

**SCOTT COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING, TUESDAY, JANUARY 5, 2016**

The Scott County School Board met for a regular meeting on Tuesday, January 5, 2016, at the Scott County Career & Technical Center in Gate City, Virginia, with the following members present:

William "Bill" R. Quillen, Jr., Chairman

ABSENT: None

L. Stephen "Steve" Sallee, Jr., Vice Chairman

Linda D. Gillenwater

Larry L. Horton

Gail L. McConnell

David M. Templeton

OTHERS PRESENT: John I. Ferguson, Superintendent; K.C. Linkous, Clerk Of The Board/Human Resource Manager; Beverly Stidham, Deputy Clerk/Purchasing Agent; Will Sturgill, School Board Attorney; Robert Sallee, Supervisor of Building Services; Kathy Musick, Virginia Professional Educators Representative; Patricia Whitley, Teacher/Virginia Education Association Representative; Ramona Russell, Teaching Assistant; Nancy Godsey, Citizen; Lisa Taylor, Citizen; Marci Gore, Kingsport Times News; Amanda Clark, Heritage TV and Lisa McCarty, Scott County Virginia Star.

CALL TO ORDER/MOMENT OF SILENCE/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Board Member William Quillen called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. The audience observed a moment of silence and Mr. Sallee led in citing the *Pledge of Allegiance*.

ELECTION OF BOARD CHAIRMAN: Superintendent Ferguson presided and asked for nominations for School Board Chairman. Mr. McConnell nominated Mr. Quillen, seconded by Mr. Sallee, all members voting aye.

ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN: Chairman Quillen asked for nominations for Vice Chairman and Mr. Horton nominated Mr. Sallee, seconded by Mr. McConnell, all member voting aye.

ELECTION OF CLERK OF THE BOARD: Superintendent Ferguson recommended Ms. K.C. Linkous as Clerk of the Board, seconded by Mr. Sallee, all members voting aye.

ELECTION OF DEPUTY CLERK OF THE BOARD: Superintendent Ferguson recommended Ms. Beverly Stidham as Deputy Clerk of the Board, seconded by Mr. McConnell, all members voting aye.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: On a motion by Mr. Sallee, seconded by Mr. McConnell, all members voting aye, the Board approved the agenda of the January 5, 2016 regular board meeting as presented.

APPROVAL OF AMENDED MEETING MINUTES: On a motion by Mr. McConnell, seconded by Mr. Sallee, all members voting aye, the Board approved the Amended November 5, 2015 Regular Meeting Minutes. (*Amended: page 39; DISCUSSION/APPROVAL OF LINE OF CREDIT FOR MAINTENANCE & RENOVATION PROJECTS. Board Member, Mr. Kay Jessee, made the motion for the Superintendent to ask the Board of Supervisors for a \$300,000 line of credit for construction purposes, motion was seconded by Mr. Steve Sallee, all members voting aye.*)

APPROVAL OF DECEMBER 1, 2015 MEETING MINUTES: On a motion by Mr. Horton, seconded by Ms. Gillenwater, all members voting aye, the Board approved the December 1, 2015, Regular Meeting Minutes as submitted.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS: On a motion by Mr. Templeton, seconded by Ms. Gillenwater, all members voting aye, the Board approved claims as follows:

School Operating Fund invoices & payroll in the amount of \$982,467.80 as shown by warrants #8116406-8116708 (8116335 void) & electronic payroll direct deposit in the amount of \$1,058,791.90 & electronic payroll tax deposits in the amount of \$491,652.43. Cafeteria Fund invoices & payroll in the

amount of \$112,671.30 as shown by warrants #1016999-1017044 & electronic payroll direct deposit in the amount of \$27,292.60 & electronic payroll tax deposit in the amount of \$12,526.03. Head Start invoices & payroll totaling \$38,800.16 as shown by warrants #13813-13839.

APPROVAL OF BOARD MEETING DATES: On a motion by Mr. McConnell, seconded by Mr. Templeton, all members voting aye, the board approved the School Board meeting dates as follows:

SCOTT COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD PROPOSED MEETING DATES

Location: Scott County School Board Office

Time: 6:30 p.m.

FEBRUARY 2, 2016 (Tuesday) – 6:15 p.m. Public Hearing on the Proposed 2016-2017 School Budget
6:30 p.m. Regular Board Meeting

MARCH 1, 2016 (Tuesday)

APRIL 5, 2016 (Tuesday)

MAY 3, 2016 (Tuesday)

JUNE 7, 2016 (Tuesday)

JUNE 23, 2016 (Thursday) 2015-2016 Budget Close Out Meeting

JULY 5, 2016 (Tuesday)

AUGUST 2, 2016 (Tuesday)

SEPTEMBER 6, 2016 (Tuesday)

OCTOBER 4, 2016 (Tuesday)

NOVEMBER 3, 2016 (Thursday)

DECEMBER 6, 2016 (Tuesday)

JANUARY 3, 2017 (Tuesday)

APPROVAL OF VSBA CODE OF CONDUCT OF SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS: On a motion by Mr. Saltee, seconded by Ms. Gillenwater, all members voting aye, the Board approved the following VSBA Code of Conduct of School Board Members:

VSBA Code of Conduct for School Board Members

As a member of my local school board, I will strive to be an advocate for students and to improve public education and to that end:

- 1. I will have integrity in all matters and support the full development of all children and the welfare of the community, Commonwealth and Nation.*
- 2. I will attend scheduled board meetings.*
- 3. I will come to board meetings informed concerning the issues under consideration*
- 4. I will make policy decisions based on the available facts and appropriate public input.*
- 5. I will delegate authority for the administration of the schools to the superintendent, and establish a process for accountability of administrators.*
- 6. I will encourage individual board member expression of opinion and establish an open, two-way communication process with all segments of the community.*
- 7. I will communicate, in accordance with board policies, public reaction and opinion regarding board policies and school programs to the full board and superintendent.*
- 8. I will bring about desired changes through legal and ethical procedures, upholding and enforcing all laws, state regulations, and court orders pertaining to schools.*

9. *I will refrain from using the board position for personal or partisan gain and avoid any conflict of interest or the appearance of impropriety.*
10. *I will respect the confidentiality of privileged information and make no individual decisions or commitments that might compromise the board or administration.*
11. *I will be informed about current educational issues through individual study and participation in appropriate programs, such as those sponsored by my state and national school boards associations.*
12. *I will always remember that the foremost concern of the board is to improve and enhance the teaching and learning experience for all students in the public schools of Virginia.*

Therefore, I will always strive to demonstrate appropriate behavior/conduct as a public school board member. (Each member of this school board voting to adopt this Code should sign.)

Name: Bill Quillen

Name: Gail McConnell

Name: Larry L. Horton

Name: David Templeton

Name: Steve Sallee

Name: Linda Gillenwater

School Board Date: January 5, 2016

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Ms. Kathy Musick, Virginia Professional Educators, welcomed the new board members and wished them the very best for 2016. Ms. Musick also explained the Virginia Professional Educators purpose of providing liability insurance and support for teachers and also lobbying in Richmond on behalf of educators. Ms. Musick stated the following items VPE supports:

- Support legislation stipulating teacher performance evaluations are not public records.
- Support increasing access to the Virginia Preschool Initiative.
- Support a Statewide health insurance plan for teachers and retirees.
- Support meeting the VRS Certified Contribution Rates.
- Support closing the 12% salary gap that exists between Virginia and the national average.
- Support the recommendation of the 2015 JLARC report on Efficiency and Effectiveness of K-2 Spending.
- Support legislation stipulating “a student’s IEP dictates if he or she should not take SOL test(s), and that the student’s non participation will not count against the school’s accreditation.”
- Support legislation to bring fairness to the dismissal process by restoring the three person panel in dismissal cases.

Ms. Musick also stated the legislation that VPE opposes:

- Oppose HB3 & SJ256 which grant constitutional authority to approve charter schools to the Virginia Board of Education.
- Oppose *Erosion of VRS Pension Benefits*.

Ms. Lisa Taylor, Citizen presented comments on cameras in disabled students classroom and drug testing for teachers. Ms. Taylor also stated that the playground at the Career and Technical Center for the special needs children should be looked into.

APPROVAL OF 2016 HEALTH INSURANCE COMMITTEE: Superintendent Ferguson presented a list of personnel who are to serve on the school’s 2016 Health Insurance Committee. He also asked if board members, Mr. McConnell and Mr. Quillen, would continue to serve on this committee if they so choose. Mr. McConnell and Mr. Quillen, stated that they would continue to serve. On a motion by Mr. Horton, seconded by Mr. Sallee, all members voting aye, the Board approved the 2016 Health Insurance Committee as presented:

INSURANCE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

01/01/2016

Gail McConnell, Board Member to serve 1 year- Non Voting Member
 William "Bill" Quillen, Board Member to serve 4years Non-Voting Member
 John Ferguson- Non Voting Member
 KC Linkous- Non Voting Member
 Angie Vermillion- Non Voting Member
 Tammy Quillen, Administrator (2015-2017)
 Rebecca Baker, Classified (2015-2017)
 Martha Vermillion, Retiree (2015-2017)
 Tim Edwards, Non-Classified (2015-2017)
 Pat Whitley, Scott Co Rep. VEA (2015-2017)

New Members

Cindy Dorton, Administrator (2016-2018)
 Christy Miller, Classified (2016-2018)
 Judy Calton, Head Start (2016-2018)
 Daniel Gibson, Non-classified (2016-2018)
 Dusty Newman, Retiree (2016-2018)
 Tina Howe, Scott Co Rep. VPE (2016-2018)

APPROVAL OF BUDGET COMMITTEE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016-2017: Superintendent Ferguson, stated that in the past, he established a budget committee to discuss pro's and con's of the school budget and once approved by the General Assembly, the committee would meet to develop the school's budget. Superintendent Ferguson asked for two volunteers. Mr. Sallee, who served on the committee in the past stated he would continue to serve and Mr. Templeton volunteered to serve on the budget committee. On a motion by Mr. McConnell, seconded by Mr. Horton, all members voting aye, the Board approved the Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Budget Committee.

APPROVAL OF SCOTT COUNTY SCHOOLS SERVICE ANIMALS POLICIES & PROCEDURES: Superintendent Ferguson presented the policies and procedures for the use of Service Animals in Scott County Schools. He also stated that Ms. Brenda Robinette, Special Education Supervisor, has worked with School Board Attorney, Will Sturgill, on this to make sure we follow policy. Attorney Will Sturgill explained that the bullet points on the first page comply with the *Code of Virginia*. Chairman Quillen asked if we are currently utilizing service animals in the school system and Superintendent Ferguson responded "not at this time."

On a motion by Mr. McConnell, seconded by Mr. Templeton, all members voting aye, the Board Approved the Scott County Schools Service Animals Policies and Procedures as presented.

CLOSED MEETING: Mr. Sallee made a motion to enter into closed meeting at 6:50 p.m. to discuss teachers, teaching assistants, coaches, nurses, bus drivers and maintenance staff as provided in Section 2.2-3711 A (1) of the *Code of Virginia*, as amended and to enter into closed meeting to consult with legal counsel pertaining to actual or probable litigation, as provided in Section 2.23711A(7) of the *Code of Virginia* as amended. Motion was seconded by Mr. McConnell, all members voting aye.

RETURN FROM CLOSED MEETING: All members returned from closed meeting at 8:50 p.m. and on a motion by Mr. Sallee, seconded by Mr. McConnell, the Board returned to regular session and Mr. Sallee cited 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 2.2-3711 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: Linda Gillenwater, Larry Horton, Gail McConnell, Bill Quillen, Steve Sallee, David Templeton

Nays: None

ABSENT DURING VOTE: None

ABSENT DURING MEETING: None

APPROVAL OF SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS: On the recommendation of Mr. Jason Smith, Supervisor of Personnel and on a motion by Mr. Templeton seconded by Mr. Sallee, all members voting aye, the Board approved Kelly Osborne and Rebekah Lucas as substitute teachers.

APPROVAL OF OVERNIGHT FIELD TRIPS: On the recommendation of Mr. Jason Smith, Supervisor of Personnel and on a motion by Mr. McConnell, seconded by Mr. Horton, all members voting aye the Board approved the overnight field trip request of Rye Cove High School Band to James Madison University in Harrisonburg, Virginia for All-State Band Auditions on February 26-27, 2016 (1 student, 1 Sponsor).

On the recommendation of Mr. Jason Smith, Supervisor of Personnel and on a motion by Mr. McConnell, seconded by Mr. Horton, all members voting aye the Board approved the overnight field trip request of Scott County Career & Tech Center to Fredericksburg, Virginia for competition in Skills USA on April 14-17, 2016 (10 Students, 6 Sponsors, 4 Chaperones).

On the recommendation of Mr. Jason Smith, Supervisor of Personnel and on a motion by Mr. Sallee, seconded by Mr. McConnell, all members voting aye the Board approved the overnight field trip request of Gate City HS, Gate City MS, Twin Springs HS, Rye Cove HS and Scott County Career & Tech FCCLA to attend the Leadership Development and Compete in STAR events at Virginia Beach, Virginia on April 7-10, 2016 (30 students, 6 sponsors).

On the recommendation of Mr. Jason Smith, Supervisor of Personnel and on a motion by Mr. Sallee, seconded by Mr. Templeton, all members voting aye the Board approved the overnight field trip request of Rye Cove High School Senior Class to Charlotte, North Carolina on March 29-30, 2016 (25 students, 5 sponsors and 20 chaperones).

RESIGNATIONS: On the recommendation of Mr. Jason Smith, Supervisor of Personnel, and on a motion by Mr. McConnell, seconded by Mr. Horton, all members voting aye, the Board accepted the resignation of Mr. Larry Lawson, JV Softball Coach at Rye Cove High School, effective December 10, 2015.

On the recommendation of Mr. Jason Smith, Supervisor of Personnel, and on a motion by Mr. McConnell, seconded by Mr. Sallee, all members voting aye, the Board accepted the resignation of Mr. Charles Fugate, Bus Driver, effective January 19, 2016.

On the recommendation of Mr. Jason Smith, Supervisor of Personnel and on a motion by Mr. Sallee, seconded by Mr. Horton, all members voting aye, the Board accepted the resignation of Ms. Carlene Cross, Bus Driver, effective January 6, 2016.

On the recommendation of Mr. Jason Smith, Supervisor of Personnel and on a motion by Mr. Horton, seconded by Mr. Sallee, all members voting aye, the Board accepted the resignation of Ms. Kristie Qualls, School Nurse, effective December 31, 2015.

EMPLOYMENT: On the recommendation of Mr. Jason Smith, Supervisor of Personnel and on a motion by Mr. Sallee, seconded by Mr. McConnell, all members voting aye, the Board approved the employment of Ms. Rebecca Krantz, Teaching Assistant, effective January 4, 2016.

On the recommendation of Mr. Jason Smith, Supervisor of Personnel and on a motion by Mr. McConnell, seconded by Mr. Templeton, all members voting aye, the Board approved the employment of Mr. John Logan Cassell, Maintenance Worker, effective January 4, 2016.

On the recommendation of Mr. Jason Smith, Supervisor of Personnel and on a motion by Mr. Horton, seconded by Mr. Sallee, all members voting aye, the Board approved the employment of Ms. Charity Lawson, JV Softball Coach, Rye Cove High School, effective December 10, 2015.

On the recommendation of Mr. Jason Smith, Supervisor of Personnel and on a motion by Mr. Sallee, seconded by Mr. McConnell, all members voting aye the Board approved the employment of Ms. Allie Pape, Bus Driver, effective December 15, 2015.

On the recommendation of Mr. Jason Smith, Supervisor of Personnel and on a motion by Mr. Templeton, seconded by Mr. Sallee, all members voting aye the Board approve the employment of Mr. Keith Warner, JV Baseball Coach, Gate City High School, effective January 5, 2016.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS: Mr. McConnell welcomed the new members and stated he looks forward to working with them in 2016.

Mr. Horton thanked the voters from District 6 for electing him and stated he would do his best for the county and the school system.

Mr. Templeton thanked the voters from District 1 for electing him on November 3 and stated he would do his best for District 1.

Ms. Gillenwater thanked the voters from District 3 for electing her and stated she looks forward to working with all the board members in 2016.

Mr. Sallee welcomed the new board members and stated that he too, looks forward to working with all the members for the next four years.

Mr. Quillen welcomed the new board members and stated that he looks forward to working with them over the next four years.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, the Board adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

William "Bill" R. Quillen, Jr., Chairman

K.C. Linkous, Clerk