

**Alabama Public Charter School Commission**  
**August 6, 2024, 12:00 P.M.**  
**In Person and Via Zoom**

**MINUTES**

The Alabama Public Charter School Commission (APCSC) meeting took place August 6, 2024, at 12:00 p.m. in person at 2410 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue N. Bessemer, Alabama, and in a Zoom meeting to consider matters relevant to duties of the Alabama Public Charter School Commission outlined in the *Alabama School Choice and Student Opportunity Act* for public charter schools in Alabama.

**Welcome, Approval of Agenda and Minutes**

**Presiding:** Dr. Shelia Austin, Chairman

The following commission members were present:

Dr. Shelia Austin in person  
Ms. Deborah Alvis via Zoom  
Mrs. Marla Green via Zoom  
Dr. Faron Hollinger via Zoom  
Dr. Dorothy Houston via Zoom  
Dr. M Javed Khan via Zoom  
Mr. Charles Knight in person  
Dr. Cynthia McCarty in person  
Mrs. Julie Ann McCulley via Zoom  
Dr. Sharon Porterfield in person  
Ms. Terr Reynolds via Zoom  
Mrs. LaKeisha Wheeler via Zoom  
Mr. Ryan Kendall-Absent

Also present: Mrs. Logan Searcy, Alabama Public Charter School Commission Executive Director  
Mr. Lane Knight, Esq.

On motion by Commissioner Knight and seconded by Commissioner McCarty, the commission voted unanimously to approve the agenda and the minutes for the July 22, 2024, meeting.

**Consideration of Commission Officers**

**Chairman:** Commissioner Austin and Commissioner Wheeler nominated. Commissioner Austin was elected Chairman by the commission 8 – 3.

**Co-Chairman:** Commissioner Knight nominated, no other nominees, elected Co-Chairman by the commission unanimously.

**Treasurer:** Commission Kendall nominated, no other nominees, elected Treasurer by the commission unanimously.

**Consideration of Meeting Calendar**

Suggested meeting days third Monday or Wednesday, suggested meeting time noon. On motion by Commissioner Knight and seconded Commissioner Porterfield; commission voted unanimously to approve the third Monday at noon for commission meetings.

**Consideration of Contract Terms and Salaries of New Hires**

On motion by Commissioner McCarty and seconded by Commissioner Knight the commission voted unanimously to approve the contract terms and salaries of new hires. Contracts posted in Live Binder.

**Consideration of New Hires**

On a motion by Commissioner McCarty and seconded by Commissioner Porterfield the commission voted unanimously to approve new hires, Dr. Victoria Bowman (Assessment Specialist) and Dr. Doug Riley (Finance Specialist).

**Consideration of Request for Proposals for Public Affairs and Marketing Firms**

On motion by Commissioner Knight and seconded by Commissioner Porterfield the commission voted unanimously to accept the request to post Request for Proposals for Public Affairs and Marketing Firms. Copies of requests are posted in the Live Binder.

**Consideration of Contractual Obligations for Freedom Prep Birmingham**

On motion by Commissioner Knight and seconded by Commissioner Wheeler the commission voted unanimously to approve the request to open with a reduction to 75 students by Freedom Prep Birmingham. Documentation has been provided that the school can cover monetary short fall if they don't meet enrollment numbers.

**Consideration of Resolution/Extension of Resolution of Freedom Prep Montgomery**

On motion by Commissioner Knight and seconded by Commissioner McCarty the commission voted unanimously to approve to extend the Resolution of Freedom Prep Montgomery until the September meeting.

**Consideration of Amendment to Substantive Review in Bylaws**

On motion by Commissioner McCarty and seconded by Commissioner Knight the commission voted unanimously to approve language change to Bylaw 10.2 to include required \$250,000 verified funds for charter application.

**Introduction of Schoolworks (Strategic Planning)**

Tom Franta thanked the commission for the opportunity to work with the commission on the Strategic Plan. He shared the phases of the project and the timeline of 4-5 months for completion.

**Executive Director Update**

1. Dates for the commission's conference – September 19-20, 2024, in Birmingham. The Executive Director asked for volunteers to work on a committee to secure presenters for conference.
2. Commissioners' travel for Boston Conference has been submitted and reimbursement should be soon.
3. If commissioners are planning to attend conferences in October or November, they should notify the Executive Director soon for travel request to be completed.

**Adjourn**

Chairman Austin thanked everyone for their time. On motion by Commissioner Knight and seconded by Commissioner McCarty the commission voted unanimously to adjourn.

Submitted by: Peggy Haveard Printed Name: Peggy Haveard

Approved by: Sheila Austin Printed Name: Sheila Austin