

Northeast Regional School of Biotechnology and Agriscience Board Meeting Minutes

Date: September 16, 2015

Time: 4:30 pm

Place: NERSBA Jamesville Campus

Present: Mac Hodges, Joe Landino, Benjie Forrest, Dwight Respass, Ethan Lenker, Jean Woolard, Paul Spruill, Matthew Babcock, Karen Clough, Jerry Phelps, Don Phipps

Absent: Julius Walker, Kenneth Harrell, Simon Griffin

Chairman Mac Hodges called to order the September meeting of the Northeast Regional School of Biotechnology and Agriscience Board of Directors at 4:30 pm on Wednesday September 16, 2015.

Inga Spruill proceeded with the roll call.

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

Chairman Hodges presented the proposed agenda for board approval. Dwight Respass added an item for discussion regarding NERSBA student enrollment with community college classes. This item was added under new business item number "F" scholars update. Don Phipps moved to approve the agenda followed by a second from Ethan Lenker. The motion to approve the agenda passed unanimously by the board membership.

Chairman Hodges offered the August board meeting minutes for consideration and reminded the board membership of the minutes posted on the NERSBA website. Matthew Babcock moved to approve the minutes followed by a second from Ethan Lenker. The motion passed unanimously by the board of directors.

Public Comments: None

Finance Report:

Ethan Lenker updated board members of Mr. Michael Cowin's resignation as finance officer with Pitt County Schools. Mr. Davis met with Mr. Cowin to review the current enrollment and proposed operational budget which is still pending on what the final state budget prior to his leaving that position in mid-September.

NERSBA Board of Directors Oath of Office:

The following NERSBA Board of Directors were officially sworn in by Martin County Clerk of Court, Mrs. Tonya Leggett:

Mr. Jerry Phelps, Washington County Board of Education
Dr. Ethan Lenker, Superintendent of Pitt County Schools
Dr. Don Phipps, Superintendent of Beaufort County Schools

NERSBA Science Education Program:

Ms. Ginny Paul, Ms. Brooke Gurganus and Mr. Cole Watkins made presentations to the Board of Directors regarding their respective programs and collaboration efforts between the science and agriscience programs at NERSBA. Their comments were well received by the board membership.

Old Business:

Martin Community College Memorandum Of Understanding:

Dr. Brian Busch from Martin Community College conducted a brief follow-up question and answer session regarding the Memorandum of Understanding between NERSBA and Martin Community College. After all questions regarding the proposed Memorandum Of Understanding were addressed by Dr. Bush from individual board members, Jean Woolard moved to approve the MOU as presented followed by a second from Paul Spruill. The motion passed unanimously as voted on by the board of directors.

NERSBA Comprehensive and Innovated Grant:

Chairman Hodges thanked Mr. Davis for his persistence, hard work and long hours that he and the NERSBA faculty devoted towards this grant. He also thanked Senator Bill Cook, State Senator Harry Brown, and Representative Paul Tine along with Mrs. Jean Woolard, Mr. Benjie Forrest and Mrs. Becky Taylor with the State Board of Education with securing this grant through the North Carolina General Assembly.

NERSBA Board of Directors Retreat Update:

Chairman Hodges reported the first retreat was conducted August 4th with the board making progress revising and updating the current vision and mission of NERSBA.

Chairman Hodges, informed the board that during the October 21st meeting we will have Dr. Amelia McLeod meet with our board to continue work on this project.

NERSBA Curriculum Design Committee:

Chairman Hodges appointed the following board members to serve on the NERSBA Curriculum Design Committee for the 2015-16 academic calendar:

Benjie Forrest
Julius Walker
Don Phipps

NERSBA Board Policy Development Committee:

Chairman Hodges appointed Jean Woolard to serve as chair of the committee along with Matthew Babcock, Karen Clough and Paul Spruill. This committee will recommend specific

policies and procedures in articulation with the North Carolina State School Boards Association for approval by our NERSBA board of director's membership.

NERSBA Board Membership Guidelines Committee Report:

Mrs. Jean Woolard reported that she, along with Karen Clough and Julius Walker, have been working together with the help of Cynthia Grady, the Pitt County Schools legal counsel to develop formal guidelines for board membership and terms of service. Mrs. Brady has come to present the NERSBA appointment and terms of the Board of Directors. Copies of the policy were provided to board members with an updated list of initial date of service and terms.

During discussion, it was noted that Benjie Forrest's initial date of board membership should be changed to 2012 and expires in 2016. Mrs. Grady will make that change.

New Business:

- 2014-2015 Preliminary Report Card Information:

All board of directors received a preliminary copy of the schools' test data for the 2014-15 academic calendar. NERSBA has been designated with a preliminary grade of "B" based on overall scholastic performance during the previous scholastic calendar. In December 2015, report cards for all public schools throughout North Carolina will be released.

- NERSBA Scholar Enrollment:

Current scholar enrollment for the 2015-2016 as of September 16, 2015:

Beaufort County:	37 scholars
Martin County:	50 scholars
Pitt County:	60 scholars
Tyrrell County:	7 scholars
Washington County:	54 scholars

The total enrollment as reported by Mr. Davis currently stands at 208 scholars.

Open House/FFA Alumni Update:

Mr. Davis reported that the open house conducted in early September was very successful. This event was followed by a FFA Alumni Information Session with a follow up meeting scheduled for September 29th at 7:00 PM at our NERSBA Jamesville campus.

IDEA 611 Grant:

Mr. Davis reported the school is making an application for an IDEA 611 Grant to facilitate the Exceptional Children's Program at NERSBA. Resources for this grant once approved by the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction will be approximately \$12,000.00.

General Information Items:

An updated NERSBA Academic Calendar for September and October a copy was forwarded to all Board of Directors for their review.

Scholars Update:

Mr. Respass expressed concerns regarding scholar enrollment at Martin Community College. With scholars working on individual programs of study, he wanted to know if there was a plan for students once they have completed their respective programs of study and had met all graduation requirements outlined by NERSBA.

Mr. Davis noted that he wished to present information regarding scholar enrollment at Martin Community College during the boards' closed session.

Chairman Hodges reminded the board of the next scheduled board meeting set for October 21, 20415 at 4:30 pm at NERSBA Jamesville Campus.

Paul Spruill moved to go into closed session at 5:52 pm for items:

- NC G.S. 143-318.11(a)/Privileged Information
- NC G.S. 143-318.11(5)/Facilities Lease Agreement
- NC G.S. 143-318.11(6)/Personnel

It was followed by a second from Karen Clough. The motion to enter into a closed session passed unanimously by the board membership.

Open Session: @ 6:52 pm

Mr. Davis was given approval to develop plans for early graduation for students that have met specific graduation requirements. Dwight Respass moved to approve the proposal followed by a second from Ethan Lenker. The motion passed unanimously by the board membership.

The board agreed on the employment of Mr. Elliott Rubinstein as a substitute teacher at NERSBA. Karen Clough moved to approve the recommendation as presented by Mr. Davis followed by a second from Paul Spruill. The motion to approve Mr. Rubinstein passed unanimously.

Mr. Davis was given approval to proceed with developing a relationship with University of Mount Olive. Jean Woolard moved to endorse this plan followed by a second from Benjie Forrest. The motion passed unanimously by the NERSBA board membership.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:55 pm.

Minutes submitted by: Inga Spruill