**COFFEE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**MINUTES OF**

**September 4, 2025**

**Regular Board Meeting**

A regular meeting of the Coffee County Board of Education was held September 4, 2025, 5:30 p.m. in the Board of Education Office, Elba, Alabama.

# ATTENDANCE

# Brian McLeod, Galen McWaters, Sherry Eddins, Mike Bailey, Rodrick Caldwell, Eric Payne, Rhonda Strickland, and Superintendent: Kelly Cobb

# ABSENT

None

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. McWaters called the meeting to order.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

A motion was made by Mr. Bailey to adopt the agenda as presented. A second was made by Mrs. Eddins, and it passed unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF AUGUST 7, 2025**

The minutes of the August 7, 2025, meeting were approved as printed.

**FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND BANK/CASH RECONCILIATION FOR JULY 2025**

The July financial statement and cash/bank reconciliation report were provided.

**BUDGET HEARING**

Mrs. Shannon Odom, CSFO, presented the second budget hearing as required by law.

**APPROVAL OF BUDGET**

Mrs. Cobb recommended approval of the FY2026 budget as presented at both budget hearings. Mr. McLeod made a motion to adopt the budget as presented. A second was made by Mr. Caldwell and passed unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF CAPITAL PLAN**

The following proposed capital plan was discussed during the meeting.

1. Addition of practice field and parking lot area for New Brockton Middle/High School.
2. Construct a two-lane gravel access road to minimize traffic congestion on the highway at New Brockton Elementary School.
3. Replace LED field lighting at New Brockton High School Baseball/Softball Complex.
4. Replace the bus shop due to substandard conditions of the existing building.
5. Construct a baseball/softball complex at Kinston School.
6. Construct a new multi-purpose facility at New Brockton Elementary School.
7. Renovate the existing cafeteria at New Brockton Elementary School.
8. Expansion of the existing cafeteria at New Brockton Middle/High School.
9. Renovation and expansion of the existing band room and instrument rooms at New Brockton High School.
10. Renovate the existing cafeteria at Zion Chapel School to expand the dining space.

Mrs. Cobb recommended approval of the Capital Plan as presented. Mrs. Eddins made a motion to approve the Capital Plan as presented. A second was made by Mrs. Strickland, and it passed unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF SCIENCE TEXTBOOK COMMITTEE**

Mrs. Cobb recommended that the board approve the Social Studies Textbook Committee that was presented. Mrs. Strickland made a motion to approve the Social Studies Textbook Committee. A second was made by Mr. Payne, and it passed unanimously.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mrs. Howell certified that an executive session was necessary to discuss pending litigation. Mrs. Eddins made a motion to enter into executive session with a second by Mrs. Strickland. By unanimous, individual voice vote, the Board entered executive session, expected to last 15-20 minutes. Executive session began at 6:02 p.m. and concluded at 6:37 p.m. The Board reconvened at that time with Mr. McWaters, stating that no action and no vote were taken during the executive session.

**PERSONNEL**

Mrs. Cobb recommended the following personnel actions be approved as presented in writing:

**CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL**

**The following resignation is recommended to be approved:**

 **1. Morgan Norsworthy –** Gifted Teacher at Zion Chapel School, effective September 30, 2025.

**The following resignations are recommended to be approved due to TEAMS contract:**

 **1. Katherine E. Lord –** Teacher at New Brockton High School.

 **2. Amber Carnley** – Teacher at New Brockton Middle School.

**The following employments are recommended to be approved on a TEAMS contract:**

 **1. Katherine E. Lord** – Teacher at New Brockton High School.

 **2. Amber Carnley** – Teacher at New Brockton Middle School.

**The following leave requests are recommended to be approved:**

 **1. Jessica Lee** – Counselor at Zion Chapel Elementary School. Mrs. Lee is requesting Paid Parental Leave beginning October 14, 2025, through December 17, 2025.

 **2. Kristi Donaldson** – Teacher at Kinston School. Mrs. Donaldson is requesting Paid Parental Leave beginning September 29, 2025, through December 1, 2025.

Mr. Bailey made a motion to accept Mrs. Cobb’s recommendation with a second by Mrs. Eddins, and it passed unanimously.

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

 Mrs. Eddins stated that she attended the New Brockton High School football game on Friday night and she was very impressed with the way the students handled themselves. Mr. Caldwell thanked Mrs. Howell for all of the work she is doing. Lastly, Mrs. Strickland stated that we are off to a great start with school and that all three football teams got a win on Friday night.

**SUPERINTENDENT’S COMMENTS**

Mrs. Cobb started her comments by stating that all three football teams won on Friday night and cheer and volleyball were also off to a great start. She informed board members that New Brockton Elementary School had received a Blue Cross Blue Shield Be Healthy grant in the amount of $10,000, which was written by Coach Ryan Hussey and Coach Emily Cromer. Mrs. Cobb also stated that New Brockton Middle School had received a computer programming initiative grant in the amount of $25,000. Mrs. Cobb informed board members of the student enrollment for the start of the 2025-2026 school year.

**NOTICE OF NEXT REGULAR MEETING**

The next regular meeting will be held October 2, 2025, 5:30 p.m.

**ADJOURN**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.