**COFFEE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**MINUTES OF**

**March 6, 2025**

**Regular Board Meeting**

A regular meeting of the Coffee County Board of Education was held on March 6, 2025, at 5:30 p.m. in the Board of Education Office, Elba, Alabama.

# ATTENDANCE

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

# ABSENT

Rhonda Strickland

**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 Mr. Caldwell, and it passed unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 6, 2025**

The minutes of the February 6, 2025, were approved as printed.

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

The January financial statements and cash/bank reconciliation reports were provided.

**PRINCIPAL CONTRACT – MEGAN DRIGGERS**

Board members were provided a copy of Mrs. Driggers’ draft contract prior to the meeting. Mrs. Cobb recommended that she be given a three-year Principal contract. Mr. McLeod made a motion to accept Mrs. Cobb’s recommendation. A second was made by Mr. Bailey, and it passed unanimously.

**PRINCIPAL CONTRACT – ALONZO BARKLEY**

Board members were provided a copy of Mr. Barkley’s draft contract prior to the meeting. Mrs. Cobb recommended that he be given a three-year Principal contract. Mrs. Eddins made a motion to accept Mrs. Cobb’s recommendation. A second was made by Mr. Payne, and it passed unanimously.

**PERSONNEL**

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

**CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL**

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

**1. Reginald Melton – Teacher at New Brockton High School for the 2025-2026 school year.**

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

**STUDENT EXPULSION HEARING – EXECUTIVE SESSION**

An expulsion hearing was held upon the recommendation of Superintendent Kelly Cobb to expel the student identified in Coffee County Board of Education records as “Student A”. Board President Galen McWaters served as narrator of the hearing. The parents of “Student A” acknowledged receiving a letter notifying them of the hearing, dated March 3, 2025. The parents wished to have a private hearing. Based upon the parents’ decision to have a private hearing, Board Attorney Carmen Howell certified the proposed executive session was necessary for the purpose of student privacy and the request for a private hearing by the parents. Mr. McLeod made a motion to enter into executive session with a second by Mr. Caldwell. Mr. McWaters asked Board members to individually cast their vote to enter executive session. With a unanimous vote, executive session convened at 5:36 p.m.

At the conclusion of the student hearing, the student, parents, superintendent, and board attorney left the Board Room while Board members remained to deliberate the Superintendent’s recommendation. The Board reconvened in open session at 8:46 p.m. Mr. McWaters stated that in executive session, the Board rendered a vote based on Mrs. Howell’s legal opinion that the Board would be sitting as a quasi-judicial body and could issue a written statement at the conclusion of the meeting rather than conducting a public vote after the conclusion of executive session. The parents would be notified promptly in writing of the decision.

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

None

**SUPERINTENDENT’S COMMENTS**

Mrs. Cobb informed board members that she would email her comments to them.

**NOTICE OF NEXT REGULAR MEETING**

The next regular meeting will be held April 3, 2025, 5:30 p.m.

**ADJOURN**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.