

MOUNTAIN EDUCATION CENTER, INC.
Governing Board Minutes
Video Conference 5 pm Wednesday, November 10, 2010

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Barry Pritchett – Collaborative Board Member
Dr. Paul Shaw – Superintendent, White County
Mr. Mitchel Barrett – Superintendent/Principal, Mountain Education Center High School
Mrs. Anita Middleton – Collaborative Board Member
Dr. Lewis McAfee – Superintendent, Union County
Dr. Richard Behrens – Superintendent, Towns County
Mrs. Wendy Reynolds for Mr. Mark Henson – Superintendent, Fannin County
Mr. Randy Parson – Superintendent, Gilmer County
Mr. Mike Ballew – Superintendent, Pickens County

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Larry Shook, MEC Technology Director Judy Waldroup, Site Administrator/Testing Coordinator
Andrea Hulsey, MEC Finance Director Carol Reid, MEC Administrative Assistant
Carol West, MEC Administrative Assistant Dr. Sheri Hardin, Special Programs Coordinator
Tighe Day-Lewis, MEC Assistant Principal/SPED Director
Christie Melton, Technology/Personnel

GOVERNING BOARD MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Representative Stephen Allison - Collaborative Board Member
Mr. Dewey Moye – Superintendent, Lumpkin County
Mr. Mark Henson – Superintendent, Fannin County
Dr. Franklin Johnson – Collaborative Board Member

GUEST:

Bryan Dorsey, Superintendent, Gilmer County

The Mountain Education Center, Inc. Governing Board met in a regular meeting on October 4, 2010. No Public Forum. Dr. Behrens called the meeting to order. Mr. Barrett gave the invocation and Dr. Behrens led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ITEM I:

Motioned by Mr. Parson, seconded by Mr. Pritchett **to approve the November agenda.**
Motion carried. All voted yes.

ITEM II:

Motioned by Dr. McAfee, seconded by Mr. Parson **to approve the October 4, 2010 Governing Board minutes.** Motion carried. All voted yes.

Reports:

Testing Waivers – Judy Waldroup

The State Board of Education (SBOE) approved the variance request for the Social Studies portions of the GHSGT for a MEC student. For another student a waiver request for the Writing portion of the GHSWT was approved.

ITEM III:

Motioned by Dr. Shaw, seconded by Mr. Parson **to accept the approval decision by the SBOE.** Motion carried. All voted yes.

GMWIA Partnering with MEC – Mitchel Barrett

Georgia Mountains Workforce Investment Area (GMWIA) in the northeast area would like to increase partnerships with services with Mountain Education Center to help students who are currently in high school. They are currently serving the MEC Union site and will serve Stephens, Lumpkin, and Habersham sites. This program is designed to target youth who are looking to improve their work skills and earning potential. GMWIA will find jobs, pay \$8.50 per hour up to 30 working hours a week and workmen compensation insurance on eligible students. GMWIA in the northwest area will be helping MEC Pickens and Gilmer site. GMWIA will work with MEC CTAE Director, Bobby Whitlock in making this program a success.

Curriculum – Dr. Sheri Hardin

Sheri reported: “Mountain Education Center as an entity can sell curriculum, materials, and software that is created. We would want to copyright those materials. You establish a copyright simply by denoting it. We can also register the copyright for a small fee. Registration is not required; however, there are advantages to registering the copyright when dealing with copyright infringement claims. As for the software I would need to talk to Trilla Pruitt, MEC Curriculum Director, to get more details pertaining to its development”.

New Business:

Financial Report-Andrea Hulsey

Ms. Hulsey explained the September and October financial reports. The October report reflects that after completing four months of fiscal year 2011, MEC is three percent under budget.

ITEM IV:

Motioned by Mr. Parson, seconded by Mrs. Middleton **to approve the September and October financial report.** Motion carried. All voted yes.

Budget Amendment – Andrea Hulsey

Proposed budget amendment shows reduction in State Vocational Supervision grant from FY 2010 to FY 2011 in the amount of \$284.00

Revenues: Federal Education Job Grant received in the amount of \$227,588.00. This will help us retain employees rather than hire new staff for the SY2011.

Expenditures: Instruction-Education Jobs Grant utilized to hire instructional staff \$23,324.48 and there were no budget change in retained staff. Pupil Services-Gilmer site expenditures not included in original budget (counselors) \$33,320.69 and MEC match of Communities in Schools grant of \$31,000.00.

ITEM V:

Motioned by Mr. Pritchett, seconded by Mr. Parson **to approve the budget amendment.** Motion carried. All voted yes.

Updated Capital Asset Guide – Andrea Hulsey

Andrea updated the MEC Capital Asset guide to show each financial reporting requirement.

Discuss Meeting Dates for 2011 Calendar year – Dr. Behrens

Dr. Behrens suggested meeting in-person in January and June and meet by video in March and September. This does not preclude MEC called meetings.

ITEM VI:

Motioned by Mr. Pritchett, seconded by Dr. Shaw **to meet in person twice a year and video-conference twice a year.** Motion carried. All voted yes.

Discuss Tabled Procedures for Past Board Members – Mr. Parson

Mr. Randy Parson proposed the following recommendations as a policy concerning hiring current Board members for positions at MEC:

1. No sitting board member can work for MEC.
2. In a situation in which a past board member applies for a position, other than teacher, the board shall appoint a hiring committee of site directors to review the applicants and then make a recommendation for the principal/superintendent to fill the position.

ITEM VII:

Motioned by Mr. Pritchett, seconded by Dr. Shaw **to approve the recommendations as a policy.** Motion carried. All voted yes.

Executive session – Closed

ITEM VIII:

Motioned by Mr. Parson seconded by Mr. Pritchett **to go into executive session.** Motion carried. All voted yes.

ITEM IX:

Motioned by Dr. Shaw seconded by Mr. Parson **to come out of executive session.** Motion carried. All voted yes.

ITEM X:

Motioned by Mr. Pritchett, seconded by Mrs. Middleton **to approve the hiring of the following personnel for the Mountain Education Center, Inc. upon completion of fingerprinting and criminal background checks.**
Motion carried. All voted yes.

New Personnel:

1. Larry Shook – Full time Personnel Director/Technology Director, Central Office
2. Carol Gastley - Hourly Paraprofessional, Habersham
3. Millie Hilliard - Hourly SpEd Paraprofessional, Habersham
4. Kimberly Perren - Hourly Mentor/Substitute, Habersham
5. Dara Bergmann - Hourly Paraprofessional, Lumpkin
6. Suzanne Hitt - Hourly Paraprofessional, Lumpkin
7. Angelina Allen - Hourly Teacher/Mentor, Pickens
8. Ginger Rizoti - Hourly Mentor, Pickens
9. Lisa Walker - Hourly Mentor/Paraprofessional, Pickens
10. Melinda Cartledge - Hourly SpEd Substitute/Mentor, Stephens
11. Craig Hagel - Hourly SpEd Paraprofessional, Stephens
12. John Hill - Hourly Teacher, Union
13. James McBride - Hourly Paraprofessional, Union
14. Tiffany Winkler - Hourly SpEd Teacher, Union
- 15. Ted Childs, Lumpkin Site Admin, request to change position to Habersham as Graduation Coach.**

Adjourn

ITEM XI:

Motioned by Dr. McAfee, seconded by Mrs. Middleton **to adjourn the Governing Board meeting.**
Motion carried. All voted yes.

Dr. Behrens, Governing Board Chairperson

Dr. Paul Shaw, Governing Board Secretary