

LATTA SCHOOL BOARD
Minutes
March 13, 2012

The Latta School Board of Trustees met for the regular monthly meeting on Tuesday March 13, 2012 at 6:30 p.m. at the Latta Elementary School Library. Notices of the meeting were duly exercised and published per school board policy.

Trustees present were: Kyle Berry, Edward Bethea, Janice Boatwright, Linda James, Betty Jo Johnson, Kenneth Kitts and Eddie Watson.

Chair Betty Jo Johnson welcomed all present and Dr. Kirby opened with prayer.

Dr. Kirby conducted the election of Board Officers. A motion was made by Kenneth Kitts and seconded by Eddie Watson to keep the current slate of officers that are now serving. They are as follows: Betty Jo Johnson, Chair; Edward Bethea, Vice-Chair and Kyle Berry, Secretary. Vote was unanimous.

There being no addition or corrections to the February 14, 2012 minutes, Chair Johnson ruled that they stand approved.

Dr. Kirby updated the Board on the new Latta Early Childhood construction/funding and the auditorium/Latta High School renovations.

In regards to the Confederate flag lawsuit, Judge Terry L. Wooten ruled in favor of the Latta Schools and defendants. He dismissed all claims in the case and further resolved to dismiss the case in its entirety. A motion to accept this ruling was made by Eddie Watson and seconded by Edward Bethea. Vote was unanimous. (Complete copy of the ruling is attached becoming part of the minutes)

On behalf of the Columbus Hope Foundation, Brian Mason has presented the Latta Schools a check in the amount of \$690.00. The monies will be used to purchase iPads for the children in our Program for Exceptional Children.

A motion to extend the superintendent's contract by two years (2016) was made by Edward Bethea and seconded by Eddie Watson. Vote was unanimous.

Donna Taylor presented a status report on the General Fund budget for January 2012. (Report attached becoming part of the minutes.)

Latta Elementary Principal Debra Morris updated the Board on the activities and programs at the school for the 2011-2012 school year. (Handout attached becoming part of the minutes.)

Dr. Kirby reported on the proposed bus costs if the state gives up ownership of transportation.

Betty Jo Johnson reported on the sessions that she attended at the 2012 South Carolina School Boards Annual Convention. The convention was February 24-26 at the Embassy Suites/Kingston Plantation at Myrtle Beach, SC. Janice Boatwright attended the new board orientation session and the convention.

Upon the recommendation of the administration, the following motions were made:

- By Kenneth Kitts seconded by Edward Bethea to approve the professional staff as presented. Vote was unanimous.
- By Eddie Watson seconded by Kenneth Kitts to approve the para-professional staff as presented. Vote was unanimous.
- By Eddie Watson and seconded by Edward Bethea to approve the extra duty contracts. Vote was unanimous.

(Listing of recommendations attached becoming part of the minutes.)

A motion was made by Eddie Watson and seconded by Kyle Berry to continue to open the Board meetings with prayer and abide by the court ruling that the prayer be non-sectarian. Vote was unanimous.

A motion was made by Kenneth Kitts and seconded by Edward Bethea to accept policies JFAB and DFG as first reading. Vote was unanimous.

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Kyle Berry and seconded by Edward Bethea. Vote was unanimous.

Betty Jo Johnson, Chair

W. Kyle Berry, Secretary

JMK:rh