

STATE OF WASHINGTON CHARTER SCHOOL COMMISSION

Tuesday, April 30, 2013 – 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Bellevue Arts Museum
510 Bellevue Way NE
Bellevue, WA 98004

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE

Commissioners: Dr. Doreen Cato, Trish Millines Dziko, Kevin Jacka, Chris Martin, Dr. Margit McGuire, Dave Quall, Steve Sundquist, Cindi Williams, and Larry Wright.

Staff: RaShelle Davis, Governor's Policy Advisor; Aileen Miller, AAG

OPENING AND WELCOME

Commissioner Steve Sundquist, presiding Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m. Attendance was taken, all Commissioners except for Doreen Cato were present, and it was determined that a quorum was present to proceed with the meeting. Each Commissioner and staff member made a self-introduction.

Minutes from the April 4th Commission meeting were reviewed and approved – Commissioner Dziko moved and Commissioner Wright seconded the approval.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

An Executive Session was held pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) at 10:12 a.m. and lasted until 10:44 a.m. At 10:15 a.m. Commissioner Cato arrived.

CRPE PRESENTATION BY ROBIN LAKE

Robin Lake from the Center on Reinventing Public Education (CRPE) at the University of Washington provided an overview to the Commissioners on her Charter School Research Findings.

Lunch was served at 11:40 a.m. and a twenty minute break was taken. The meeting resumed at 12:00 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Three organizations signed-in to provide public comment to the Commission. Each speaker was allocated three minutes.

Debbie Lorence of NW Educational Consultant Services invited the Commissioners to an event with the Oregon Charter School League in August and discussed her colleague Mr. Mohamed Dallin, president of the New Citizen Academy.

Ken Mortland invited the Commissioners to the Cascade Conference ED Workshop and suggested that the Commission collaborate with TVW to videotape the Commission meetings.

John Donaghy brought forth issues of concern regarding the timelines proposed by the State Board of Education (SBE).

CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSED BYLAWS

Commissioners Cato and Martin presented a set of proposed bylaws. The following changes were approved:

Article 7.1 – Meet monthly per preapproved schedule that is set in September.

Article 7.5 – Delete.

Article 9.1 – The Commission shall hire an Executive Director.

Article 6.2 – The executive committee will consist of a chair, vice chair, and one at-large commissioner.

Article 9.5 – Delete “at the planning meeting.” Add that six votes are required for the termination of the Executive Director. Should the number of Commissioners on the Commission increase, then there will be a need to revise (increase) the number of Commissioners required for the termination.

Articles 4.1, 4.2, and 4.3 – Should reflect that there is a chair, vice chair, and one at-large commissioner.

Commissioner Sundquist motioned for the approval of the bylaws as amended. Commissioner Martin seconded. All Commissioners voted in favor of adoption of the bylaws as amended.

RaShelle Davis was assigned to provide a list of Commissioner term lengths.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ELECTIONS

Commissioner Sundquist was nominated to serve as chair, Commissioner Wright was nominated to serve as vice chair, and Commissioner Cato was nominated to serve as Commissioner At-large.

Commissioner Dziko motioned to approve the slate of candidates nominated. Commissioner Williams seconded. All voted in favor of the nominations.

DISCUSSION OF SBE PROPOSED RULES

Commissioners Jacka and Quall led a discussion of SBE proposed rules. Three areas of concern were addressed:

- 1) Authorizer Fee – the sliding scale fee after the 10th school is a disincentive for authorizers to authorize more than 10 schools. The Commission decided that the 4% fee is sufficient, but that it will seek additional funding from the legislature.
- 2) Calendar/Timeline – The Commission recommended adding a “letter of intent” for school applicants, so that it could prepare and anticipate the number of applications that it will review. There was also concern regarding the number of holidays in the winter and suggested the revised timeline:
 - a. Letter of Intent – October 22
 - b. Approval – February 24
 - c. Authorizer Report to SBE – March 6
- 3) Lottery – there were some questions regarding how the lottery will operate.

A subcommittee of Commissioners Williams and Wright will develop a plan to collaborate with the other charter school authorizers.

Commissioner Jacka was assigned to prepare a letter in response to the proposed rules for the SBE by Friday, May 3. Commissioners Dziko and Sundquist will attend the SBE meeting on Wednesday, May 8 and present the Commission's letter.

NACSA PRESENTATION BY WILLIAM HAFT

William Haft presented information on charter school authorizers and offered technical assistance to the Commission in drafting its rules.

At 3:15 p.m. a fifteen minute break was taken. The meeting resumed at 3:30 p.m.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SEARCH COMMITTEE

The draft job description that was developed by Commissioners Dziko, McGuire, and Williams was approved subject to updates. At the meeting on June 20, the Commission would like to invite the top three candidates for an interview.

RULEMAKING

Aileen Miller discussed the need for rules in four areas: 1) the performance framework, 2) approval criteria, 3) application process, and 4) definition of demonstrated academic achievement. In the future, the Commission will also need rules for corrective action.

RaShelle Davis was designated the Rules Coordinator for the Commission.

A subcommittee of Commissioners Cato and Martin was formed to develop proposed rules.

The Commission voted to move forward with submitting the CR101 with the Washington State Register.

LOBBYING AND FINANCES

The attorney-client privilege regarding advice received from AAG Aileen Miller on seeking outside funding/grants was relaxed.

Commissioner Sundquist was assigned to develop a draft budget by Friday, May 3. Commissioners Williams and Wright will lobby for additional funding.

The Commission held a discussion on external contracting. AAG Aileen Miller indicated that the law does allow for contracting. The Commission agreed to have consultants in the future subject to Commission approval.

The opportunity to travel to Denver to visit with its charter school authorizer and charter schools was discussed. It was decided that the Commission would forgo this particular opportunity and future travel opportunities was tabled for the next meeting.

Commissioner Sundquist signed the AGO's interagency fee agreement.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:31 p.m.