

West Virginia Association of School Administrators
Minutes
Meeting held January 24, 2007 at Flatwoods Days Inn

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Deborah Akers, president, at approximately 6:30 pm on January 24, 2007.

Approval of Minutes:

On motion by Nick Zervos, seconded by Jim Phares, Minutes of the December 7, 2006, meeting were approved as submitted. Motion passed unanimously.

Executive Committee Report/President Report:

Deborah Akers, President, reported that the Executive Committee had earlier and had discussed various issues. She deferred to the committee chairs for the reports.

Formula Committee/Legislative Committee Report:

Ron Blankenship, Chair of the Formula Committee, reported that the Legislative Committee had met and had adopted the following Legislative Agenda:

Priority Number One: We support change in the current school aid formula to allow counties to retain 10% instead of the current 2% of the local property tax collections.

Priority Number Two: We support changes in school aid formula regarding funding personnel:

- Funding for all mandatory positions.
- Provide a greater number of bus operators in sparsely populated counties.

Priority Number Three: Provide support for the conversion to new accounting procedures (GASB).

- Liability for retirement and PEIA debt.
- Additional work requires additional personnel.

Priority Number Four: We support the 21st Century Schools Initiative of the West Virginia State Board of Education.

Ron further reported that a brochure had been developed and distributed to all Delegates and Senators, as well as all members of WVASA.

Treasurer's Report

Due to the absence of Butch Barcus, Treasurer, Martha Dean gave the treasurer's report. Beginning balance was \$33,676.21, income was \$3,460.60 and expenses were \$4,124.79, leaving a balance of \$33,012.02. On motion by Jim Phares, seconded by Nick Zervos, the treasurer's report was unanimously approved.

Seminars Committee Report:

Marsha Carr-Lambert, seminars chair indicated that we are half through the January Seminar and that it seems to be successful to this point. She also indicated that work has begun on the summer conference and that a theme, "21st Century Express - All Aboard" has been selected. The summer conference will be held at Stonewall July 18-19 and 20, 2007.

GASB Committee Report:

The chair of the GASB committee, Danny Kaser, reported that a meeting had been held on January 4. Several issues remain as there were more questions than answers formulated at the meeting. The recent teleconference left several issues on the table including concern that boards cannot just neglect to pay a bill (such as from PEIA) once it is received. A meeting had been held with Delegate Boggs (Vice Chair of Finance) and he was sympathetic to our concerns. He may initiate a bill that would allow only the traditional annual report to be published. Next steps were agreed upon. They are:

1. Attend the WVSBA meeting with specific questions to be answered by both superintendents and school board members.
2. Find out when WVEIS will be able to record fixed assets, since it cannot presently do so.
3. Ask the State Superintendent for a written directive concerning non-payment of the PEIA bills to be received.
4. Request from Howard O’Cull an opportunity to present our GASB concerns during the program at WVSBA.

Motions concerning GASB

On motion by Bill Niday, seconded by Steve Goffreda, the membership unanimously voted to have President Akers request a response, in writing, from the State Superintendent regarding payment (non-payment) of PEIA bills.

On motion by Lyn Guy, seconded by Danny Kaser, the membership unanimously voted to request from Howard O’Cull that representatives from our organization present at WVSBA the concerns we continue to have regarding GASB.

On motion by Joe Super, seconded by Anne Seaver, the membership unanimously voted to, if all other avenues fail, have our own informational meeting to inform affected parties about GASB issues.

Pre-Kindergarten Committee Report:

Rick Butler, Chair of the Pre-Kindergarten Committee, reported that there has been no action this month, but that there are rumors that SB Policy 2525 will be re-drafted soon.

Policy Review Committee Report:

John Curry, committee chair, reported on SB Policy 2419. There are remaining concerns which have not yet been addressed, as understood during the report given during the recent teleconference. He suggested that the superintendents might wish to be on the State Board Agenda, to address their concerns.

Motion: Request to Address State Board of Education:

On motion by Bill Niday, seconded by Nick Zervos, the membership unanimously voted in favor of having President Akers make a formal request to be on the Agenda of the upcoming State Board of Education meeting, for the purpose of explaining WVASA’s concerns about the changes proposed for SB Policy 2419.

Executive Director Report:

Martha Dean briefly reported on current legislative action. It is early in the session and only one bill has passed both houses. However, it will soon become pretty hectic. She also mentioned that the School Access Safety Act (SB 67) has been introduced. Mark Manchin announced that there would be a meeting in the afternoon, following the next WVASA meeting to provide additional information regarding the actions required of each Board of Education in order to become eligible to receive funds provided in the bill (\$10,000,000).

Grievances and Court Cases:

Danny Kaser told the group that a grievance decision has been issued that would prevent an aide escorting students of the bus. The ruling indicated that the aide could not leave other students on the bus with only the drive to supervise. An appeal may be made.

Adjournment:

There being no further business to come before the Association, Jim Phares moved and Manny Arvon seconded the motion to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Martha Dean, Executive Director