



NERSBA Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
NERSBA Technology Center
Wednesday March 16, 2022
4:30 PM

1. OPEN SESSION

1.1 Call to order/Welcome: Mr. Benjie Forrest, Chair

1.1.1 Roll Call: Mrs. Inga Stotesberry

NERSBA Membership Present: Benjie Forrest, Brian Busch, Julius Walker, Kenneth Harrell, Simon Griffin, Ephraigm Smith, Jerry Phelps, Terry Draper, Joyce Moore,

NERSBA Membership Joining Via Phone: Michele Spence, Trey Goodson

NERSBA Membership Absent: Ethan Lenker, Karen Clough, Melva Lilley, Susan Tyre

1.1.2 Invocation & United States Pledge of Allegiance: Mr. Julius Walker

1.1.4 Approval of March 16th, 2022 Board Meeting Agenda: Mr. Benjie Forrest, Chair

Mr. Ephraigm Smith moved to approve the meeting agenda as presented by Mr. Hal Davis. Mr. Kenneth Harrell seconded the motion. The motion passed with a majority vote by the NERSBA board.

1.1.5 Special Comments: Ms. Shanicia Young

Ms. Shanicia Young, a 2016 Graduate of NERSBA and Martin Community College addressed the board regarding her experiences at NERSBA and Martin Community College. Ms. Young completed her undergraduate studies at Campbell University before attending the North Carolina Central University School of Law. She will be taking the North Carolina State Bar Exam in July. Ms. Young worked throughout her high school and college career with the Cole Phelps Law Firm in Plymouth, NC and plans to join the firm permanently after completing this requirement.

Ms. Young noted her experiences at NERSBA being essential in providing the opportunity to her future legal career.

1.1.6 Public Comments: None

2. NERSBA Informational Items

2.1 NERSBA Scholastic Report: Mr. William Askew

Mr. Askew presented the following informational points to the board:

- NC East Alliance For “Nourish The Future” Professional Development Session hosted by NERSBA on Friday, March 25th. Mrs. Heather Shea recently attended a professional development opportunity sponsored by NC East and the Iowa Corn Growers Association in New Orleans, LA promoting this initiative with teachers across the United States.
- Our Greenhouse Construction Project sponsored by the Tobacco Trust Fund Grant is moving forward with the facility now in the process of being procured.
- NERSBA has started to earmark funds allocated in the NC Legislative Grant.
- A number of appearances and interviews have been completed and are scheduled with local media outlets promoting our NERSBA scholastic community.
- Our FFA Chapter sponsored concessions at the Old Ford Rodeo held recently at the Senator Robert Martin Center in Williamston, NC. This event was very successful with promoting our FFA Chapter finances.
- National FFA Week was celebrated February 21st-24th with a number of activities conducted on the part of our FFA Chapter.
- Preregistration for the 2022-2023 Instructional Program is currently underway.
- NERSBA had 55 students and faculty attend the University of Mount Olive AgExpo March 31st.
- Prospective New Scholar Interviews are underway for our Freshman Class of 2027.
- The third grading period concluded March 17th.

2.2 NERSBA/NC East Alliance: Mr. Hal Davis/Mr. William Askew

Mr. Davis informed the board that the NC East Alliance conducted an “Industries In Schools” professional development activity for area science teachers on March 25th. Approximately 40 middle and high school teachers across northeastern North Carolina attended this workshop held at NERSBA, emphasizing articulation with agricultural competencies with instructional program areas noted in the NC Standard Course of Study.

Dr. Gary Roberson from NC State University, Mr. Lawrence Lilley representing Lilley International and Mr. Simon Griffin, representing Agribusiness Initiatives across North Carolina conducted presentations during the meeting. Members of our NERSBA FFA Chapter Officer Team also made presentations during this event.

2.3 NERSBA COVID-19 Protocols/Scholastic Plan to Promote Instruction:

Mr. Hal Davis

Upon the recommendation of Mr. Davis and Mr. Askew, the board approved their recommendation for NERSBA to continue operating under a “mask optional policy” until our April 20th board meeting.

2.4 NERSBA Board Policy Manual Updates: Mr. Hal Davis

Mr. Davis informed the board that Dr. Larry Price has started the process to update our board’s policy manual with updates and revisions that have been recently approved by the North Carolina General Assembly and State Board of Education.

2.5 Washington County Resolution: Mr. Hal Davis

Mr. Davis informed the board that he and our board attorney had received a second resolution to withdraw from NERSBA along with an attorney letter from Washington County Schools. These documents were presented to the board membership for review by Mr. Davis. The resolution to withdraw was not be discussed due to dates as noted in the resolution.

Mr. Davis informed the board that our attorney would communicate with the attorney representing Washington County Schools requesting a revision to the resolution for consideration at April board meeting.

Mr. Forrest reminded our board membership that any board who submits a resolution for withdrawal that our board “may” vote on a resolution but are not required by legislation to address a resolution to withdraw with a second vote.

2.6 Remote Participation in Board Meetings: Mr. Hal Davis

Mr. Davis presented policy proposal 2302 from the North Carolina School Boards Association which addresses remote participation in board meetings by our board membership.

Mr. Davis offered this policy for consideration noting the importance of board members attending meetings to address the business of NERSBA. This policy would be an addition to our policy manual and will be included as an agenda item during our April board of directors meeting.

3. NERSBA Financial Report

3.1 NERSBA 2021-2022 Fiscal Update: Mr. Hal Davis

Mr. Davis informed that board that our administrative staff is working closely with Mrs. Debra Baggett and her finance team to reconcile our current local and state budget Expenditures. Mr. Davis also noted that Mr. Askew would serve as the primary contact person for our Capital Improvement Project Grant (in the amount of \$400,000).

3.2 NERSBA 2022-2023 Budget Development Meeting: Mr. Hal Davis

Mr. Davis informed the board that he along with Mr. Askew have initiated work on our 2022-2023 fiscal budget with assistance from Mrs. Debra Baggett. Our NERSBA Finance Committee will convene in the near future to develop a formal budget proposal.

4. Action Items:

- 4.1 Approval of February 2020 Board Meeting Minutes: Mr. Benjie Forrest**
Mr. Julius Walker moved to approve the minutes from the February board meeting as presented by Mr. Davis. Mr. Simon Griffin seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a majority vote by the NERSBA board membership.
- 4.2 NERSBA 2022-2023 Scholar Calendar: Mr. Hal Davis/Mr. William Askew**
Dr. Brian Busch moved to accept the student academic Calendar Proposal "B" for the 2022-2023 student calendar as presented by Mr. Davis. The motion passed by a majority vote by the NERSBA board of directors.
- 4.3 NERSBA Substitute Faculty Recommendation for Approval: Mr. Hal Davis**
Mrs. Brenda Modlin was recommended as a substitute faculty member at NERSBA by Mr. Davis. Mr. Jerry Phelps moved to accept the recommendation. Mr. Kenneth Harrell seconded the motion. The motion passed with a majority vote by the NERSBA board membership.
- 4.4 Supplemental Funds for Teacher Compensation (PRC 071): Mr. Hal Davis**
Mr. Hal Davis informed the board that \$47,160 has been allotted to NERSBA by the North Carolina General Assembly to be used to support our overall programs currently in place.

Mr. Davis recommended to the board that \$1,000.00 in compensation be awarded to instructional staff members in our April payroll. These funds have recently been appropriated by the North Carolina General Assembly and allocated to NERSBA. The balance of these resources in the amount of \$32,000.00 will be directed towards security cameras upgrades throughout the campus with board approval of this formal recommendation on the part of Mr. Davis.

Mrs. Joyce Moore moved to accept the recommendation as presented by Mr. Davis. Mr. Julius Walker seconded the motion. The motion passed with a majority vote by the NERSBA board membership.

Mr. Julius Walker moved to go into closed session at 5:44 PM. Dr. Brian Busch Seconded the motion. The motion passed with a majority vote by the NERSBA board of directors.

5. NERSBA Closed Session: NCGS 143-318.11.5 (Real Property)/Personnel

No action was taken by the board regarding the general statutes noted.

6. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Davis presented the following informational items to our board of directors:

- 6.1 February 18th-19th Old Ford Rodeo, Senator Bob Martin Center
- 6.2 NC State University Field Trip
- 6.3 Sylvan Heights Bird Park Field Trip: March 24th
- 6.4 North East Alliance Teacher Workshop/Class of 2022 Photographs/Scholar Volunteer Day (March 25th)
- 6.5 UMO AgFest: March 31st
- 6.6 NERSBA Prom, April 8th @ Yankee Hall 7:00 PM
- 6.7 Good Friday Holiday/Spring Break: April 15th-22nd
- 6.8 Board of Directors Meeting: Wednesday, April 20th @ 4:30 PM

7. MOTION to ADJOURN:

Mrs. Joyce Moore moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Simon Griffin seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 6:27 PM.

Respectively Submitted,

Mrs. Inga Stotesberry, Administrative Assistant
April 20, 2022

