

The Emereau Foundation  
d/b/a Emereau: Bladen  
995 Airport Road, Elizabethtown, North Carolina 28337  
Meeting of the Board of Directors  
Thursday, April 26, 2018  
6:00 P. M.

Minutes

The Emereau: Bladen Board of Directors met in regular session on Thursday, April 26, 2018. Members present: Mr. Eddie Madden, Chairman; Mrs. Lisa DeVane, Vice Chair; Mr. Maurice Williams, Secretary; Mrs. Sandra Lewis and Mr. Dean Hilton.

Board Members absent were Ms. Carla Jacobs and Mrs. Ashley Dowless.

Administrative staff present: Mrs. Kate Alice Dunaway, Executive Director; Mrs. Polly Hancock, Dean of Academic Initiatives, and Mrs. Wanda Everette, Administrative Associate.

Also present were: Pam Taylor, Brittney Dockery, Kayla Gooden, Alley Rich, Joann Melvin, Julie Sasser, Tomye Su DeVane, and Mr. Gardner Altman.

Board Chair Eddie Madden welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at approximately 6:10 p.m.

Mrs. Sandra Lewis read the Mission Statement and Mr. Maurice Williams read the Conflict of Interest Statement. There were no conflicts of interest noted.

Mr. Maurice Williams presented the Minutes from the March 14, 2018 meeting for approval.

Mr. Dean Hilton motioned to approve the March 14, 2018 Minutes. Mrs. Sandra Lewis seconded and the motion passed by a unanimous vote.

Board Chair Eddie Madden opened the floor for public comment. No one in attendance offered any comments.

Under Executive Director's Report Mrs. Kate Alice Dunaway updated the Board on the following:

- Projected enrollment confirmed in Lotterease K-7 is 482 for the 2018-2019 school year.
- Mrs. Dunaway shared that teachers had attended the Two Sisters Conference in Atlanta, GA. April 14-15, 2018.
- Invited Board of Directors to attend the Aladdin Production at Robeson Community College on Friday, April 27 at 7:00 p.m.
- Deadline to donate to Jump Rope for Heart is Friday, April 27, 2018 with a celebration day for students on Friday, May 4, 2018.
- No Excursions or Expeditions after May 11, 2018.

Mrs. Alley Rich gave the Board an update on the Athletic Program:

- Continuing to contact schools to place on our event calendar.
- Sent letters home to parents/guardians regarding athletic offerings including a physical form that is to be completed before Friday, May 11, 2018.
- Students must have a GPA of 3.0 or higher to participate.
- Secured coaches for all athletics except Mountain Biking.
- Boys' Soccer try-outs to be held at the Elizabethtown Town Hall Soccer Field, May 17-18, from 3:00-5:00 pm.

Mrs. Dunaway shared the March Budget Report and informed everyone that next year's budget must be submitted to the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction by the 1<sup>st</sup> week in July. Mrs. Dunaway then shared budget projections for the 2018-2019 school year. The 2018-2019 projected budget presented is based on enrollment of 482. Mrs. Lisa DeVane asked if an incentive for the teachers had been added to the budget for the end of the year stating that teacher's incentive should not be based on their EOG scores. Mrs. DeVane continued by saying this was not fair to teachers. Mr. Hilton suggested looking at the fuel for buses that has been purchased this year and prepay next year to help save on the cost.

Chair Madden shared that at the last meeting the Board authorized Ms. Carla Jacobs to negotiate with Advantage Capital and Bladen Community Services the consolidation of three loans and purchasing four new buses.

Mr. Dean Hilton motioned to move forward with the purchase of four new buses and finance with a rate of 6.5% interest for 64 months with United Community Bank. Mrs. Lewis seconded and the Board unanimously approved the motion to purchase four new buses authorizing Chair Eddie Madden and Secretary Maurice Williams to sign for the loan with United Community Bank.

Chair Madden recognized Mr. Gardner Altman with Bladen Community Services. Mr. Altman gave everyone an update on the three loans acquired by Emereau: Bladen and the schools obligation with Bladen Community Services.

Mr. Dean Hilton made a motion to accept the terms of the consolidated loan with Bladen Community Services. Mrs. DeVane seconded and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Chair Madden gave a Facility Update stating that weekly conferences are being held with contractors and that construction is on schedule.

Mrs. Kate Alice Dunaway then gave an update on Emereau Uniforms and recommended adding a \$5.00 screen-printed t-shirt to the uniform. Mrs. Dunaway stated this would be a multi-purpose t-shirt with every grade level having a different color. The vendor for this shirt is Sign Logic.

Mrs. Dunaway then gave an update on the Read to Achieve Program. The Summer Reading Camp can be offered thru June or July for grades 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>. Questions required by DPI include who will operate the Camp, how many days of operation and if transportation will be provided. Mrs. Lewis recommended getting input from staff and that operating less than two weeks would not help. Mrs. Devane stated not to add transportation and Mrs. Lewis agreed. It was the consensus of the Board for Mrs. Dunaway to receive input from staff and complete the forms required to have Summer Camp.

Chair Madden gave an update on the Executive Director's position and that all personnel matters will be discussed in closed session.

Upon a motion by Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. Hilton, the Board unanimously voted to go into closed session as per NC General Statute 143.318.11(a) for the purpose of discussing a potential personnel contract: A public body may close a session for the following purpose: to establish, or to instruct the public body's staff or negotiating agents concerning the position to be taken by or on behalf of the public body in negotiating (i) the price and other material terms of a contract or a proposed contract for the acquisition of real property by purchase, option, exchange, or lease; or (ii) the amount of compensation and other materials terms or an employment contract or a proposed employment contract.

Upon a by Mrs. DeVane, seconded by Mr. Hilton, the Board voted unanimously to return to open session.

Mr. Maurice Williams motioned to table personnel and salaries to the next meeting. Mrs. Lewis seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Chair Madden motioned that the Board hired Mrs. Carla Fisher to the position of Executive Director, as of July 1, 2018. Mrs. Lewis seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Chair Madden informed everyone the next Board of Directors meeting would be held on Thursday, May 17, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. to finalize personnel and budget issues.

Upon a motion by Mrs. DeVane, seconded by Mr. Hilton, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn at approximately 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Maurice Williams  
Secretary

Wanda Everette  
Administrative Associate