

Wednesday, March 20, 2019

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PERSONNEL COMMITTEE OF THE BRIDGEPORT BOARD OF EDUCATION, held March 20, 2019, at Bridgeport City Hall, 45 Lyon Terrace, Bridgeport, Connecticut.

The meeting was called to order at 6:12 p.m. Present were members Chair John Weldon and Ben Walker. Board member Maria Pereira was present.

Mr. Walker moved approval of the committee's minutes of the meeting of October 17, 2018. The motion was seconded by Mr. Walker and unanimously approved.

Mr. Walker moved to table approval of the committee's minutes of the meeting of November 14, 2018, pending clarification. The motion was seconded by Mr. Walker and unanimously approved.

Mr. Walker moved to table approval of the committee's minutes of the meeting of November 16, 2018, pending clarification. The motion was seconded by Mr. Walker and unanimously approved.

Mr. Walker moved to approve the committee's minutes of the meeting of February 27, 2019. The motion was seconded by Mr. Walker and unanimously approved.

Mr. Walker moved to approve the minutes of the committee of February 28, 2019. The motion was seconded by Mr. Walker and unanimously approved.

The next agenda item was discussion and possible action concerning an MOU(memorandum of understanding) with Dr. Melissa Jenkins.

Mr. Weldon said the item qualified for executive session, although Dr. Jenkins had the right to require that it be held in an open meeting.

Dr. Victor Black, president of BCAS, was present. Mr. Walker and Mr. Weldon said they did not see a need for an executive session, but Dr. Jenkins could choose to handle the matter in public session.

Dr. Black said his advice to his member was an executive session. He said he drafted the MOU and he would be entitled to go into the executive session with Dr. Jenkins.

Mr. Walker said the matter seemed straightforward.

Mr. Walker moved that *“this committee move forward to the full board the memorandum of understanding between the Board of Education and Dr. Melissa Jenkins.”* The motion was seconded by Mr. Weldon.

Mr. Weldon said Ms. Pereira was not entitled to ask a question because she was not a member of the committee. He said she could ask the question at the full board meeting. He said this was the case only because it was a personnel matter and the committee had not voted to go into executive session where the question perhaps belongs.

Mr. Walker said if the committee had gone into executive session Ms. Pereira would have been excluded. He urged Mr. Weldon give Ms Pereira leeway to ask the question. Mr. Weldon recognized Ms. Pereira.

Ms. Pereira noted the agreement expires on June 30th; she asked why it is coming to the board so late. She noted the board was in favor of this when it was discussed sometime ago.

Dr. Black said there were adjustments to the MOU centered around not tying to a step category in the BCAS contract. He said the agreement is outside of the contract for additional duties.

Ms. Pereira said she agreed Dr. Jenkins should be compensated for early childhood duties.

Dr. Black said the compensation is for September through June 30th. Mr. Weldon said it would be treated almost like a stipend and if it was to be renewed that would be negotiated separately.

Dr. Jenkins said she was comfortable with the agreement because the board was going into a budget season and it is unknown what the new budget would look like.

Mr. Walker said the money was well deserved and he was grateful for Dr. Jenkins's work. He said if she continued to do these duties next year he would expect to see another MOU like this.

The motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Walker said the MOU was well written.

Mr. Weldon said the matter would be taken up at the Special Meeting commencing at 6:30 tonight.

Mr. Walker moved the meeting be adjourned. The motion was seconded by Mr. Weldon and unanimously approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

John McLeod

*Approved by the committee on April 9, 2019*