

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE VIRGINIA NORMAL SCHOOL BOARD held at the Jefferson Hotel, Richmond, Va. Dec. 21, 1917 at 11 A.M.

Present: V.R. Shackelford, Vice-President, presiding- Messrs. Russell, Preston, Locker, Shewmake, King and White, and the presidents of the four schools.

The minutes of the meeting held at Harrisonburg October 20 were read and approved, and on motion duly carried, the action taken by the members present at the meeting on October 20th as set out in the minutes of said meeting was ratified and approved.

The Secretary read a letter from Judge Price stating that he had sent his resignation as a member of the Board to the Governor, and also a copy of Judge Price's letter of resignation. Mr. Preston moved that the Board call on the Governor with a view to having him ask Judge Price to reconsider his resignation, which motion was duly carried. Mr. Shewmake moved that the Chair appoint a committee of three members of the Board and one of the school presidents to see Judge Price in person and try to prevail on him to reconsider his resignation, which motion was duly carried. As members of this committee, the Chair appointed Messrs. Hull and Preston and Dr. McConnell.

Mr. Shewmake made an oral report for the committee on the Smith-Hughes Fund.

At this point Hon. R.C. Stearnes and Mr. Mears came into the meeting.

After a general discussion of the Smith-Hughes Bill, a recess was taken from 12 o'clock to 2 P.M. to enable the board to call on the Governor.

During the recess the committee called on the Governor at his office, and he stated that he would gladly ask Judge Price to reconsider his resignation.

The Board reconvened at 2 P.M. with the same members present, with the exception of Mr. Stearnes, and continued the discussion of the Smith-Hughes Bill.

It was moved and carried that the Chair appoint a committee to go before the Board of Education at the January meeting and present the whole situation arising from the Smith-Hughes Bill to the full board, requesting that the fund be divided among the four schools, or if the State Board will not reconsider its action in directing that one of the schools be designated as the recipient of this fund, then the committee is authorized to go to Washington and take the matter up with the Federal Board. As members of this committee the Chair appointed Messrs. Shewmake, Locker and King. On motion duly seconded and carried Dr. Burruss was appointed as a committee to gather information as to how the Smith-Hughes Fund is being divided in other states.

After a discussion of the budgets to be presented to the Legislature, it was moved and carried that no further action in reference to the budgets be taken at this meeting, but that the presidents of the schools be requested to prepare budgets and have them ready to present to the finance committee on the call of the President of the Board. Mr. Shewmake was excused from the meeting.

It was moved and seconded that the school presidents be authorized to use their discretion in increasing the salaries of the presidents' secretaries and the clerks in the officers where they deem it just and reasonable that increases be made. Mr. Locker offered as an amendment to the foregoing motion the following addition "provided that it is the sense of this board that the increase for clerical help shall not be more than 20% of the present salaries." There was no second to the amendment and the original motion was duly carried, *Mr. Locker voting in the negative.*

Dr. Russell reported that his engineer who had received \$75.00 per month had resigned to accept a better salary. Dr. Russell asked if he could be limited to \$75.00 per month in securing another man. He was advised to take this matter up with the executive committee in case he cannot fill the position at the salary of \$75.00 per month.

Dr. Russell reported that the school board of Fredericksburg had renewed their request that the salaries of the critic teachers be paid directly into the city treasury.

Mr. Locker moved the reconsideration of the action taken at the Harrisonburg meeting October 20th refusing to pay the salaries of the critic teachers into the city treasury of Fredericksburg in a lump sum, which motion was duly carried.

It was moved and carried that the request of the Fredericksburg School Board as contained in a letter to Dr. Russell dated No. 21, 1917 (which letter is filed with the proceedings of this meeting) in regard to paying the Normal School appropriations for the critic teachers' salary directly to the school board be granted.

After a careful discussion of the advisability of increasing the charge for board, Mr. King moved that the charge for board, laundry, etc. be fixed at \$20.00 per month at each of the schools, beginning Feb. 1, 1918. This motion was duly seconded and carried.

On motion of Mr. Locker duly seconded and carried, Dr. J. L. Jarman was nominated to the Senate as a member of the State Board of Education.

In accordance with the recommendation of Dr. Burruss, it was moved and carried that Prof. Heatsole be released at once from his contract with the Harrisonburg School to enable him to accept another position, his work to be carried on by Dr. Burruss, Dr. Sanger and a lady assistant whom the president of the school is authorized to employ. On motion, duly carried, and in accordance with the recommendation of Dr. Burruss, Miss Frances Sale was granted a furlough without pay for the remainder of the session, and the president of the Harrisonburg School is authorized to employ her sister, Miss Annie Sale, for the remainder of the session at the same salary.

On the recommendation of Dr. Burruss, it was ordered that the course in Industrial Arts be eliminated at the Harrisonburg School.

On motion the meeting adjourned.

Arthur Robertson
Secretary-Auditor.

Approved.

President.