

Western Sierra Charter Schools  
Board Meeting Minutes  
September 12, 2019  
2:30 PM

**\*\*Amended\*\***

10/28/2019

**1) Call to Order:**

Darin Soukup called the meeting to order at 2:40 PM, September 12, 2019

**2) Roll Call:**

Present: Darin Soukup, Joyce Vind, Jacqueline Pucheu, Margaret Den Hartog

Absent: Brian Fulce, Monika Moulin, Dallace Leota

WSCS Staff: Michael Cox, Mindy Klang, Eric Hagen, Jody Jeffers, Diane Neulinger

Public: Tamara Dent, John Thor

**3) Approval of the Minutes from 6/13/19 Meeting**

Both digital and hard copies provided to all board members for review.

Approved

Motion: Margaret Den Hartog

Second: Jacqueline Pucheu

Vote: Unanimous

**4) Hearing of Persons Wishing to Address the Board**

None

**5) Introduction and Action on New WSCS Board Member (Tamara Dent)**

Tamara was introduced and recommended to the board as a new board member by Michael Cox, WSCS Executive Director.

Tamara has been a parent at Mountain Homes School Charter in Oakhurst for the past 5 years.

*\*\*Board retired to Closed Session at 2:49 PM to discuss the recommendation of Tamara as a new board member.*

*Returning to Open Session at 2:53 PM \*\**

Report from Closed Session: Members have chosen to approve the recommendation of Tamara Dent as a new WSCS Board member for a three (3) year term beginning with the 2019-2020 school year.

Motion: Jacqueline Pucheu

Second: Joyce Vind

Vote: Unanimous

**6) Selection of Board Officers (Chair, Secretary, Treasure)**

Michael Cox, WSCS Executive Director, made recommendations.

Chairman – Darin Soukup

Secretary – Jacqueline Pucheu or Margaret Den Hartog

Treasure – Brian Fulce

- \* Request to review the By-Laws: page 9, section 10 reviewed
- \* Board members requested to hold this over to the November board meeting to take action with more members present.

## **7) Approval of Warrants: (6/6/2019-8/26/2019)**

Jody Jeffers, WSCS CBO, facilitating

Due to Roxanna (AP/AR at MCSOS) leaving her position at MCSOS, the report was dated as of her last day (8/26/2019). Some checks were re-issued due to a mailing problem with the county office. Jody explained how they reconciled the budget to reflect this re-issue.

Jody made a detailed accounting for all warrants which were then reviewed and approved by the board.

Motion: Tamara Dent

Second: Margaret Den Hartog

Vote: Unanimous

## **8) Reports and Updates:**

### *a) Fiscal Reports – Jody Jeffers*

#### *i) Presentation of 2018-19 Unaudited Actuals for MHS and GHS*

(see attached documents provided by Mr. Jeffers for the Boards review)

#### *ii) Budget Update for 2019-20 for MHS and GHS*

Mr. Jeffers gave a detailed explanation of the 2019-20 budget.

Potential large capital projects:

New land purchase - \$175,000, new bathrooms - \$110,000

### *b) WSCS Executive Director Update – Michael Cox*

#### *i) Update on Legislation Effecting Charter Schools*

AB1505 has passed both houses. See written report.

Very detailed review of the new bill and its effects on new and current charters was presented.

#### *ii). Recommendation to bring a Charter petition to Fresno Unified School District*

Mr. Cox is recommending that a charter petition for the Fresno Resource Center be brought to FUSD as soon as possible.

### Questions/Comments:

The Fresno Resource Center can stay open until the end of our current charter and then we will need to pursue either permission from FUSD or apply for it to become its own charter.

The Fresno building is zoned for both residential and commercial business. We will need to improve the zoning and occupancy statement for that location as we would like to stay there. There is a proposal to annex this county property to the city that is already zoned for schools.

Darin Soukup expressed his desire that Michael Cox, WSCS Executive Director, should have at his discretion the freedom to move the WSCS staff forward to present a new charter application for the Fresno Resource Center to FUSD as soon as possible. He also recommended that this become a standing agenda item during that process.

Mr. Cox offered a Draft letter notifying parents of a new required class.

Comprehensive Sexual Health & HIV/AIDS Instruction. (see draft letter). Class will be provided to all MHS 8<sup>th</sup> grade students and GHS 11<sup>th</sup> grade students. This will be offered as a 1 ½-2 hour webinar by one of our GHS teachers to both campuses. This is a mandatory requirement.

**Recess: 4:36 PM – 4:45 PM**

**9) New Business:**

*a) C & A Regarding Contract with John Thor to serve as agent for WSCS for negotiation the purchase of the property next door on Hwy 41 in Oakhurst.*

Michael Cox introduced John Thor. John gave a review of the development around the Oakhurst business area. He explained the advantages to making an offer on this property soon.

The Board voiced concern of “due diligence” and asked for a long enough escrow to extend past the next scheduled board meeting.

Staff confirmed that legal counsel was sought by Michael Cox in regard to the property purchase and that Board Member Jacqueline Pucheu is not acting in any way as legal counsel for the WSCS Board.

Motion: Tamara Dent      Second: Joyce Vind      Vote: Unanimous

*b) C & A Regarding the resolution to purchase the property next door on Hwy 41 in Oakhurst*

The board would like to amend the attached resolution by adding after the second “Whereas” the following two additions:

“WHEREAS, WSCS has a contract to use half of the parking area on the Property and has an immediate need for all usable parking on the Property, and

WHEREAS, Madera County Planning has communicated to WSCS staff that parking on the Property is an acceptable use, and”

With these amendments the board voted by roll call to accept this resolution:

Aye: Margaret Den Hartog, Tamara Dent, Jacqueline Pucheu, Darin Soukup, Joyce Vind

No: none

Abstained: none

Absent: Brian Fulce, Dallace Leota, Monika Moulin

So approved.

*c) Public random drawing of prospective students for Mountain Home School, Fresno*  
Eric Hagen facilitated the drawing for six families at random for MHS, Fresno. Names were drawn by Tamara Dent and recorded by Eric Hagen.

*d) C & A regarding approval of hiring new staff: Denise Jones – Oakhurst Secretary & Receptionist, Sonny Yang – GHS Math Teacher, Rosanna Carrasco – Fresno Secretary & Receptionist)*

Motion: Jacqueline Pucheu      Second: Joyce Vind      Vote: Unanimous

*e) C & A regarding Free and Reduced Lunch Meal Policy*

See attached draft

WSCS would like to use our funding to cover the cost to any student that qualifies for a free/reduced meal in order to meet the needs of our students.

Motion: Tamara Dent

Second: Margaret Den Hartog

Vote: Unanimous

*f) C & A regarding destruction of old student attendance files and accounts payable files in the date range between 2012-2015.*

Motion: Tamara Dent

Second: Joyce Vind

Vote: Unanimous

*g) Scheduled Board Meetings for the 2019-2020 School Year*

See attached schedule

Proposed changes: Tuesday, November 12, 2019; Tuesday, March 10, 2020; Tuesday, June 16, 2020

Schedule approved with proposed changes. All meetings to begin at 2:30 PM and will be held at the Oakhurst site.

**10) Old Business:**

None

**11) Next Meeting:**

Tuesday, November 12, 2019 in Oakhurst

**12) Adjournment:**

5:49 PM

**CERTIFICATE OF SECRETARY**

I certify that I am the duly elected Secretary of the Western Sierra Charter Schools, a California nonprofit public benefits corporation; that these minutes are of the meeting of the Board of Directors held on September 12, 2019.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Margaret Den Hartog

Minutes prepared and submitted by: Diane Neulinger