

**MARION COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**MARION SCHOOL DISTRICT CONFERENCE ROOM**  
**719 North Main Street – Marion, South Carolina 29571**  
**October 15, 2024**

**Board Members Present:** Mrs. Nadine Foxworth, Mrs. Patricia Atkinson, Ms. Ogleretta White, Mr. Donnie Hill, Mr. Derrick Weeks and Mr. Kevin Dozier.

**Call to Order & Notification of Board Meeting:** Mrs. Foxworth called the board meeting to order. In accordance with the S.C. Code of Laws, 1976, Section 30-4-80 (d) as amended, the local media was notified of the time, date and place of the meeting. Ms. Deciera Gause stated that the media was notified of the meeting and a copy of the agenda was also provided.

**Invocation:** Rev. Dr. Rodney McCorkle gave the invocation.

**Welcome to Staff and Visitors Present:** Mrs. Foxworth welcomed everyone to the October 15, 2024 Marion County School Board Meeting.

**Establishment of Quorum:** Mrs. Foxworth verified that a quorum was present.

**Approval of Agenda / Meeting Minutes:** Mrs. Foxworth asked for a motion to approve the agenda for October 15, 2024 and the September 17, 2024 meeting minutes. Mrs. Atkinson moved, seconded by Ms. White and the vote passed. (Mrs. Foxworth, Mr. Hill, Mrs. Atkinson, Ms. White, Mr. Weeks and Mr. Dozier).

**Marion County School District Special Presentations:** Dr. Bethea and Dr. Bunch recognized select students and staff for their outstanding accomplishments and the MSCD Proud Award Recipient.

Mrs. Foxworth asked to be excused from the chair position for this meeting and asked Mr. Dozier to assume the position.

**Special Presentation:** Sarah Bonnoitt from HTC gave an update on broadband in Marion County and plans for the future.

**Reports from Administration / Review and Action Items:**

**Finance Report:** Mr. Matt Bessetti presented the September 2024 financials. This report was presented as information. No executive session requested.

**Facilities/Operations Report:** Mr. Jason Jordan presented the Operations and Facilities update. Mr. Jordan briefed the Board on all facility projects in the district (completed and in progress). Executive session was requested for contractual matters.

**Human Resources Report / Updates –** Mrs. Stacy Wilbanks presented the personnel actions. Mr. Dozier asked for a motion to approve the personnel actions. Mrs. Atkinson moved, seconded by Mr. Hill; and Ms. White asked to hold the vote until after the executive session. Mrs. Wilbanks asked for approval for Policy GCQF Discipline, Suspension and Dismissal of Professional Staff for 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading. Mr. Dozier asked for a motion to approve the 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading for Policy GCQF Discipline, Suspension and Dismissal of Professional Staff. Mrs. Foxworth moved, seconded by Mrs. Atkinson and the vote passed. (Mrs. Foxworth, Mr. Hill, Mrs. Atkinson, Ms. White, Mr. Weeks and Mr. Dozier).

**Student Services Update:** Dr. Bunch presented Policy JICJ Possession/Use of Personal Electronic Devices in School for 1<sup>st</sup> Reading. Mr. Dozier asked for a motion to approve the 1<sup>st</sup> Reading for Policy JICJ Possession/Use of Personal Electronic Devices in School. Mr. Weeks moved, seconded by Ms. White and the vote passed. (Mrs. Foxworth, Mr. Hill, Mrs. Atkinson, Ms. White, Mr. Weeks and Mr. Dozier).

**Academic Update:** Dr. Tracy Holcombe presented State Accountability update. She presented the new State Report Card data. The Board asked questions during this time.

**Superintendent's Report / Update:** Dr. Bethea shared information from the SDE pertaining to inclement weather days. She also presented Diligent Software (formerly BoardDocs). Dr. Bethea gave general updates from throughout the district.

**Review and Action:** Dr. Bethea presented Student Transfers and Releases to the Board for approval. Mr. Dozier asked for a motion to approve the request. Mrs. Foxworth moved, seconded by Mr. Weeks. Motion carried. (Mrs. Foxworth, Mr. Hill, Mrs. Atkinson, Mr. Dozier, Ms. White and Mr. Weeks)

### **No Public Participation**

**Agenda Items for Next Month / Calendar Reminders:** Board members were allowed to express concerns or comments. Mr. Hill gave a brief update from the Athletic Committee. Ms. White, the Housing Committee, asked for a meeting before the Council Connection Meeting on November 14<sup>th</sup> to discuss funding. She also discussed having a meeting to review and discuss the 2024 Delegate Assembly Handbook and also meet with the Athletic Committee and the Facility Committee. Mrs. Atkinson reminded the Board of the early December meeting. The December meeting will be December 10<sup>th</sup>.

**Executive Session:** Mr. Dozier asked for a motion to go into executive session for Personnel / Contractual Matters / Legal Briefings / Superintendent Evaluation. Mrs. Foxworth moved, seconded by Ms. White to approve this request; and the Board voted unanimously to approve. (Mrs. Foxworth, Mr. Dozier, Mr. Hill, Mrs. Atkinson, Ms. White and Mr. Weeks).

**Open Session:** Mr. Dozier asked for a motion to come out of executive session. Mrs. Atkinson moved, seconded by Ms. White to come out of executive session back into open session; and the Board voted unanimously to approve. (Mrs. Foxworth, Mr. Dozier, Mr. Hill, Mrs. Atkinson, Ms. White and Mr. Weeks).

Mr. Dozier stated that no action was taken in executive session.

**Personnel:** Mr. Dozier asked for a motion. Ms. White motioned to accept the Superintendent's recommendations for personnel actions, seconded by Mrs. Foxworth and the Board voted unanimously to approve. (Mrs. Foxworth, Mr. Dozier, Mr. Hill, Mrs. Atkinson and Mr. Weeks).

**Contractual:** Mr. Dozier asked for a motion. Mr. Weeks moved to accept the IFB for MaHS track resurfacing, seconded by Mrs. Atkinson and the vote passed (Mr. Dozier, Mrs. Atkinson, Mr. Hill, and Mr. Weeks) 2 Nay (Mrs. Foxworth and Ms. White).

**Easement:** Mr. Dozier asked for a motion. Mrs. Foxworth motioned to approve the easement for Treaty Oak Clean Energy, LLC., seconded by Mr. Week and the vote passed. (Mr. Dozier, Mr. Hill, Mrs. Atkinson and Mr. Weeks). 2 Nay (Mrs. Foxworth and Ms. White).

**Adjournment:** Mr. Dozier asked for a motion to adjourn. Mrs. Foxworth moved, seconded by Ms. White to approve this request; and the vote was unanimous (Mrs. Foxworth, Mr. Dozier, Mr. Hill, Mrs. Atkinson, Ms. White and Mr. Weeks). The meeting adjourned at 7:57 pm.