



CHARTER SCHOOL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, October 22, 2020 | 10:02 a.m. to 10:45 a.m.

Zoom, Virtual Only

Attendance:

Dr. Donald Felder, Jessica Garcia, Dan Grimm, Chris Korsmo, Dr. Heather Lechner, Steve Litzow, Harium Martin-Morris, Dr. Kristina Mayer, Gayle Pauley, and Christine Varela.

Leadership Team: Joshua Halsey, Executive Director; Krystal Starwich, Deputy Director; Kara Lowe, Oversight Specialist; Elizabeth McAmis, Assistant Attorney General; and Amanda Martinez, Executive Assistant.

Call To Order

Roll Call

Chair Lechner called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. The following Commissioners were present: Donald Felder, Jessica Garcia, Dan Grimm, Chris Korsmo, Heather Lechner, Steve Litzow, Harium Martin-Morris, Kristina Mayer, Gayle Pauley, and Christine Varela. It was determined that a quorum was present to proceed with the meeting.

Public Comment

Dawn Mason, former state representative and charter supporter, provided public comment regarding the Commission's race, ethnicity and inclusion policy. Ms. Mason urges the Commission to have a policy that is pro-black, pro-indigenous and pro-people of color and to push for schools and leaders that are operating decolonized and anti-racist charter schools.

Consent Agenda

The meeting minutes for the September 10, 2020 Commission meeting and standing committee updates were reviewed. Chair Lechner moved to approve the consent agenda. Commissioner Martin-Morris seconded. The motion passed, with no opposes; no abstentions.

2021 Commission Meeting Calendar Consideration

Chair Lechner provided an overview of the draft 2021 Commission Meeting calendar. Chair Lechner moved to approve the 2021 Commission meeting calendar as presented. Commissioner Mayer seconded. The motion passed, with no opposes; no abstentions.

Standing Committee Chair and Vice Chair Consideration

Commissioner Korsmo provided an overview of the proposed Standing Committee Chairs and Vice Chairs. Commissioner Korsmo moved to approve the standing committee officers as presented. Commissioner Mayer seconded. The motion passed, with no opposes; no abstentions.

Executive Session

An Executive Session was begun at 10:15 a.m. pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, RCW 42.30.110(1) to evaluate the qualifications of an applicant for public employment or to review the performance of a public employee. However, subject to RCW 42.30.140(4), discussion by a governing body of salaries, wages, and other conditions of employment to be generally applied within the agency shall occur in a meeting open to the public, and when a governing body elects to take final action hiring, setting the salary of an individual employee or class of employees, or discharging or disciplining an employee, that action shall be taken in a meeting open to the public.

Open Session

At 10:35 a.m., Chair Lechner resumed open session stating that no final action had been taken during the Executive Session.

Chair Lechner provided an overview of the executive director position, responsibilities and current exempt banding along with acknowledgement of Executive Director Halsey's specific accomplishments and positive performance outcomes. Chair Lechner also recognized the current economic uncertainty of the state due to COVID-19 and the impact of the state's budget.

Chair Lechner moved to approve a three-percent Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) raise for Executive Director Halsey retroactive to July 1, 2020. Commissioner Garcia seconded. The motion passed, with no opposes; no abstentions.

Chair Lechner moved that the Board seek approval to move the executive director position to the next higher pay band. Commissioner Mayer seconded. The motion passed, with no opposes; no abstentions.

Next Steps

Chair Lechner identified the following next steps:

1. 2021 Commission Meeting Calendar Adoption
2. New School Application Process
3. Strategic Plan Update – Equity Policy Implementation
4. Commission Policy Overviews
5. Charter School Renewal

Meeting Adjournment

Chair Lechner adjourned the meeting at 10:45 a.m.