Authority (Old Man Junior High)
- b. Approval of Early Buyout of Superintendents Contract and payment to Superintendent August 1, 2016 to September 30, 2016

Mrs. Mendez questioned Mr. Brennan in regard to a document that Mrs. Doty had given Mr. Farley at the February 11, 2016 Board meeting. The document is concerning the construction of the auxiliary gymnasium at Chapmanville Regional High School.

When shown the document, Mr. Brennan stated that he did not give the document out– he had not seen the document.

Mr. Brennan said the document is an estimate for construction cost. He has not seen the document - does not know where the document came from. Mr. Brennan said when someone tells him that we are going to build this, he would transfer money. If money was set aside - my recommendation would still be to wait until tax collections are received in September to see how much we receive. We need to be cautious right now to make certain the revenues come in.

Mr. Farley stated he does share Mr. Brennan's concerns about the budget. We know we are in difficult times economically. My position as a new board member - I am trying to understand how we made the decision and the decision process. We are the people sitting here that have to answer to the communities why these projects are not going on.

The Board requested a report on the following information be provided for all projects – Holden, New Chapmanville Elementary and the Auxiliary Gymnasium:

1. Where this project is
2. What happened to project
3. Why project not started
4. Original estimate
5. Most current estimated cost to finish project
6. Available funding for each project

Acting Superintendent Darlene Dingess Adkins recommended approval of posted positions as well as other personnel action(s) that arise which are not as a direct result of the posting, as provided by the Personnel Office:

Personnel

Mrs. Mendez made the motion to approve the personnel schedule with stated correction. Mr. Farley seconded the motion. Motion carried; vote was 5-0.

PROFESSIONAL

PENDING CERTIFICATION/CIB

A. ABOLISH

1. Ralph R. Willis Career & Technical Center – Multi-categorical (1) position

B. CREATE

1. Ralph R. Willis Career & Technical Center – Full-time – Option Pathways

C. IN-SCHOOL REASSIGNMENT

1. **Russell, Martha** – Justice Elementary School – 2nd grade from Justice Elementary School – Kindergarten – Effective August 15, 2016

D. RESIGNATION

1. **Sutters, Angela** – Omar Elementary School – 2nd grade – Effective August 1, 2016

E. RETIREMENT

1. **Grimmett, Gladys** – Man Middle School – Science/6th – Effective August 1, 2016

SERVICE PENDING CIB/PAPERWORK

A. ABOLISH

1. Verdunville Elementary School-Special Needs/Supervisory Aide-One (1) Position

B. EMPLOY

1. **Vance, Chad**-Man Bus Garage-Bus Operator-Bus Run M-2 from the substitute list, effective August 15, 2016.

C. TRANSFER

1. **Harvey, Lenora**-Chapmanville Bus Garage-Bus Operator-Bus Run C-18 from the ~~substitute list~~, **Chapmanville Bus Garage , Run C – 15** effective August 15, 2016.

Should the need be presented, President Paul Hardesty (or designee) recommended the Board enter into Executive Session in accordance with WV Code 6-9A-4:

Executive Session – WV Code 6-9A-4

At 5:32 pm. Dr. Pat J. White made the motion to enter into Executive Session in accordance with WV 6-9A-4 for the purpose of Personnel. Dr. Ed White seconded the motion. Motion carried. Vote was 5-0.

Return from Executive Session

At 6:28 p.m. Dr. Ed White made the motion to return from executive session. Dr. Pat J. White seconded the motion. Motion carried. Vote was 5-0.

No action was taken.

Mr. Hardesty made the following statement:

I am making a statement on what is going on in Logan County Schools. There has been much discussion, there has been much misinformation, there has been much fanfare about what is going on with the state of Logan County Schools. This Board was seated July 5, 2016, on July 14, 2016 at our first regular Board meeting we were noticed by Superintendent Phyllis Doty that she intended to retire. On July 28, 2016 the second regular meeting of this Board, an action item was on the personnel schedule to accept her retirement, which we did. Since that time, and part of the genesis of this meeting here this evening, you will see that action item 3 B is approval of the early buy out of Superintendent Contract and payment within provisions of her contract from August 1 – September 30, 2016. Her contract which was re-upped on February 25, of this year has a 60 day out provision should she choose to retire. Mrs. Doty chose to retire, she has given us the 60 day out clause in accordance to her contract. This Board decided as an action today, that we are going to pay her the remaining 60 days on the contract. Mrs. Doty has cleaned her office out and left as of July 31 of this year.

Mrs. Darlene Adkins is our acting Superintendent. In accordance to state code and state policy we will start a search for an interim Superintendent that will fill that time until June 30, 2017. It is our opinion that we will start a Superintendent search for a full time Superintendent sometime around January.

There has been much discussion – much misinformation that we have done things as a Board -that we've already hired people for this position – those items are false. I think that I have accurately outlined the time frame of all this stuff as it has went down.

I will tell you for the sake of transparency, there in an ongoing investigation into Logan County School System by the Commission on Special Investigations in Charleston. This investigation started long before this Board was seated. It started long before the primary election, before the filing period started. This is an ongoing investigation. I am limited in what I can discuss of that information. I feel that it is imperative to tell you, our employees, the public and our tax payers what is going on. We ran on the platform of transparency that is why we sitting here making these decisions, stating these facts to you this evening. I am sorry so much misinformation is out there in the public. The facts are what they are.

We wanted to give you that information. This board will move forward. We have challenging days and weeks ahead of us. We will do what is best and keep focused. I have used this phrase before, but I think it is appropriate, we have to know why are we here and by what authority we are serving. We are here to serve the children of Logan County first and fore most. Our next goal is to be accountable to the tax payers who pay the bills for this county. And thirdly and equally important is our 800 employees mean a lot to us in this school system.

I have made this statement repeatedly – I am sorry for the way moral is. We want to get better, we want you to have confidence in us. We don't have all the answers, but if we all work collectively and try to do what is right and focus on why we're here - to serve kids - we will get thru this.

I do not know what this investigation holds. I can tell you from what we are learning on a daily basis it is not good. It will not be an action item this evening, but we will in the near future place an action item on the agenda, we are going to solicit a forensic audit of Logan County School system. This is a pretty strong statement, but we as board feel this is important.

I have no problem being measured and gauged by what I do forward of July 5, 2016, going forward. I will be held accountable, this Board will be held accountable for what we do going forward. But I will not under any circumstance be held accountable of sins of the past. I hope they find nothing. I don't anticipate that to be the case.

Should the need be presented, President Paul Hardesty (or designee) recommended the Board enter into Executive Session in accordance with WV Code 6-9A-4:

Executive Session – WV Code 6-9A-4

At 6:34 p.m. Dr. Pat J. White made the motion to enter into Executive Session in accordance with WV 6-9A-4 for the purpose of Personnel. Dr. Ed White seconded the motion. Motion carried. Vote was 5-0.

Return from Executive Session

At 9:13 p.m. Dr. Ed White made the motion to return from executive session. Mrs. Mendez seconded the motion. Motion carried. Vote was 5-0.

Announcements

Mr. Hardesty announced the following information:

The next regularly scheduled Board of Education meeting will be held on 8/11/2016 at 6:00 p.m. at the Ralph R. Willis Career Technical Center

Adjournment

There being no further business, Dr. Pat J. White made the motion to adjourn, with Dr. Ed White seconding the motion. Motion carried, vote was unanimous. The meeting adjourned at 9:14 p.m.

PRESIDENT

SECRETARY