

# KANSAS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES

**March 9, 1999**

## **CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Holloway called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, March 9, 1999, in the Board Room of the State Board of Education Building, 120 SE 10th Avenue in Topeka, Kansas.

## **ROLL CALL**

Members present were:

Steve Abrams	I.B. "Sonny" Rundell
John Bacon	Harold Voth
Mary Douglass Brown	Bill Wagnon
Linda Holloway	Janet Waugh

Mrs. DeFever arrived at 10:05 a.m.

## **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Mrs. Holloway indicated that an additional QPA waiver request had been added as item 15 f. 4), and that Board members had been given a summary of public hearing comments on the Transitional Vocational and Technical Education State Plan for FY 2000, item 15 p. Dr. Abrams asked that items 15 j., recommendations of the Evaluation Review Committee, and 15 k., recommendations of the Certification Review Committee, be pulled. Mr. Hill asked that item 15 l., a contract with the University of Kansas Center for Research, Inc., be pulled. Mrs. Brown asked that item 15 m., approval of the contract for the 1999 Governor's Academy, be pulled. Mr. Hill, with a second by Mrs. Brown, moved that the agenda be approved as amended. The motion carried.

## **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

Chairman Holloway asked for approval of the minutes of the February meeting. Dr. Wagnon moved, with a second by Dr. Abrams, that the minutes be approved as submitted. The motion carried.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS BOARD**

### **Professional Studies Definition**

Mr. Ken Bungert, Team Leader, Teacher Certification and Licensure, presented a clarification statement the Professional Standards Board had recommended be added to the policy regarding professional education programs. The revised definition of professional studies would prohibit the transfer of upper level education courses offered by accredited teacher education institutions from non-accredited teacher

education institutions.

### **Restricted Certificate**

Mr. Bungert answered questions about the Professional Standards Board's recommendations for a restricted certificate to be added to the new certification regulations being worked on by the Board subcommittee.

### **REPORT ON THE 1998 KANSAS GOVERNOR'S ACADEMY**

Mr. Ken Gentry, Team Leader, Consolidated and Supplemental Programs, introduced Dr. Jerry Bailey, University of Kansas. Dr. Bailey reviewed the history of the Kansas Governor's Academy for at-risk students, and noted the ninth academy would be held in June, 1999. Dr. Bailey invited Board members to attend the closing ceremony and luncheon on June 25<sup>th</sup>.

### **CITIZENS' OPEN FORUM**

Chairman Holloway opened the Citizens' Open Forum at 10:30 a.m. Renee Armbruster, Topeka, spoke to the Board about the Reading Excellence Act. James Keller, Topeka, and Celtie Johnson, Prairie Village, addressed the Board about how the theory of evolution was being addressed in the current revision of the science curriculum standards. Chairman Holloway declared the forum closed at 10:39 a.m.

Mr. Hill arrived at 10:50 a.m.

### **REPORT ON THE 1998 KANSAS GOVERNOR'S ACADEMY (continued)**

Debra Fillingham continued the presentation on the Governor's Academy and the 1998 participants. She reported that the three purposes of the Academy are to: 1) assist high-risk high school students become better students; 2) help improve teachers of high-risk students; and 3) provide a network of teachers to support one another in their work with high-risk students. Ms. Fillingham provided statistics on students who had participated in the Academy over the past eight years and answered Board questions.

### **CITIZENS' OPEN FORUM**

Chairman Holloway reopened the forum at 11:07 a.m. because of the late arrival of an individual who wished to address the Board. Adrian Mellot, Lawrence, address the Board about the validity of arguments used by those in opposition to the inclusion of the theory of evolution in the revised science standards. Mrs. Holloway declared the forum closed at 11:09 a.m.

Chairman Holloway declared a break from 11:09 a.m. until 11:20 a.m.

### **CONDITIONS OF TEACHING IN KANSAS**

Mr. Bungert introduced Dr. Mary Devin and Mr. Gene Neely who gave a brief presentation on the activities of the National and Kansas Commission's on Teaching and America's Future. Based on recommendations from the National Commission on Teaching and America's Future (NCTAF), a Kansas policy board was formed in 1996 which undertook a review of Kansas policies, statutes and

practices dealing with preservice for teachers and the structure of the teaching career. The report, "*Conditions of Teaching in Kansas*", is a result of that review, Dr. Devin reported. She indicated the report contained recommendations for five areas of improvement: 1) the use of standards for both students and teachers; 2) teacher preparation and professional development; 3) overhaul teacher recruitment and put a qualified teacher in every classroom; 4) encourage and reward teacher knowledge and skill; and 5) create schools organized for teacher and student success. Mr. Neely reported that the Kansas Commission had given its full support to the recommendations. Board questions followed.

## **TEACHER SUPPLY AND DEMAND STUDY**

Dr. Leo Pauls, Executive Director of the Jones Institute for Educational Excellence, at Emporia State University, presented a summary of the results of the twentieth annual survey of teacher supply and demand in Kansas public schools. He reported that there was surplus of qualified applicants for elementary and physical education position; there was a serious shortage of music teachers, counselors, teachers of the hearing impaired, the physical impaired, gifted, behavior disordered, physical therapists, and substitute teachers. Slight shortages exist in other fields in regular and special education across the state. Dr. Pauls reported supplies of applicants for social studies, educable mentally handicapped, reading, and assistant principals were adequate. Not unusually, he indicated, smaller rural districts were at a disadvantage compared to large districts when trying to attract applicants and pockets of serious shortages exist in fields with otherwise adequate supplies. Dr. Pauls stated responses to the survey had been received from 90% of Kansas superintendents, representing 96% of Kansas students. Dr. Pauls commented on possible causes for some of the shortages and related suggested remedies. Board questions and comments followed and Dr. Abrams asked for information about results of teacher mentoring programs.

The Board recessed for lunch at 11:56 a.m. and the meeting resumed at 1:32 p.m.

## **LEGISLATIVE MATTERS**

### **Education Legislation**

Deputy Commissioner Dale Dennis reviewed the status of the FY 2000 budget, comparing the Department request, the Governor's recommendations, and the House Appropriation and Senate Ways and Means Committees' recommendations. He also handed out 1998-1999 enrollment data, local option budget information, a summary of the Governor's finance plan, a current bill locator and a brief explanation of SB 345, the bill containing the postsecondary reorganization plan.

Mr. Dennis also briefly reviewed the current status of Kansas education legislation and commented on state general fund projections. Board discussion followed.

The Board took a short break from 2:08 p.m. until 2:15 p.m.

## **REPORTS FROM CONDITIONALLY ACCREDITED SCHOOLS**

Dr. Steve Adams, Team Leader, School Improvement and Accreditation, introduced Jeanette Nobo, Program Consultant, who had been working with USD 284, Chase County High School, on its

corrective action plan. She indicated the plan had been submitted on time and the school was examining and implementing new strategies which targeted communication arts. She noted that data was not yet available, but that the communication arts assessment would be given in April. Mr. Rick Weiss, USD 284 Superintendent, affirmed that the district believed strongly in the Quality Performance Accreditation (QPA) process and viewed the conditional accreditation of the high school as a positive experience. The school had implemented a block schedule and had developed a five-year technology plan. Denise Ulrich, Chair of the Communication Improvement Committee and Bernice Albers, Curriculum Director, were present to report on specific strategies that were being undertaken. They included shared leadership and accountability among staff; a focus on how improvement strategies fit into existing curriculum; results-based staff development; the use of research-based programs the effectiveness of which could be documented. Board questions followed.

Dr. Adams introduced Teresa White, Program Consultant, who had been working with the three Coffeyville schools which had been conditionally accredited. Mrs. White introduced representatives of Garfield Elementary School who were present. Carolyn Robertson, QPA Co-Chair, reported that the staff needed to have a better understanding of the QPA process; be able to analyze the data available to them; and develop schoolwide strategies to address deficiencies. She indicated that six QPA inservice sessions had been held. A reading committee had endorsed a reading understanding strategy and a problem-solving strategy had been implemented schoolwide. She also reported that the writing committee was focusing on the six-trait writing model. Ms. Robertson also indicated that the entire staff had endorsed the school improvement process and that the school would take advantage of Educate America Act funds to look at additional improvement strategies. Julie Wilde, a parent, indicated that the children were learning and improvement is occurring. Site council member, Cheryl Holbert, indicated all site council members were given copies of the school improvement plan and the school was seeing lower achieving students actively using the new strategies. In response to Board questions, Ms. Robertson noted a positive difference in the school community, which was a result of not adding on new programs, but changing how things are being done within the school. She expressed confidence that the next year would go smoothly because much of what needed to be implemented was already being done.

Mrs. White introduced Russ Hutchins, Principal for Whittier Elementary School, and Debbie Mitchell, a second grade teacher at the school. They reported the school had focused on the positive elements in their recommendations from the accreditation onsite team. Because the school had gotten off to a slow start with QPA, the additional year has given them the opportunity to bring staff together on the school improvement process. Six half day inservice sessions had been dedicated to the QPA process and three building leadership teams had been established, one each for reading comprehension, math problem-solving, and the six-trait writing model. The school was also using Educate America Act grant funds to purchase the equipment necessary to address the new strategies. They also indicated that Coffeyville had given the school 24 new computers to assist them. The school was also focusing on the alignment of the state standards and assessments and the school curriculum. One-on-one reading assistance was also available for students. Board discussion and questions followed.

Mrs. White introduced Kathryn Bell, a Field Kindley Memorial High School student, Virgil Horn, Site Council Chair, and Michael Spear, QPA Chair. They indicated that Field Kindley students have

responded well to the strategies that have been implemented in the school to improve reading comprehension, mathematics problem-solving skills, and academic success and noted that the strategies were keeping the student body focused on getting an education. They also reviewed data which verified the effectiveness of the programs which had been put in place in the high school. Board questions followed.

The Board took a break from 4:15 p.m. until 4:25 p.m.

### **EVALUATION REPORT FOR 1997-98 AT-RISK PUPIL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS**

Mrs. Judi Miller, Program Consultant, Consolidated and Supplemental Programs, presented the evaluation report and gave a brief overview of the types of programs funded through the school finance formula to address the needs of at-risk students. She noted that successful programs resulted in improvement in grades and more student gains in graduation credits. She also responded to Board questions, which focused on how at-risk students are identified; the cost of producing the evaluation; the subjectivity of districts' self-reported results and the lack of qualitative measures and how effective programs could be evaluated. Commissioner Tompkins stated he would add evaluation of at-risk programs to the Department's research agenda.

### **REPORT ON KANSAS CURRICULAR STANDARDS FOR MATHEMATICS**

Dr. Freden, Assistant Commissioner for Learning Services, introduced Margie Hill, Chair of the Mathematics Curriculum Standards Writing Committee. Ms. Hill reviewed the committee's work since its last progress report to the Board. She noted that the seventh draft contained some slight changes in content; that indicators had been marked for assessment and that the prioritization of indicators had been simplified. Mr. Hill moved, with a second by Mrs. Brown, that the Board approve the standards as presented in the seventh draft. The motion carried.

### **READING PROJECT - CD ROM**

Dr. Freden presented the Department's proposal to enter into a contract with the Education Services and Staff Development Association of Central Kansas (ESSDACK) to develop a CD ROM Reading Project to be made available to schools for teaching and promoting reading and reading skills. In addition, ESSDACK would duplicate the CDs and develop a web page accessible on the Department's website. Dr. Freden responded to Board questions about what the project would address, the source of funding, and the procedures used in selecting the contractor. Mr. Voth, with a second by Mr. Rundell, moved that the Board authorize the Commissioner to enter into a contract with ESSDACK for the requested services, with the contract amount not to exceed \$19,328.65. The motion carried.

### **POSTSECONDARY ISSUES**

#### **Kansas Postsecondary Workforce Development Program**

Dr. Joe Birmingham, Assistant Commissioner for Lifelong Learning, presented proposed policy changes necessary to provide consistency regarding courses taught for employee training. Because community colleges provide employee training courses that are on their master course list for approved programs and area technical schools provide courses that are on their approved program list, restrictions regarding

tuition and fee arrangements with organizations utilizing employee training programs need to be extended to the guidelines for program approval for those courses. Additionally, it was suggested that an exemption to these restrictions be extended to employers funded by tax dollars, i.e., municipalities, and state and federal entities.

### Update on Governor's Task Force on Higher Education Structure for Excellence

Dr. Joe Birmingham passed out testimony presented to the Senate Education Committee by Jerry Farley, President of Washburn University. Dr. Birmingham indicated that House may soon begin working a bill with testimony to be received within the next week.

### CONSENT AGENDA

Dr. Abrams asked about the impact on Wichita State University (WSU) of having a program receive "*not approved*" status (item 15 j). He was told that students can continue to graduate, which would have been prohibited had the program been "*withdrawn*" and that WSU was developing a new program. Dr. Abrams had no objections to having the item and item 15 k., concerning recommendations of the Certification Review Committee, returned to the consent agenda. Mr. Hill asked for details concerning item 15 l., a contract to dealing with discipline resources. Ms. Dermeyer provided additional information and Mr. Hill indicated he would like a presentation on discipline at a future time, and that the item could be returned to the consent agenda. Mrs. Brown asked for clarification regarding the year covered by the proposed contract for the Governor's Academy. Staff indicated the contract was for the summer of 1999 and funded out of the FY 1999 budget, already approved. Mrs. Brown indicated the item could be returned to the consent agenda. Mr. Rundell moved that the consent agenda be approved as presented. Mr. Hill seconded the motion and the motion carried.

In the consent agenda, the State Board:

- Received the monthly personnel report.
- Confirmed the unclassified special project appointments of Bonnie Holthaus as a Secretary I at a bi-weekly rate of \$638.40, effective January 17, 1999; Laura Terrel as an Office Assistant IV at a bi-weekly rate of \$704.80, effective February 1, 1999; Rebecca Strohm as a Secretary I at a bi-weekly rate of \$638.40, effective February 1, 1999; and Deborah Chappell as an Education Program Consultant at a bi-weekly rate of \$1463.20, effective February 8, 1999.
- Confirmed the appointment of Jody Mackey to the position of Team Leader, Nutrition Services, effective March 7, 1999, at a bi-weekly rate of \$2732.50.
- Approved school construction plans for Hamilton, USD 390; Sunrise Academy, Sedgwick County; Paola, USD 368; Word of Life Church, Sedgwick County; Liberal, USD 490; and Shawnee Mission, USD 512 (2 projects).

- Approved Cycle I accredited status for USD 500, Kansas City: Hawthorne Elementary and Parker Elementary; USD 229 Blue Valley: Overland Trail Elementary; USD 251, North Lyon County: Reading Elementary; USD 329, Mill Creek Valley: Maple Hill Elementary; USD 308, Hutchinson Public Schools: Sherman Middle School; USD 428, Great Bend: Great Bend High School; USD 246, Northeast: North East High School; USD 257, Iola: Iola Sr. High School; USD 260, Derby: Derby Sixth Grade Center; and USD 490, El Dorado: Skelly Elementary.
- Approved requests for waiver of state QPA regulations from: Prairie Heights, USD 295, to allow it to utilize the services of Christina Morrow to teach Physics at the high school level; Blue Valley, USD 229, to allow it to utilize the services of Homer Ritter to teach industrial technology at the high school level, and Dale Bergerhofer to teach industrial technology at the middle school level; Lewis, USD 502, to allow it to utilize the services of Melody Davies to fill the position of library media specialist and Patricia Lynn Holaday to fill the position of school counselor; and Mulvane Middle School, USD 263, to allow it to utilize the services of Sandra Boutz as an emergency substitute teacher.
- Approved inservice education plans from Hill City, USD 281, and Haven, USD 312.
- Approved a request to renew a visiting scholar certificate for Richard Harrison to teach behavior disorders for the second 1998-1999 semester at Southeast Kansas Education Service Center.
- Approved additional tests suggested for the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade diagnostic reading assessment.
- Approved the recommendation of the Evaluation Review Committee to grant "*approved*" status through December 31, 2003 for Psychology (U, 7-12) and Middle-Level Science (U, 5-9) at Bethany College; and "*not approved*" for U.S. History, U.S. Government, and World History (U, 7-12), Economics ((U, 7-12), Anthropology and Sociology (U, 7-12), Geography (U, 7-12), and Comprehensive Social Studies (U, 7-12) at Wichita State University.
- Accepted the recommendations of the Certification Review Committee in cases 1694, 1687-1688, 1698-1705, and 1707-1713.
- Certificates of Approval under the Kansas Proprietary School Act were issued to Hoffman International, Overland Park, KS; International Aviation and Travel Academy, Arlington, TX; The Brown Mackie College, Salina, KS; The Brown Mackie College, Olathe, KS; and RSM Training, Inc., dba ComSkill Learning Center, Kansas City, MO.
- Approved the Transitional Adult Education State Plan for FY 2000.
- Approved the Transitional Vocational and Technical Education State Plan for FY 2000.
- Issued orders to USD 254, Medicine Lodge, and USD 454, Burlingame, granting them authority

to hold an election on the question of the districts' general bond debt limitation.

### ***Contracts Approved:***

The Commissioner of Education was authorized to:

- Negotiate and enter into a contract with the University of Kansas Center for Research, Inc. to produce, validate, and disseminate a document on discipline referrals, with the contract amount not to exceed \$23,532.
- Negotiate and enter into a contract with the University of Kansas to operate the ninth annual Kansas Governor's At-Risk Academy, with the contract total not to exceed \$80,000.

### **APPROVAL OF MODIFICATIONS TO BOARD GOALS**

Mr. Rundell moved, with a second by Dr. Abrams, that the Board approve the additional objectives added to Board goals five and seven suggested by Dr. Abrams to accommodate Mr. Rundell's concerns. The motion carried. The additional objective for goal five was:

*"d. Evaluate whether there are inequities in educational opportunities and if so, correct them."*

Added to goal seven was:

*"f. Determine whether there is equal educational opportunity for all students."*

### **BOARD REPORTS**

#### **Board Chairman**

Chairman Holloway expressed the desire to see revisions made to the personnel evaluation forms used for the Commissioner, the Board Attorney and the Board Secretary. Mrs. Holloway reported on the Legislative Post Audit process and indicated that the Post Audit report on Board decision-making would be presented to the legislative committee March 16<sup>th</sup>. She also indicated she had been asked to participate in a legislative study group that was examining special education funding.

#### **Board Attorney**

Mr. Biles reviewed his recent activity on behalf of the Board. Mr. Hill moved, with a second by Mr. Bacon, that Mr. Biles' fees for services and expenses for February be paid as presented. The motion carried.

#### **Legislative Coordinator**

Mr. Hill reported on recent legislative activity and mentioned the possible impact on funding of the FY 2000 budget because of the lower state income projections.

#### **Commissioner**

Commissioner Tompkins reported on Y2K readiness; and noted that attachments to his report included

and E-Rate update, details of the NAEP results and a schedule for the April Board meeting.

### **Other Member Reports**

Mrs. Brown requested that the Board clarify her term on the Kansas State High School Activities Association (KSHSAA) Board of Directors, indicating that correspondence she had received at the time of her appointment indicated that her term should run through June 30, 2000. This was contradicted by the Board appointment of Mr. Voth, effective July 1, 1999. Mrs. Brown reported that she had spoken with Gary Musselman of KSHSAA and he had indicated a mistake had been made. It was the consensus of the Board that the effective date of Mr. Voth's term would be moved to July 1, 2000.

Mrs. DeFever reported she would be working on the Kansas Educate America Act implementation goals.

### **BOARD TRAVEL**

The Board discussed whether a member should be sent to the NASBE legislative conference March 11th and 12<sup>th</sup>. Dr. Wagnon moved, with a second by Dr. Abrams, that Mr. Hill be sent to represent the Board. The motion carried and the item was added to the Board travel request. Mrs. Waugh asked that requests for mileage reimbursement within Kansas City be deleted from her travel requests. Dr. Abrams moved, with a second by Mrs. Brown, that the travel requests be approved as amended. The motion carried.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Dr. Wagnon moved, with a second by Dr. Abrams, that the Board recess into Executive Session for a period of 20 minutes for the purpose of discussing personnel matters of non-elected personnel so the privacy, confidentiality and other rights of such personnel are not violated, and that the open meeting of the Board resume at 6:40 p.m. The open meeting resumed at 6:40 p.m.

### **RECESS**

There being no further business, Chairman Holloway recessed the meeting at 6:40 p.m.

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Linda Holloway, Chairman

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Penny Plamann, Secretary

## **KANSAS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

### **MINUTES**

### **Meetings at the Special Schools**

**March 10, 1999**

### ***KANSAS STATE SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF***

Board members arrived at the State School for the Deaf (KSSD) in Olathe at 9:00 a.m. for the annual visit which began in the Philip A. Emery Elementary Center Atrium. Dr. Abrams, Mrs. Brown, Mr., Bacon, Mrs. Holloway, Mr. Rundell, Mr. Voth and Mrs. Waugh were present. Dr. Wagon was unable to attend. Mrs. DeFever and Mr. Hill were attending legislative meetings and were also unable to be present.

Gerald Johnson, Superintendent of KSSD, opened with a brief welcome and introductory remarks, discussing the school's commitment to providing access to language and education excellence in a visual environment. He introduced Dr. Pam Shaw, Director of Research. Dr. Shaw read a children's book to Board members and then played a video of the same story told in sign language. The Board's experience with trying to understand the story from the video highlighted the difficulties faced by deaf youngsters in the hearing world. Dr. Shaw stressed the importance of early childhood intervention for deaf children in order for them to become ready for learning when they enter school. Dr. Shaw also reviewed the demographics of the children served by the school.

The Board was invited to the school auditorium where they attended a play performed by 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students.

The Board members continued on to the Learning Center in the Roth Building, where Nancy Crews, Secondary Transition Coordinator, spoke about the extended day program, career exploration and school-to-work activities for secondary students. Micki Keck, Learning Center Coordinator, discussed how the Learning Center was used by students and computer training opportunities for dormitory teachers.

The meeting recessed at 11:15 for lunch with parents and staff in the school dining room and then Board members departed for Kansas City, Kansas.

### ***KANSAS STATE SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND***

Board members Dr. Abrams, Mrs. Brown, Mr., Bacon, Mrs. Holloway, Mr. Rundell, Mr. Voth and Mrs. Waugh, gathered with staff of the Kansas State School for the Blind (KSSB) in the student cafeteria at 1:00 p.m. Superintendent Daugherty welcomed the Board and made introductory remarks.

Ms. Virgene Tyrrell, Outreach Coordinator, reported on recent outreach activities at KSSD. She indicated a "Spring into Independence Weekend" had been held and was attended by five students and their families. Workshops in cooking and organizational skills were held for students and their parents. Mrs. Tyrrell also reported on the Technology Lending Library at the school and the adaptive equipment available for short-term loan or lease. Trish Kaminski, Outreach staff member, described an independent study internet program on technology she had developed for a homebound high school student in Topeka. Chuck Tyrrell, Vocational Coordinator, reported on the summer work program.

Board members moved to the New Student Residence Building where they had a presentation on the

independent living skills program. When they returned to the cafeteria, they were entertained by the KSSB girls' vocal ensemble and were given a presentation on the student-banking program. Board members received an update on the Oregon Trail program and shown a relief map that was used by students when studying the route of the trail. Paul Clary, Orientation and Mobility (O&M) Instructor, discussed the O&M program and two secondary students made a brief presentation on their plans to travel to St. Louis as part of their spring semester project. At the conclusion, staff and Board members went to the Accessible Arts, Inc. offices for presentation of the 1998 Accessible Arts Awards.

### ***ACCESSIBLE ARTS AWARDS***

Ms. Patty Scott, Vice President of the Accessible Arts, Inc. Board, Paul Lesnik, Executive Director, welcomed participants and thanked the State Board of Education for its support of Accessible Arts, Inc. They also reviewed the history and purpose of the awards. Dr. Andy Tompkins presented the 1998 Kansas Special Needs Arts Educator of the Year Award to Boyd Koehn, Elk Falls art teacher, for promoting art in the classroom for students with special needs. The 1998 Distinguished Service Award was presented to Dr. Norman Fedder, Drama Professor at Kansas State University. Each recipient made brief remarks. A reception followed, with Board members departing at 3:45 p.m.

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Linda Holloway, Chairman

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Penny Plamann, Secretary