

January 11, 2018
6:00 p.m.

The Fannin County Board of Education met in regular session with the following members present: Bobby Bearden, Chair; Lewis DeWeese, Vice-Chair; Terry Bramlett; Chad Galloway, and Steve Stanley. All members were present.

The meeting was called to order by Bobby Bearden, Chair.

Bobby Bearden, Chair, relinquished the Chair to Michael Gwatney, Superintendent, for reorganization of the Board.

Michael Gwatney, Superintendent, called for nominations for Chair for the 2018 calendar year.

Motion by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Steve Stanley, to nominate Lewis DeWeese as Chair for the 2018 calendar year. Bobby Bearden, Terry Bramlett, Chad Galloway, and Steve Stanley voted yes; Lewis DeWeese abstained; motion carried.

Michael Gwatney, Superintendent, turned the meeting over to the newly elected 2018 Chair, Lewis DeWeese.

Lewis DeWeese, Chair, called for nominations for Vice-Chair for the 2018 calendar year. Chad Galloway was nominated by Steve Stanley.

Motion by Steve Stanley, seconded by Terry Bramlett, to nominate Chad Galloway as Vice-Chair for the 2018 calendar year. Lewis DeWeese, Bobby Bearden, Terry Bramlett, and Steve Stanley voted yes; Chad Galloway abstained; motion carried.

Upon the recommendation of Michael Gwatney, Superintendent, a motion was made by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Steve Stanley, to set the regular monthly Board of Education meetings for the 2018 calendar year on the second Thursday of each month at 6:00 p.m., and the Board's work sessions to be held at 8:00 a.m. on the Tuesday preceding the regular monthly meeting. All meetings are to be held at the Board of Education office. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Chad Galloway, to approve the consent agenda. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Approve minutes from January 9, 2018, 8:00 a.m.; and December 14, 2017, 6:00 p.m.

MEC to Fannin Lanes Bowling Center- February 1, 2018, FTE reward - Bowling, Departing at 4:10 p.m. returning at 6:00 p.m.

Lucas Roof, Principal of West Fannin Elementary School, gave an update to the Board on school happenings.

Public Comment:

Donnie Kendall spoke about the athletic department.

Ryan Walton spoke about the athletic department.

After public comment, motion by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Chad Galloway, to approve the district financial report for November 30, 2017. All members voted yes; motion carried (see attached).

Dr. Gwatney stated the SPLOST check received in December for November was \$466,740.33 (see attached).

Motion by Terry Bramlett, seconded by Steve Stanley, to approve the FY18 budget amendment #4. All members voted yes; motion carried (see attached).

Heather Finley, Director of Instructional Technology, shared a technology presentation on the district technology plan FY 18-21 and demonstrated the View-Sonic interactive panel with the Board for information purposes only.

Robert Ensley, Curriculum Director, discussed the Board Self Assessment. He will discuss evaluations and GSBA Board guidelines during the local board training on February 8, 2018.

Robert Ensley, Curriculum Director, shared the local board training selection for SY 2017-2018 for information purposes only (see attached).

Motion by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Steve Stanley, to go in to executive session to discuss or deliberate upon the appointment, employment, compensation, hiring, disciplinary action or dismissal, or periodic evaluation or rating of a public officer or employee or to interview applicants for the position of superintendent; (O.C.G.A. 50-14-3(b)(2)). All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Steve Stanley, to resume the regular meeting. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Lewis DeWeese, Chair, announced no action was taken during executive session.

Motion by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Chad Galloway, to approve the executive session minutes for December 14, 2017. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Terry Bramlett, seconded by Bobby Bearden, to accept the resignation of Connie Grindstaff effective March 31, 2018. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Steve Stanley, to accept the resignation of Sandra J. Ross effective December 1, 2017. All members vote yes; motion carried.

Motion by Steve Stanley, seconded by Terry Bramlett, to approve Jessica Craig as a paraprofessional. All members votes yes; motion carried.

Motion by Terry Bramlett, seconded by Bobby Bearden, to approve Alyson Page as a paraprofessional. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Chad Galloway, to approve Gail Bennett as a substitute clerical. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Steve Stanley, seconded by Bobby Bearden, to approve Candi Michelle Ray as a substitute teacher. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Chad Galloway, to approve Scott Anderson as a substitute teacher pending completion of paperwork. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Chad Galloway, to approve Cayley Bryant as a substitute teacher pending completion of paperwork. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Chad Galloway, to approve Katherine Bush as a substitute teacher pending completion of paperwork. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Chad Galloway, to approve Denise Estes as a substitute teacher pending completion of paperwork. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Chad Galloway, to approve Ellen Fay as a substitute teacher pending completion of paperwork. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Chad Galloway, to approve Kristie Greeson as a substitute teacher pending completion of paperwork. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Chad Galloway, to approve Krista Marshall as a substitute teacher pending completion of paperwork. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Steve Stanley, seconded by Terry Bramlett, to approve Doris J. Towe as a substitute nutrition worker. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Terry Bramlett, seconded by Chad Galloway, to approve Leslie Bowman as a substitute transportation worker. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Steve Stanley, to approve Pam DeCosta as central office accounts payable bookkeeper effective April 1, 2018. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Terry Bramlett, seconded by Bobby Bearden, to approve Robert Ensley as an administrator effective July 1, 2018. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Superintendent's Comments:

Dr. Michael Gwatney, Superintendent, expressed his appreciation for everyone attending the meeting and wished everyone a Happy New Year 2018. He thanked Bobby Bearden for his

two years of service as Board Chair. Dr. Gwatney recognized the new Chair Lewis DeWeese and new Vice Chair Chad Galloway and their willingness to serve the Board and the community. He congratulated Pam DeCosta and Robert Ensley for their upcoming transfers and feels they will do excellent jobs in their new roles. Mr. Ensley is well prepared for his new position and has earned his specialist degree, has experience as a high school teacher, middle and elementary school administrator, including seven years as a principal. He will be a fine Assistant Superintendent. He thanked his colleagues Betsy Hyde, who was unable to attend the meeting, and Benny Long and feels Robert will learn a lot from them. Dr. Gwatney stated as of this month the school calendar has had seven cancellations with potential for more as we move through the winter. The designated emergency make-up days for February 19-20 and March 12-13 are now regular school days for all personnel and students on the school calendar. This will offset some of the instructional time that has been lost. Spring break days have the potential to be reclaimed if more days are missed. Dr. Gwatney thanked Lucas Roof and Heather Finley for their presentations to the Board.

Board Members' Comments:

Steve Stanley congratulated Lewis DeWeese on his new position as Board Chair. He also thanked Connie Grindstaff for all her years of service and hope she has a wonderful retirement. She is a wonderful person and she will be missed. Mr. Stanley thanked the guest speakers at public comment and invited them back at anytime and stated the comments are always listened to. He thanked everyone that came out to the meeting and said it is a team effort. Mr. Stanley told Superintendent Dr. Gwatney that he is appreciated by the community. It's a great community and one to be proud of.

Bobby Bearden appreciated everyone that attended the meeting. He is looking forward to Robert Ensley being in his new role. He does an excellent job, and he would like to have a thousand of him in the school system. He said we do have a lot like him in the system. Mr. Bearden stated Pam DeCosta has done a wonderful job at the central office since she has been here, and he feels she will do a tremendous job in her new role as well.

Terry Bramlett thanked Lucas Roof and Heather Finley for their excellent presentations. Mr. Bramlett complimented Lucas Roof for the way he handled the water situation at West Fannin Elementary School. He asked Mr. Roof to pass those compliments on to his staff and the nutrition department for doing a remarkable job. Mr. Bramlett thanked Danny Shinpaugh for managing the construction project so well; it's appreciated.

Chad Galloway congratulated Robert Ensley on his new position. He thanked Lucas Roof and Heather Finley for their presentations.

Lewis DeWeese thanked everyone for the privilege to serve as Board Chair. He appreciates the Honor bestowed upon him. Mr. DeWeese appreciates everyone that prays for him. He says he works with professional and beautiful people. They are understanding, patient, and caring. Mr. DeWeese counts it an honor to serve the children of Fannin County.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, a motion was made by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Terry Bramlett, to adjourn subject to being called into special session by the Chair when deemed necessary. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Lewis DeWeese, Chairperson

Michael Gwatney, Superintendent

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