

State of Louisiana

MINUTES

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

JIMMY D. LONG SR. LOUISIANA SCHOOL FOR MATH, SCIENCE, AND THE ARTS

December 9, 2019

The Board of Directors of the Louisiana School for Math, Science, and the Arts met on December 9, 2019, at 9:30 a.m. in the Jimmy D. Long Boardroom, LSMSA, in Natchitoches, LA. Mrs. Sharon Gahagan, Board Chair, called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL

Present

Rep. Beryl Amedee
Dr. Jason Anderson
Jimmy Berry
Jed Cain
Raphael Curtis
Tony Davis
Sharon Gahagan
Ryan Jannise
Chanda Johnson
Denise Karamales
Jimmy Long Jr.
Dr. Kimberly McAlister
Martha Kay Smiley
Jamie Smith
Dr. Larry Tremblay

Absent

Rep. Julie Emerson
Marian Johnson
Sen. Beth Mizell
Sen. Dan Morrish
Paul Rainwater
Richard Strong
Hollis Conway

Guests

John Allen, LSMSA
Dr. Kristi Key, LSMSA
Emily Shumate, LSMSA
Angela Robinson, LSMSA Foundation
Melissa Hardaway, LSMSA
Bryson Thomas, LSMSA
Ken Sills, LSMSA Attorney
John Amedee

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Mrs. Gahagan welcomed members and guests to the quarterly Board meeting.

AGENDA ITEM 1: APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 16, 2019, BOARD MINUTES

Mrs. Gahagan requested the Board's review of the Sept. 16, 2019, Board minutes and requested any additions or corrections.

Mr. Davis moved to approve the Sept. 16, 2019, Board minutes. Dr. Tremblay seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 2: CALL FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Mrs. Gahagan reported that she had no requests for public comment.

NO ACTION REQUIRED

AGENDA ITEM 3: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT

AGENDA ITEM 4: UPDATE ON THE RESIDENCE HALL PROJECT

Dr. Horton updated the Board on the roof project. He said that the contractor was wrapping up the work and should be finished no later than the next 30 days. He felt that there would be additional landscape work required of the contractor to return the property to the condition in which they found it when starting the project (specifically in the Courtyard). The School had some minor carpentry work that needed to be done once the roof construction was completed and will be completed by the end of the fiscal year.

He also updated the Board on the Residence Hall project and reminded them that Tony MacDonald, project manager, would be conducting a tour of the entire worksite following the Board meeting. He said that by Dec. 27 all slabs would be poured, and work on the girls’ wing and the split wing (wings A and C) would commence. The project is ahead of schedule, and no major expenses have been incurred. He said that the Joint Commission on the Budget recently approved the addition of two elevators to the project.

Dr. Horton said that the LSMSA Foundation was beginning work on its fundraising project for the Innovation Center that was introduced at last board meeting. They have engaged a professional fundraising firm to assist the Board of the Foundation with this project.

Progress has been made with the Outpatient Care Center and the School regarding the OCC assisting the School with its health and wellness needs. OCC administrators have toured LSMSA, and LSMSA has toured the OCC facilities. Additionally, the Rapides Foundation visited the campus in early December to get a better understanding of the needs of LSMSA and OCC. Dr. Horton said that he was very pleased with the relationship that has developed with the OCC and looks forward to continued discussions that could benefit both the School and the OCC.

NO ACTION REQUIRED ON EITHER AGENDA ITEM

AGENDA ITEM 5: REPORT FROM THE FACULTY

Dr. Anderson updated the Board on recent accomplishments of the faculty over the past quarter, specifically in the areas of teaching, research, and service. Several have attended conferences with financial support from the LSMSA Foundation.

He added that Morris Tichenor recently defended his dissertation and will earn his PhD. Degree in December. Dr. Casey Green earned her PhD. in the summer session.

NO ACTION REQUIRED

AGENDA ITEM 6: DIVISION REPORTS

Mrs. Gahagan introduced each of the four members of the senior administration and asked them to briefly share their divisions' accomplishments for the quarter. Each referred Board members to his/her written reports, which included comprehensive information for the quarter and answered specific questions. Additionally, each member provided a synopsis of activity in their respective divisions.

NO ACTION REQUIRED

AGENDA ITEM 7: OTHER BUSINESS

Earlier in the Board meeting, Mrs. Gahagan recognized Mrs. Shirley Dobson, executive assistant to Dr. Horton and to the Board, for her upcoming retirement. The Board honored her with a gift and wished her well as she pursued her retirement.

Mrs. Gahagan introduced Mr. Ken Sills, who updated the Board on legislation regarding term limits of memberships of state boards and commissions. According to Mr. Sills, all members of the Board who were appointed by the Governor ARE NOT limited in the number of terms that they may be appointed to the Board by any Governor since they serve at the pleasure of that governors. In 2015, there was a limitation of terms for members appointed by the Governor. However, that statute was repealed in May 2016.

He said that members' terms did expire December 31, 2019; however, until members were reappointed and/or replaced, the current Board would remain in authority as it pertains to the governance of the School until the Governor announced his appointments for his next gubernatorial term. The next Board meetings will be March 16, 2020.

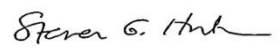
Mrs. Gahagan invited Board members to join her for a tour of the residence hall site at the end of this meeting.

NO ACTION REQUIRED

AGENDA ITEM 8: ADJOURNMENT

As there was no other business to come before the Board, Mr. Jannise moved to adjourn. Mr. Davis seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously. The Board adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,



Steven G. Horton, PhD.
Secretary



Sharon T. Gahagan, EdS.
Chair