

WYOMING STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
February 4, 2013
Hathaway Building, Room 126
Cheyenne, Wyoming

Wyoming State Board of Education members present: Ron Micheli, Joe Reichardt, Kathy Coon, Dana Mann-Tavegia, Cindy Hill, Sue Belish, Hugh Hageman, Pete Gosar, Scotty Ratliff, Belenda Willson and Jim Rose

Members absent: Matt Garland and Walt Wilcox

Also present: Chelsie Bailey, WDE; Elysia Conner, Casper Star; Paige Fenton Hughes, SBE Coordinator; Kathy Scheurman, WEA; Larry McGarvin; Christine Steele, Office of the Superintendent, Sheryl Lain, Office of the Superintendent, Tom Lacock, WDE; Teri Wigert, WDE; Mary Kay Hill, Governors Office and Mackenzie Williams, Attorney General's Office (AG)

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Ron Micheli called the meeting to order at 8:15 a.m.

Chelsie Bailey conducted roll call and established that a quorum was present.

OATH OF OFFICERS

Chairman, Ron Micheli, Vice Chair, Scotty Ratliff and Treasurer, Pete Gosar took the oath of officers administered by Dana Mann-Tavegia.

Cindy Hill had an appointment and left the meeting at 8:20 a.m. Christine Steele sat as proxy.

Ron Micheli introduced students from the Wyoming Family, Career and Community Leaders of America. The organization is based around family and community service. There are about 600 members in Wyoming. This March, the state convention will be held in Cheyenne and nationals will take place in Nashville, Tennessee.

ADDRESS FROM GOVERNOR MEAD

Governor Mead addressed the Board, apologized for putting them in an awkward position and thanked Jim Rose for stepping up as interim Director at his request. He asked the Board to move with urgency in finding a director for the Wyoming Department of Education. He believed that there are wonderful people in Wyoming and that there is merit in hiring Wyoming people, but is still interested in a national search. The Governor respectfully requested the Board to move on this matter and suggested finding a firm for the search. There is no set timeline for the board; finding an extraordinary person is priority one.

Also, the Governor's staff and the WDE will be available to the Board to assist in any way possible.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Scotty Ratliff moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Dana Mann- Tavegia; the motion carried

ENROLLED ACT 1 (SF104) DISCUSSION

Paige Fenton Hughes reviewed the main provisions of Enrolled Act 1 with the Board.

Jim Rose addressed the Board regarding his experiences over the last couple days in the WDE. He believes it isn't the WDE's job to facilitate but to support education and not intervene in the 48 school districts.

He appreciates the Board's support, looks forward to working with the WDE and will do everything he can to communicate with the Board. Scotty requests that Jim work with Paige Fenton Hughes on communication to the Board.

Cindy Hill returned to the meeting at 9:10 a.m.

DISCUSSION ON SEARCH PROCESS FOR DIRECTOR

Paige Fenton Hughes apologized that she was unable to get all the information out earlier. She discussed with CCSSO and NASBE on what other states have done in search processes. Vermont has just gone through a similar process. She refers the Board to a memo on possible considerations and reviewed a flowchart on the possible different processes.

Mary Kay Hill, from the Governor's office, assured the Board that an RFP could go out in thirty days. She also noted that the Governor will set the salary for the Director and will cover the cost for the search.

Scotty Ratliff wanted to make certain that if a firm is chosen that the firm works solely for the State Board and not the possible job candidates. The Board needs to be aware of that possibility moving forward.

Ron Micheli noted that the Board doesn't want to lose touch with Wyoming, and needs to make sure whoever is hired can come and work with Wyoming. Sue Belish suggested getting local board members, WDE staff, citizens, and districts involved in the process.

Scotty Ratliff moved the Wyoming State Board of Education hire a search firm, seconded by Joe Reichardt; the motion carried.

Cindy Hill wanted clarify that the position is called Director not called Chief State School Officer in the RFP.

Joe Reichardt moved for the Board to receive RFP information on the February 11, 2013 teleconference and that the supervisory committee act as management committee through out the search process, seconded by Dana Mann-Tavegia; the motion carried.

Paige Fenton Hughes suggested that in the next couple of Board meetings the Board work with Dr. Rose and the Department to craft a transition plan for the new Director.

DISCUSSION ON PENDING LEGISLATION

Paige Fenton Hughes, SBE Coordinator, discussed some of the pending legislation which included: Phase I and Phase II of accountability, HB244, which would require that half of the State Board of Education to be elected, and mentioned SF62, which would require a Board member to also currently serve on a district school board.

Paige invited Board members to attend the House meetings with her the following day.

Sue Belish moved that the State Board of Education oppose HB244, which would require some of the Board members to be elected, seconded by Scotty Ratliff; the motion carried.

Cindy Hill requested that the Board discuss contracts and spending on services that have not been received at the teleconference on February 11, 2013. She would be providing an independent survey and will have the document for the Monday meeting.

POSSIBLE LEGISLATIVE STUDIES

Paige Fenton Hughes reported that the Senate Education Committee met to discuss what possible legislative studies would be needed in the interim of the legislature and felt that the Board should weigh in on what studies might be needed.

Pete Gosar requested that Superintendent Hill provide him with the information on what contracts she was referring to before the Monday, February 11, 2013 meeting. Cindy Hill requested to discuss the matter with him privately.

The Board discussed possible legislative studies.

The Board determined possible legislative studies would include:

- Looking at an alternative accountability systems for alternative schools and alternative programs.
- School safety, what should it look like and what are we doing. How to get a good handle on it and not be in reaction mode.
- What is a graduate? What is the definition of a graduate? What will Wyoming citizens accept?
- A move between K-12 to post secondary in vocational education. Making a system that is seamless.

MARCH 2013 MEETING

Sue Belish requested that the Board meeting on March 12-13, 2013 be moved, she will be at the NASBE conference in D.C.

Cindy Hill moved to move the meeting to March 11-12, 2013, seconded by Joe Reichardt; the motion carried.

Ron Micheli, expressed his appreciation for the Board and their willingness to show up on such short notice.

Cindy Hill moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Sue Belish; the motion carried.

The State Board of Education adjourned at 11:17 a.m.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for a teleconference on February 11, 2013