

MINUTES OF THE
MISSISSIPPI CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORIZER BOARD
Special Meeting
Friday, May 5, 2017

A special meeting of the Mississippi Charter School Authorizer Board was held via teleconference at 10:30 a.m. on Friday, May 5, 2017. The meeting was open to the public at the Mississippi Charter School Authorizer Board office, located at 239 N. Lamar Street, Suite 207, Jackson, Mississippi. Participating via teleconference were:

Krystal Cormack, Chair
Johnny Franklin, Vice Chair
Tommie Cardin
Dr. Karen Elam
Dr. Carey Wright

Mr. Chris Wilson and Dr. Jean Young were unable to participate. Chair Krystal Cormack called the meeting to order at 10:34 a.m.

ITEM I. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

A. Adoption of Agenda

The Agenda was previously circulated to all Board members for review.

Chair Cormack requested a motion to adopt the agenda, as presented.

MOTION: Dr. Wright

SECOND: Mr. Franklin

There being no discussion and following a roll call vote in favor by all participating members, the motion carried.

ITEM II. FY17 BUDGET ADJUSTMENT

A. FY17 Budget Adjustment

Chair Cormack presented an opportunity for the board to partner with a consultant to work on the 2017 U.S. Department of Education's Charter Schools Program Grant application process for State Entities. She noted that the board has applied previously in partnership with the Mississippi Department of Education for these funds but has been unsuccessful in receiving a grant award. Due to the significant amount of funds available, she noted that it's in the best interest of the board to take action to strengthen our application through review and revision in partnership with a consultant.

Executive Director Ms. Schutte noted that the budget documents presented show a revision to the FY17 budget which moves \$3,750 dollars out of Other Fees to a new line item in the contractual

category for a consultant for the board's Charter Schools Program grant application. This amount is based on the consultant's proposal of fifteen hours of work at a rate of \$250 per hour. The consultant came recommended by Bellwether Education Partners, a nonprofit organization based in the Boston area that has previously worked with many state agencies and charter management organizations on Charter Schools Program grants. She noted that she, Rachel Canter, and Searcy Milam from Mississippi First spoke with the consultant, Jessica Cohen, and she has experience writing Charter Schools Program grants as well as working as a reviewer of Charter Schools Program grants for the U.S. Department of Education.

Chair Cormack requested a motion to amend the FY17 budget to move \$3,750 from the Other Fees line item to the CSP Consultant Contract line item.

MOTION: Dr. Elam
SECOND: Dr. Wright

There being no additional discussion and following a roll call vote in favor by all participating members, the motion carried.

Chair Cormack requested a motion to approve the contract with Jessica Cohen for Charter Schools Program grant consultant services pending review of the contract by the Authorizer Board's appointed Attorney General's representative and the revisions suggested below by Mr. Tommie Cardin.

MOTION: Dr. Elam
SECOND: Dr. Wright

Mr. Cardin presented several revisions for the contract delivered to the board by Jessica Cohen. They are: 1) revising language referring to the MCSAB as a corporation and any further references, 2) adapt global references from he to she, 3) reference to paragraph 11 in paragraph 10 should be reference to paragraph 10, 4) in paragraph 12, reference to indemnification should be removed or agree to indemnify to the extent permissible by law, 5) in paragraph 14, this agreement can be terminated for any reason by either party, and 6) in paragraph 15g, governed by the laws of the state of Mississippi.

Mr. Franklin asked if the Authorizer Board was working with Mississippi First on the grant proposal. Ms. Schutte confirmed that this was the case. Mr. Franklin, also asked the due date of the proposal. Ms. Schutte noted that the due date for the CSP application is May 18th.

There being no additional discussion and following a roll call vote in favor by all participating members, the motion carried.

ITEM III. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

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ITEM IV. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Cormack requested a motion to adjourn.

MOTION: Mr. Cardin

SECOND: Mr. Franklin

There being no discussion and following a roll call vote in favor by all participating members, the motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 10:54 a.m.

ADOPTED, this the 5th day of June, 2017.



KRYSTAL CORMACK, Chair