

**SCOTT COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD
MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING
MONDAY, MARCH 19, 2007**

The Scott County School Board met in a special session on Monday, March 19, 2007, in the Scott County School Board Conference Room, 261 East Jackson Street, Gate City, VA 24251, with the following members present:

E. Virgil Sampson, Jr., Chairman
Gloria E. "Beth" Blair, Vice Chairman
Lowell S. Campbell
David T. Kindle
Joe D. Meade

ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: James B. Scott, Division Superintendent; Darryl E. Johnson, Director of Operations; C. Dean Foster, Jr., County Attorney; Loretta Q. Page, Clerk; Karen "K.C." Quillen Linkous, Deputy Clerk; Johnny Trent, Scott County Education Association President; Jason McCarty, Scott County Virginia Star; Gate City High School Basketball and Softball Team Members, parents, and citizens.

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Sampson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and informed those present that the meeting has been called for the purpose of discussing Gate City High School Girls Varsity Softball coaches. He informed the public that they are invited to speak and that their expressions would be evaluated. He explained that this is not a dialog session of questions and answers. He also informed the public that a closed meeting is to be held as provided in the Code of Virginia Section 2.1-3711A (1). He also explained that Mr. Scott (superintendent) and Mr. Godsey (coach) would be requested to meet with them in a closed meeting. He further explained that the board would return to an open meeting and state any action to be taken on the matters discussed in closed meeting. He informed the public that they are expected to act in an orderly manner and to be courteous. He asked everyone wishing to speak to turn in a card and that they would be given the opportunity to speak in the order that their requests are received.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Gate City High School basketball/softball team members, coaching assistants, parents, and community members expressed support of Mr. Hugh Godsey, Gate City High School Basketball/Softball Team coach.

CLOSED MEETING: Chairman Sampson stated that the board needed to enter into a closed meeting for decision and deliberation on personnel items related to coaching contracts for Gate City High School Girls Varsity Softball. Mr. Meade made a motion to enter into a closed meeting at 7:12 p.m.; motion was seconded by Mr. Kindle, all members voting aye, the board entered into closed meeting pursuant to Section 2.1-3711(A) 1 of the Code of Virginia, as amended, as stated by Chairman Sampson.

RETURN FROM CLOSED MEETING: All members returned from closed meeting at 8:32 p.m. and Chairman Sampson requested the Clerk to record the vote for the standing resolution that this board hereby certifies that the only matters discussed was the matters disclosed for the closed meeting. On a motion by Mr. Kindle, seconded by Mr. Campbell, the board returned to open meeting and considered the following certification of the closed meeting:

CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED MEETING

WHEREAS, the Scott County School Board has convened a closed meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, Section 2.2-3712 of the Code of Virginia requires certification by this Scott County School Board that such meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Scott County School Board hereby certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge, (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the closed meeting to which this certification resolution applies and (ii) only such public matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed or considered by the Scott County School Board in the closed meeting.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Beth Blair, Lowell Campbell, David Kindle, Joe Meade, Virgil Sampson

Nays: None

ABSENT DURING VOTE: None

ABSENT DURING MEETING: None

Chairman Sampson asked Superintendent Scott if he had a recommendation based on the items discussed in closed meeting.

TERMINATION OF GIRLS VARSITY SOFTBALL COACHING CONTRACT:

Superintendent Scott stated that he would like to make a comment prior to stating his recommendation. He stated that he has known Mr. Hugh Godsey since around 1968 and that this matter is not about his character or coaching ability. Superintendent Scott further stated that he made a request of Mr. Godsey two or three times to do something and Mr. Godsey wasn't able to do it.

Superintendent Scott recommended that the Gate City High School Girls Varsity Softball coaching contract for Mr. Hugh Godsey be terminated but recommended that he still receive the supplement that he would have received for coaching. Mr. Kindle made a motion to accept Superintendent Scott's recommendation based on the matters discussed in closed meeting; Mr. Meade agreed with Mr. Kindle's statement of the motion and seconded the motion, all members unanimously voting aye.

COMMENTS FROM CHAIRMAN SAMPSON: Another member of the audience that had signed up to speak earlier but had passed when having the opportunity during the public comment period asked to have an opportunity to speak at this time; however, Chairman Sampson stated that the Public Comments period was closed after allowing all speakers that had turned in cards to speak, which he stated, was over an hour of speakers. He apologized to the citizen and stated that he must be fair to everyone and that the decision made was a unanimous decision of the board.

ADJOURN: On a motion by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Mrs. Blair, all members voting aye, the board adjourned at 8:35 p.m. The next regular meeting is scheduled to be held at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, March 27, 2007, in the School Board Office Conference Room.

E. Virgil Sampson, Jr., Chairman

Loretta Q. Page, Clerk