

Ashe County

*150 Government Circle
Jefferson, NC 28640*



Meeting Minutes - Draft

Tuesday, May 11, 2021

12:00 PM

Special Meeting - Joint Meeting with the Board of Education

Ashe County High School

County Commission

*Chairperson Todd McNeill
Vice Chair William Sands
Commissioner Chuck Olive
Commissioner Jerry D. Powers
Commissioner Jonathan Jordan*

BUSINESS SESSION**I. 12:00 PM - Meeting Called to Order at the Ashe County High School**

Chairman McNeill called the meeting to order at 12:02 p.m. at the Ashe County High School auditorium. The purpose of this meeting was to discuss general updates regarding the new middle school, its funding, and project contracts.

Commission Board Members present: Chairman McNeill, Vice Chairman Sands, Commissioner Olive, and Commissioner Powers. Commission Board Members absent: Commissioner Jordan. Ashe County staff present: County Manager Adam Stumb, Finance Officer Sandra Long, and Clerk to the Board Ashley Honeycutt.

School Board Members present: Josh Roten, Polly Jones, Keith McClure, Dianne Eldreth, and Kim Simmons. Ashe County Schools staff present: School Superintendent Dr. Eisa Cox, Director of Maintenance Jerry Baker, and Finance Officer Amanda Coldiron. Others present: Larry Greene, Jason Herman, and Fredrick Johnson (attending remotely via Zoom).

Dr. Eisa Cox presented for discussion and approval a change order to address site erosion, sediment control, and rough grading for the new middle school site. Jason Herman provided an explanation of the change order, noting that the site requires repair and service for erosion control before construction can begin. One option previously discussed was to smooth the grading and put down grass seed that would be damaged once construction begins in August. Mr. Herman discouraged this option as a "wasted errand" and instead recommended the proposed change order as presented. He shared that this change order would allow for continued efforts to prepare the site for footers to be started in August, and he also noted that this work would not be damaged or undone during construction. Dr. Cox said that the proposed change order would allow for the continuation of the construction project toward its goals while also addressing erosion issues.

The Board of Education unanimously approved the change order. Commissioner Powers made a motion to approve the appropriation of funds necessary for the payment of \$1,096,800 in costs identified in Change Order 3 as presented. Commissioner Olive seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Dianne Eldreth requested an update on the status of the project. Dr. Cox said that she would receive the price guarantee from the CMR on Wednesday, May 12, and then they could discuss options for all components of the project within the guaranteed price. Dr. Cox added that they plan to ceremonially break ground during the first week of August and that she would provide additional information after receiving the price guarantee on May 12.

Present: 4 - Commissioner Chuck Olive, Chairperson Todd McNeill, Vice Chairman William Sands and Commissioner Jerry D. Powers
Absent: 1 - Commissioner Jonathan Jordan

II. Adjournment

Vice Chairman Sands made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:20 p.m. Commissioner Olive seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.
Approved

For: 4 - Commissioner Olive, Chairperson McNeill, Vice Chairman Sands and Commissioner Powers

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