

West Virginia Association of School Administrators
Minutes
Meeting held November 2, 2006 at Chief Logan Conference Center

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Deborah Akers, president, at approximately 10:00 am on November 2, 2006.

Welcome:

David Godby, Superintendent of Logan County, welcomed the Association to Logan County and introduced the program delivered by the choir of the Regional High School, a combination of Chapmanville, Logan County and Harts, Lincoln County students. They sang three beautiful songs for the Association.

Program:

Mark Manchin introduced first Earl Ray Tomblin, President of the WV Senate, and Joann Tomblin, President of Southern WV Community College. Each invitee gave the group an update of programs and activities throughout the state related to their organization.

Approval of Minutes:

On motion by Nick Zervos, seconded by Kenna Seal, the minutes of the September 22, 2006 meeting were approved as submitted. Motion passed unanimously.

Legislative Committee Report:

Mark Manchin, Legislative Chair indicated that the Legislative Committee has not yet met formally, but told the group that work would begin prior to the regular meeting in December in Wheeling. He further commented that this Legislative year may indeed be a very important one for education as he has heard there may be a major bill with several issues introduced. It is pretty certain that a formula bill may be introduced and major changes made to the school aid funding formula.

Treasurer's Report

Due to the absence of Butch Barcus, Treasurer, Martha Dean gave the treasurer's report. Beginning balance was \$36,872.87, income was \$2,361.80 and expenses were \$2,467.83, leaving a balance of \$36,766.84. It was noted that the income from the Drive in GASB conference will pay all the costs of the conference with a little excess to be expected.

Membership Report:

Due to the absence of Matt Kittle and his change in jobs to a state department position, Deborah Akers gave the membership report. She encouraged all members to communicate with any superintendents who have not paid their membership dues for the year and also to urge other administrators to join the Association.

Seminars Committee Report:

Marsha Carr-Lambert, seminars chair indicated that the January Seminar is advancing in planning and listed five topics suggested by her committee members. She then indicated that the site of the summer conference is still to be decided and that the three sites under consideration include Snowshoe, Oglebay, and Stonewall. The group voted between these three and Stonewall was selected as the site for the summer conference.

GASB Drive In Conference Report:

The chair of the GASB committee, Danny Kaser, had sent a letter to be distributed to the membership as he could not attend the meeting. Nick Zervos reported on the significance of the participation at the GASB conference and indicated that this issue is still one that we need to pay attention to. WVASBO, as a result of the conference had drafted a letter to Dr. Paine, concerning the implementation of GASB, also distributed to the membership. Dr. Akers reported that the executive committee had discussed the issue at their meeting and suggested to the membership that WVASA write a letter to Dr. Paine also, supporting WVASBO's concerns and raising other issues.

Action on GASB Issue:

On motion by Mark Manchin, seconded by Carl Friebel, the Association unanimously approved offering the support of WVASA for the WVASBO letter.

On motion by Sam Kalbaugh, seconded by Bill Niday, the Association unanimously approved the writing of a letter to the State Superintendent by Dr. Akers, WVASA President. It further acted to support a meeting of the Executive Committee with the State Superintendent to discuss WVASA issues concerning GASB.

Pre-Kindergarten Committee Report:

Rick Butler, Chair of the Pre-Kindergarten Committee, reported on the Early Child Development Policy Planning Project. He indicated that he would continue to attend the meetings of the committee and would report to the Association further action.

Formula Committee Report:

Ron Blankenship, Chair of the Formula Committee, could not be present at the meeting. He had communicated the action of the committee to Kenna Seal, who gave the report. The committee had reviewed the formula changes being considered and recommended the following actions for WVASA:

1. Support change in Step 9 of the current school aid formula to allow counties to retain a larger portion of the local effort.
2. Support change in calculation of transportation step with a result of allowance for greater number of service personnel as bus operators in sparsely populated counties.
3. Support increase in the personnel ratios to be funded through the formula.
4. Support funding for treasurers, nurses, counselors and extended employment for administrators.
5. Support funding for mandatory positions. (Such as kindergarten aides)
6. Support funding consistent with the demands of converting to GASB (GAAP).

7. Recognition of lack of capacity for low enrollment counties (support for additional funding similar to SB 604).
8. Support for equal effort and equitable results.
9. In instances where low performance of students is caused by a lack of capacity, support for additional funding to provide that capacity is critical.
10. Support alignment between code sections regarding property assessments and their use in the school aid formula.

President's Report:

Dr. Akers briefly reiterated the importance of several issues discussed by the executive committee and reported at the meeting. She announced that there would be committee meetings to further study and recommend action during the December meeting. The three committees that will meet in December will be the GASB Committee meeting with ASBO representatives and school board association representatives, the Formula Committee, and the Legislative Committee. It will be the desire to come away from this meeting with a comprehensive legislative agenda that will include addressing the formula and GAAP accounting conversion. The three committees will meet on Thursday, December 6, at 2:00 pm at the RESA 6 Office at 30 GC & P Road, Wheeling. That evening at 6:00 pm the Executive Committee will meet at the RESA 6 Office. The following day, December 7, 2006, the membership will meet at the McClure Center City Hotel, 1200 Market Street, Wheeling , WV, at 10:00 am

National Conference Report:

Martha Dean reminded the group that the National Conference would be held in New Orleans this year and that the AASA web site is now open for both conference and room reservations. The WV hotel is the Embassy Suites, located only two blocks from the New Orleans Conference Center. The user name for access to room reservations in the state block is "West Virginia" and the pass code is WV07.

Adjournment:

There being no further business to come before the Association, Marsha Carr-Lambert moved and Bill Grizzell seconded the motion to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 12 noon.

The report of the State Department followed the business meeting. Dr. Jack McClanahan and Dr. Jorea Marple gave the report. The upcoming report of the RESA study to the State Board was summarized. Also, a report was given concerning the changes in SB Policy to be offered following the comment period prior to board approval of the policy.

Respectfully submitted,

Martha Dean, Executive Director