

The Emereau Foundation
d/b/a Emereau: Bladen
995 Airport Road, Elizabethtown, North Carolina 28337
Special Called Meeting of the Board of Directors
Wednesday, September 23, 2020
5:00 p.m.

Minutes

The Emereau: Bladen Board of Directors met in special session on Wednesday, September 23, 2020 at 5:00 p.m.

Board Members Present: Eddie Madden, Chair; Lisa DeVane, Vice Chair; Phil Byrd, Treasurer; Maurice Williams, Secretary; Ashley Dowless and David Wall, Attorney.

Board Members Absent: Sandra Lewis, Dean Hilton

Administrative Staff Present: Elizabeth Cole, Executive Director; Polly Hancock, Dean of Academic Initiatives, Ashley Bryant, School Nurse, and Wanda Everette, Administrative Associate

Call to Order and Welcome: Mr. Madden called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. and welcomed everyone.

Mission Statement: Mrs. Dowless read the Mission Statement.

Conflict of Interest Statement: Mr. Madden read the Conflict of Interest Statement. There were no Conflicts of Interest noted.

Public Comment: Mrs. Cole shared she had asked for comments in regards to students returning to school be sent to her via email due to COVID 19 and social distancing. Mrs. Cole shared emails that were received from Heather Register, Hannah Guyton, Kimberly White Baker, Ann Brown, Mary Ann Cain, McKayla Morris, and Caroline Art. Mrs. Cole also shared an email from Dean Hilton, Board Member due to his absence.

Reopening Plans for Students: Mrs. Cole and Ashley Bryant gave an update on COVID 19 and shared the positivity rate in the County is 7.8 percent. Mrs. Cole shared a pre-made single box to use as a barrier between students made by a parent. The parent made enough for one class. The cost was around \$5.50 each. Mrs. Bryant stated that if 500, similar to these were ordered from a vendor, the cost would be around \$11.68 each. Mrs. Bryant stated that students are required to stay 6 feet apart or have some type of barrier between them. Since lunch is being served in the classrooms barriers would be needed. Mrs. Cole stated this was an option costing around \$1300. Mrs. Cole stated the biggest challenge with students returning would be transportation with bus riders. Mrs. Cole shared results from surveys sent home to K-5 parents. Monday

Tuesday and Thursday Friday students have the option of Plan 1 – Remote; Option 2 –I want to send my child as many days as I can; and Option 3 –Leave it the way it is. Mrs. Cole shared the results from surveying teachers on their thoughts on K-5 students returning. Mrs. Cole’s recommended leaving things the way they are or waiting until October 19th to bring the K-5 students back on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday and leaving Wednesday’s for sanitizing; and to allow more planning time to prepare. Mrs. Cole proposed that if the board chose K-5 students to return on October 19, the school calendar be modified. Mrs. Cole proposed changing the calendar to reflect September 4, October 14, January 15, February 11, and March 18 be remote days required by Senate Bill 704. It was the consensus of the board for all K-5 students to return to school October 19. Mr. Byrd motioned to approve K-5 student’s to return on October 19 and students would attend on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. Wednesday will remain remote for all students, and to include modifying the school calendar. Mrs. Dowless seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Update on Corporate
Makeup of Emereau Bladen:

Attorney David Wall updated the board on the legal status of Emereau Bladen. It turned out that the non-profit corporation known as Emereau Bladen is The Emereau Foundation. The corporation name was set up in the Charter as The Emereau Foundation in 2015. Mr. Wall asked for board approval in contacting Attorney Jim Hill to change the name from The Emereau Foundation to Emereau Bladen. Mr. Wall will report to the board at the October meeting with the cost and timeframe. Mrs. Dowless motioned for Mr. Wall to move forward in changing the corporation name of The Emereau Foundation to Emereau Bladen Charter School with the Secretary of State. Mr. Byrd seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Contract for Licensed Real
Estate Appraisal Required by
USDA:

Mr. Madden informed the board that USDA requires a Licensed Real Estate Appraiser to do an appraisal on the property. Mrs. Dowless motioned to approve the finance committee to move forward in an appraisal process. Mr. Williams seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

October Meeting:

The next scheduled meeting is October 20th at 5:00 p.m.

Motion to Adjourn:

Mr. Williams motion to adjourn at 6:15 p.m. Mr. Byrd seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Respectfully Submitted,

Maurice Williams, Secretary

Wanda Everette, Administrative Assistant