

Northeast Regional School
of
Biotechnology and Agriscience
Board Meeting Minutes
May 21, 2014

Place: Vernon James Research and Extension Center

Time: 4:30 PM

Present: David Peele, Mac Hodges, Benjie Forrest, Joe Landino, Lloyd Armstrong, Dwight Respass, Lynn West, Michael Dunsmore, Kenneth Harrell, Jean Woolard, Julius Walker, Simon Griffin, Matthew Babcock

Absent: Norris Tolson, Ethan Lenker

The May meeting of the Northeast Regional School of Biotechnology and Agriscience Board of Directors was called to order by Chairman David Peele at 4:30 PM on May 21, 2014. Inga Spruill proceeded with the roll call. Those present were Principal Hal Davis, Roanoke Beacon Reporter Tiffany Hudson, Andrew Harris from NC New Schools, and Paul Spruill with Tideland Electric Membership Corporation. Faculty members present were Will Prettyman, Julie Gurganus, Tracie Asby, Connie Smith, and Christi Rogerson. Parents present were Jennifer Perry and Gerald Wynn.

Benjie Forrest led the board in prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman David Peele offered the April minutes for consideration and noted that the minutes are posted to the NERSBA website. Joe Landino moved with a second from Kenneth Harrell to approve the minutes. The motion passed with a unanimous vote from the board.

Chairman David Peele presented the agenda for additions or deletions. With no additions or deletions the agenda was approved as presented.

Public Comments: None

Farm Bureau “Agriculture in the Classroom” Grant:

Vice Chairman Mac Hodges presented a Farm Bureau Grant check of \$500.00 to Will Prettyman from the NERSBA faculty. Will Prettyman will be purchasing a remote controlled Quad Rotor Copter (Drone) with this financial award grant. A go-pro will be installed on the device to assist with farm imaging.

Principal Hal Davis asked Mr. Prettyman to also inform the board of the 3D Printer NERSBA received at no charge to the school. Mr. Prettyman explained that he initiated a Donors Choose Campaign project for a 3D Printer valued at \$2,600.00. This printer was purchased through donations by community and students online at no cost to the school.

NERSBA Board of Directors: Dr. David Peele

Chairman David Peele is pleased to announce that Paul Spruill has been nominated by the Washington County Chamber of Commerce to fill our last position on the board. During the July board meeting Paul Spruill and Jean Woolard will be sworn in as official board members for NERSBA.

Finance Report: Michael Cowin

Michael Cowin provided a detailed finance report to the board membership. The report outlines receipts and disbursements for NERSBA through May 19, 2014. Mr. Cowin projects an available balance of \$80,911.16 at the conclusion of the school year. With no further questions, Benjie Forrest moved to approve the finance report followed by a second from Vice Chairman Mac Hodges. The motion to approve the report received full support from the board.

NC New Schools: Mr. Andrew Harris:

Mr. Harris introduced himself as a new School Design Coach with NC New Schools. He will be assisting NERSBA and the proposed Aerospace School to be located in Elizabeth City, NC.

NERSBA Facility Plan Concept Proposal: Jimmy Hite, Hite Associates

Mr. Jimmy Hite provided a powerpoint presentation and printout of a concept proposal for a future NERSBA physical facility to board members. The conceptual proposal of ideas was gathered from meeting with NERSBA faculty, students and parents. The board thanked Mr. Hite for his preliminary work for NERSBA.

Beaufort County Community College Program of Studies: Mrs. Lisa Hill

Mrs. Lisa Hill addressed the board of preliminary work that had been accomplished with NERSBA and Beaufort Community College. Currently NERSBA falls under the Career and College Promise Pathway coding. The uprising juniors will follow this pathway until any proposed legislation from the North Carolina General Assembly changes that designation. Mrs. Hill and other faculty at BCCC will be working closely with NERSBA in making this transition.

NERSBA Spring Semester Final Exam Administration: Julie Gurganus

Mrs. Gurganus provided the board an exam schedule for freshman and sophomore scholars with all exams concluding on Wednesday June 11th. The NERSBA academic calendar will conclude at 11:30 AM on Thursday June 12th.

New Business:

Budget Plan for 2014-2015/NERSBA Budget Committee Meeting Report:

Vice Chairman Mac Hodges reported that Mr. Cowin and the budget committee have conducted a preliminary planning session for the 2014-15 NERSBA budget. Another meeting is scheduled for Friday May 23rd. Mr. Hodges plans to have a full report to present to the board during the June monthly meeting.

Principal Hal Davis: Reports

NERSBA Student enrollment update for 2014-2015: Mr. Davis informed that board that we have completed the recruitment process and have forwarded acceptance letters to 65 potential scholars. Principal Davis provided the board a breakdown of student acceptances by county, ethnicity and gender.

NERSBA Curriculum Committee: Mr. Davis noted that the initial NERSBA Curriculum Committee Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday June 3, 2014 at 2:00 PM

NERSBA Rubric Review: The NC New Schools Rubric Review has been scheduled for Wednesday, May 28, 2014 from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM.

NERSBA Industry Education Council: Mr. Davis noted that a planning meeting conducted by NC New Schools to develop and organize a joint Industry Education Council for Bertie Early College and NERSBA be held at Bertie Early College at 9:00 AM on Thursday May 29th.

Mr. Davis also informed the board of the following announcements and informational items:

- Last day of School for Students June 12, 2014
- Students attending State FFA Convention in Raleigh, June 17-19, 2014
- Faculty members will be participating in the NC New Schools Summer institute, June 23-27, 2014 in Charlotte
- Christi Rogerson/Will Prettyman at the Syngenta Faculty Internship during the summer
- Students will be attending R.J. Peeler FFA Camp July 28-August 1 at White Lake
- NERSBA New Student Orientation, July 29, 2014 at 7 PM at VJC
- The 2014-15 NERSBA academic calendar is scheduled to begin on Monday, August 4, 2014

Chairman David Peele stated Norris Tolson is still working on the United States Department of Agriculture planning grant in the amount of \$100,000.00.

Chairman David Peele asked if anyone has any questions or thoughts before going into closed session. With no comments, Vice Chairman announced at 5:50 PM that the board will be going into closed session under NC G.S. 143-318.11(a)(5)/NC G.S.143-318-119(a)(6). Vice Chairman Mac Hodges moved to conduct a closed session followed by a second from Dwight Respass. The motion to move into a closed session passed unanimously.

After concluding a closed session, the board went back into open session. The board voted to employ Mr. Cole Watkins as a new agriscience teacher on a twelve-month basis, subject to funds being appropriated in the 2014-15 NERSBA Operational Budget for this teaching position at NERSBA.

The meeting was adjourned by David Peele at 6:55 PM.

Next scheduled board meeting: The June Board of Directors Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday June 18, 2014 at 4:30 PM at the Vernon James Center.

Minutes submitted by: Inga Spruill