

The Pickens County Board of Education met on April 9, 2012 at the Central Office (377 LaDow Center Circle) at 6:30 p.m. Travis Bailey, Roger Minton, Nick Tolstick, Michael Hinton and Debbie Holley were present. Other present were Superintendent, Leonard Duff, Vanessa Anthony, Jennifer Shirley, Anissa Ball, Rufus Wilkins and Board Attorney, Ray Ward.

1. **MEETING OPENED:**

Board Chairman, Travis Bailey welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked that a moment of silence be observed. On a motion by Roger Minton, seconded by Nick Tolstick the meeting was pronounced open.

2. **APPROVE AGENDA:**

On a motion by Nick Tolstick, seconded by Michael Hinton the Board unanimously approved the agenda with the addition of *III.D. Lee vs. Macon Zone Variance*.

3. **APPROVE MINUTES:**

On a motion by Roger Minton, seconded by Debbie Holley the Board unanimously approved the minutes from the March 14, 2012 meeting.

4. **APPROVE PAYROLL:**

On a motion by Nick Tolstick, seconded by Debbie Holley the Board unanimously approved the March payroll as presented by CSFO, Jennifer Shirley.

5. **COMMUNITY GROUP:**

Mr. Terry Windham, spokesperson for the Concerned Citizens of South Pickens, requested that the Board consider allowing the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders to remain at Aliceville Middle School. He told the Board that the children's test scores have improved since they were moved to the Middle School and that all the research he had conducted showed that children who attend Middle School thru 8<sup>th</sup> grade become more productive citizens. Mr. Windham also told the Board that several petitions had been circulated and signed in the Aliceville school district asking that the children be allowed to remain at Aliceville Middle School. Dr. Duff told Mr. Windham that he was in agreement that the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students remaining at Aliceville Middle and that he will make that recommendation for Board approval at the May 14<sup>th</sup> meeting.

6. **FINANCIAL REPORTS:**

On a motion by Michael Hinton, seconded by Debbie Holley the Board unanimously approved the financial report as presented by Jennifer Shirley for the month of March and cash balances as follows:

General Fund	\$1,455,397.36
QZAB	105,581.91
Capital	653,249.35
Capital CD	338,710.56
Debt Service Fund	112,182.00
CNP Balance	848,353.39
Federal Programs	65,263.02
Local Schools	573,214.28

7. **ALICEVILLE HIGH CAPITAL PROJECT:**

Dr. Duff reported to the Board that he had spoken to the architect and that the project should be completed by Mid-June. He also told the Board he has instructed Mrs. Anthony, and Ms. Ball to confer with Mr. Sterling on purchasing good quality furniture for the school. Dr. Duff told the Board he would like to have the dedication after the start of the 2012-13 school year with the students in the new building.

8. **SCHOOL TITLE I FUNDS:**

Vanessa Anthony gave a report on how the federal fund was allocated according to the number of students that qualified for free and reduced lunch in the system. She explained that once the system received the allocation from the State Department she then deducted the set aside amounts then divided the remaining funds by the number of free and reduced students at each school. Mrs. Anthony told the Board the schools then had several allowable options on how to spend the funds to meet the specific needs of their schools. She gave the Board some examples of allowable expenditures that the schools are currently using: salaries (teacher, aides), material and supplies, computers, library books, and tutors.

9. **LEE VS. MACON ZONE VARIANCES:**

Board Attorney, Ray Ward spoke to the Board about their responsibility in granting zone variances under the Lee vs. Macon Consent Decree. He advised the Board to look carefully at each zone variance received for the 2012-13 school year and be mindful of how granting a variance would affect the schools involved. Mr. Ward said that the Justice Department would be closely monitoring the number of Zone Variances granted and that each variance met one of the four allowable reasons. He told the Board that they would have to make some very difficult decisions and possibly not allow some variances that had been allowed in previous years.

10. **APPROVE COPY PAPER BID:**

On a motion by Roger Minton, seconded by Debbie Holley the Board unanimously approved the Superintendent's recommendation to accept the lowest responsible bidder Newell Paper for 8 ½ x 11 copy paper.

On a motion by Michael Hinton, seconded by Debbie Holley the Board unanimously approved the Superintendent's recommendation to accept the lowest responsible bidder Newell Paper for 8 ½ x 14 copy paper.

11. **APPROVE GES PLAYGROUNG EQUIPMENT:**

On a motion by Nick Tolstick, seconded by Roger Minton the Board unanimously approved the Superintendent's recommendation to allow Gordo Elementary install playground equipment acquired thru a grant written by the Gordo Area Community Development Foundation.

12. **APPOINT PEOPLE FOR CAPITAL PLAN COMMITTEE:**

Dr. Duff informed the Board that the Capital Plan was due to the State Department on September 15, 2012. He asked each Board Member to bring the names of two people, from their district, to serve on the capital plan committee to the May 14<sup>th</sup> board meeting.

13. **PERSONNEL RECOMMENDATIONS:**

On a motion by Roger Minton, seconded by Nick Tolstick the Board unanimously approved the Superintendent's personnel recommendations as follows:

**RETIREMENT/RESIGNATIONS**

Gloria Gooden	Special Ed. Teacher, Gordo Elementary, effective 6/1/12
Pam Hayes	Teacher, Gordo Elementary, effective 9/1/12
Norma Junkin	Teacher, Gordo Elementary, effective 6/1/12
Bonnie Gammill	Teacher, Reform Elementary, effective 6/1/12
Leola Conner	Bus Driver/CNP Worker, effective 6/1/12

**Long Term Sub**

Lisa McDougle for Barbara Jenkins, Reform Elementary Teacher

14. **MEETING ADJOURNED:**

There being no further business, Chairman Travis Bailey adjourned the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary