

The Emereau Foundation
d/b/a Emereau: Bladen
995 Airport Road, Elizabethtown, North Carolina 28337
Meeting of the Board of Directors
Tuesday, May 19, 2020
5:00 p.m.

Minutes

The Emereau: Bladen Board of Directors met in regular session on Tuesday, May 19, 2020 at 5:00 p.m.

- Board Members Present: Eddie Madden, Chair; Lisa DeVane, Vice Chair; Phil Byrd, Treasurer; Maurice Williams, Secretary; Ashley Dowless, Dean Hilton and Board Attorney, David Wall.
- Board Member Absent: Sandra Lewis
- Administrative Staff Present: Elizabeth Cole, Executive Director; Wanda Everette, Administrative Associate
- Pledge of Allegiance: Mr. Williams led everyone in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Mission Statement: Mrs. DeVane read the Mission Statement.
- Conflict of Interest Statement: Mr. Madden read the Conflict of Interest Statement. There were no Conflicts of Interest noted.
- Amendment of the Agenda Mrs. Cole requested to amend the agenda by adding the following: (1) Response to an Audit Letter and (2) Consultant Engagement and Fee Agreement. Mrs. DeVane motioned to approve the agenda as amended. Mr. Williams seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.
- Approval of Minutes: Mr. Madden presented the minutes from the April 21, 2020 meeting and the April 28, 2020 meeting. Mrs. DeVane motioned to approve the minutes. Mr. Hilton seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.
- Public Comment: The floor was opened for public comments. No comments were made.
- Closed Session: Mr. Williams motioned to go into closed session at 5:05 p.m. Mrs. DeVane seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.
- Motion to Return to Open session: Mr. Hilton motioned to come out of closed session. Mr. Byrd seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Budget Report: Mr. Byrd presented the budget report for May. Mrs. DeVane motioned to approve the budget report. Mr. Hilton seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Board Meeting Dates 2020-2021 SY: Mrs. Cole presented board meeting dates for the 2020-2021 school year. Mr. Williams motioned to approve the board meeting dates presented. Mrs. Dowless seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

2020-2021 Revised Calendar: Mrs. Cole presented a revised school calendar for the 2020-2021 school year to reflect five days of remote learning required by the state. Mrs. Dowless motioned to approve the calendar presented. Mr. Williams seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

EC Contracts: Mrs. Cole recommended the following EC Contracts to serve students in the Exceptional Children’s Program for the 2020-2021 school year: Margaret A. Zastrow, PT; Barbara B. Bell Psychological Services, Inc.; Integrated Pediatrics Therapies, LLC; and Speech Solutions, Inc. Mrs. Dowless motioned to approve the EC Contracts. Mr. Byrd seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Audit from DPI:
VOTE: Mrs. Cole shared a letter from the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) that states the findings of the 2019 finance deficiencies. Mrs. Cole asked for board approval to submit a response letter drafted by Dave Faunce with Prestige Financial, along with the April finance report, in response to the letter. Mr. Hilton motioned to approve the letter to be sent to DPI. Mr. Byrd seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Legacy Impact Financial Consultant Agreement and Fee Agreement:
VOTE: Mr. Madden gave the board updates on securing bond financing for the school. Mr. Madden shared information from a conference call with Legacy Funding, PNC Bank, Hamlin and Dave Faunce on financing of the property. Mr. Madden reminded the board that USDA would not finance construction. Mr. Madden shared a Consultant Engagement and Fee Agreement from Howard Sowell, with Legacy Impact Capital, to engage with Mr. Sowell to seek financing for a one percent fee, to exclude Bladen Community Services LLC, PNC Bank, USDA and Hamlin. Mr. Hilton motioned to defer the Consultant Engagement and Fee Agreement to Attorney Wall to review. Mrs. Dowless seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Executive Directors Report: Mrs. Cole gave an enrollment update. Construction continues on the new building and is moving along well. Based on surveys received from eight graders, 12 eighth grade students will not be returning. Mrs. Cole shared she is continuing to have Zoom meeting with staff.

Personnel Recommendations:
VOTE: Mrs. Cole recommended the following personnel changes for the 2020-2021 school year:
- Polly Hancock—Dean of Academic Curriculum Instruction

- Monica Johnson—Associate Teacher
- Laurie Smith—Administrative Associate

Mrs. Dowless motion to approve the recommendations made. Mr. Byrd seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

July Meeting Date: The next Board of Directors Meeting is scheduled for July 16, 2020.

Motion to Adjourn: Mrs. Dowless motioned to adjourn. Mr. Williams seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Adjourned: The meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Maurice Williams, Secretary

Wanda Everette, Administrative Associate