

### OPEN SESSION

A Special Called Telephonic meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Charleston County School District was held at 12:30pm on Thursday, May 17, 2012. The purpose of the meeting was to approve expenditures for the Laura Brown Special Board Funds for the 2011-12 school year.

The following members of the Board participated: Mrs. Cindy Bohn Coats - Vice Chair, Mr. Craig Ascue, Rev. Chris Collins, Mrs. Elizabeth Kandrac, Mrs. Elizabeth Moffly, Mrs. Ann Oplinger, Mr. Brian Thomas, and Dr. Nancy J. McGinley, Superintendent and Executive Secretary. Mr. Chris Fraser - Chair and Mrs. Toya Hampton-Green did not participate. Staff members Dr. Lisa Herring and Mrs. Christine Ryan also participated in the conference call.

The news media was duly notified of the meeting. However no representatives were present.

#### **1.1: Approval of Expenditures for Laura Brown Special Board Funds – 2011-12**

Mrs. Coats called the May 17, 2012 Special Called Telephonic meeting to order at 12:30 p.m.

Mrs. Kandrac asked staff about a request she made last school year and asked why she hadn't received printouts she requested.

Rev. Collins requested details because he didn't have an agenda because he hasn't been online in five days. Mrs. Coats shared the details from the recommendation for Approval of Expenditures for Laura Brown Special Board Funds for 2011-12 stating that 55% of amounts requested by individuals was recommended.

Mr. Ascue moved, seconded by Mrs. Oplinger to approve the Expenditures for Laura Brown Special Board Funds for 2011-12 totaling \$49,997.19, General Operating Funds.

Rev. Collins requested permission to vote to support the recommendation prior to discussion because he needed to hang up. However, Mrs. Kandrac said he could not because the board did not support the recommendation. She said more than a year ago Dec 2010 or 2011. Mrs. Moffly, Ms. Kandrac and Mrs. Taylor asked questions about the Laura Brown Fund. However, they did not receive answers from Mr. Emerson. To date, no answers were provided. Rev. Collins said the funding source is General Operating Funds and state court decision about fund simply said it was General Operating Funds.

Mrs. Moffly asked why board approval was needed if it was approved in the budget for this year. Mrs. Coats said it was outlined in the board packet. Mrs. Kandrac said she didn't have the packet. While she read it she didn't have it with her. Then she said Laura Brown left money to the endowment fund.

Mr. Thomas asked if funds come from private/partnership fund. Dr. Herring said approval of the Laura Brown expenditures was time sensitive. Mrs. Kandrac asked about the history. She could not respond to Mrs. Kandrac's request because she doesn't have the history for the past two years. However, since a group group will be traveling next week, delaying decision would delay their travel. Mr. Thomas asked when staff learned about the travel. Mrs. Kandrac the same thing occurred in previous years. The board was told after the last board meeting about the special meeting. Dr. Herring said there was an error in her department and someone thought the recommendation had been submitted. Since a trip is scheduled for Monday a special meeting was requested. Otherwise, approval could happen later.

Rev. Collins said since the money is already set aside, there no reason not to approve the recommendation.

Mrs. Chris Ryan shared details on the Laura Brown Funds. Dr. McGinley said competition outcomes are not always known beforehand.

Mrs. Moffly said she asked last year about giving taxpayer funds for Charitable efforts and that it be funded

with private/partnership funds versus taxpayers' money. She would not support the recommendation since these same concerns were expressed earlier. She said the Laura Brown and Lawrence Derthick funds should not be in a non-profit account because the board would have no say so over those accounts.

Dr. McGInley said the funds were approved last year's in budget. No directive was given by board to change parameters for travel money for students. If a directive is given by the board, it would be followed next year. She suggested the board approve the recommendation to allow students to utilize funds.

Mrs. Coats and Mr. Ascue suggested that the Laura Brown Funds could come as a discussion item at next meeting. Rev. Collins asked about the amount. Mrs. Coats said \$49,997.19. Rev. Collins suggested that board approval was needed since the amount was under \$50,000.

Mrs. Kandrac about the line item number in the budget and stated that she didn't see it. Mrs. Coats said she could look it up. However it could take up to 30 minutes. Mrs. Moffly said she wanted to know the history of the endowment. Mrs. Coats said it was not available today.

Mrs. Kandrac and Mrs. Moffly moved to table the vote because they were not prepared to vote on it. She said motion to table takes priority. Mrs. Coats confirmed. Mr. Thomas asked how long they wanted to table motion. Mrs. Kandrac said until May 29<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Ascue said it tabled until May 29<sup>th</sup>, students would not be able to go on trip. Mrs. Kandrac said another special called meeting could be held as soon as info is received to vote on the recommendation. She requested answers on the line item in last year budget and history of endowment. The vote failed 3-4 (Ascue, Collins, Oplinger and Coats opposed).

Mrs. Kandrac moved, seconded by Mrs. Moffly to amend the motion to carry the motion over until the next meeting on May 29<sup>th</sup> and ask the superintendent to use contingency funds to allow students to go until the information is provided to the board for a formal vote. The motion failed 2-5 (Ascue, Coats, Collins, Oplinger and Thomas opposed).

During discussion, Mrs. Kandrac said her motion was an amendment to the motion Mr. Ascue and Mrs. Oplinger made. However, Mrs. Coats said Mr. Ascue and Mrs. Oplinger had to be willing to accept the amendment. Mr. Ascue suggested Mrs. Kandrac offer another motion since the earlier motion failed.

Mrs. Coats called for a vote on the first motion to approve the \$49,997.19 Expenditure of Laura Brown Special Board Funds. Mr. Ascue agreed. However, Mrs. Kandrac said there would be consequences if Mrs. Coats called for vote at this point. Mrs. Coats said Mrs. Kandrac could have offered a new motion. However, she didn't. Then she added that Mrs. Kandrac's motion failed. Mrs. Moffly said Mrs. Kandrac could have made a new motion. However, she didn't. Mrs. Kandrac's motion failed. Mrs. Moffly said amendments take priority over the original motion. Mrs. Coats said the board must agree to accept amendment. Mrs. Coats said Mrs. Kandrac made it clear she wanted to table the item and not want to amend. Mrs. Moffly said vote would not count because it was not under Roberts Rule. Mrs. Coats asked Mrs. Moffly if she was ready to vote. Mrs. Moffly said the board had to vote on the amendment first.

Mrs. Coats said board could vote to allow amendment. Then Mrs. Coats said Mrs. Kandrac said no to voting. Mrs. Moffly said the board had to vote to amend the recommendation. Mrs. Kandrac said Coats statement was incorrect. Mrs. Moffly said did not vote on original motion and said vote was required to allow the amendment and the board is required to vote on the amendment first.

Mrs. Kandrac read the motion again and said it was an amendment to Mr. Ascue's original motion. At this time, Mrs. Coats called for vote on original motion to approve the \$49,997.19 Expenditure of Laura Brown Special Board Funds from General Operating funds. Mrs. Kandrac called for a "Division of the House" asking Mrs. Coats if she knew what that meant. Mrs. Kandrac said it meant pulling the vote--mute and void.

Mrs. Coats said division of house is when stand up to indicate division of house. However, that could not be done since it's a visual and this was a telephonic meeting.

After Mrs. Moffley asked board members to confirm still on the line, Mrs. Coats called for a vote to approve disbursement of the Laura Brown Funds. The motion approved 5-2 (Moffly and Kandrac opposed).

Since there was no further business to come before the board, The Special Called Telephonic Meeting of May 17, 2012 was adjourned at 1:10pm by consensus