

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE VIRGINIA NORMAL SCHOOL BOARD
called for Harrisonburg, Va. Oct. 20, 1917 at 10 o'clock A.M.

Present, Judge John W. Price, President, presiding, Messrs, Shackelford, King, Preston and White, and Drs. Burruss, McConnell and Russell.

There being no quorum present, but a majority of the Executive Committee being present, the meeting proceeded to the transaction of business subject to the ratification of the Board at a future meeting.

The minutes of the meeting held at Richmond, July 13th, 1917 were read and corrected.

Dr. Russell stated that he had not yet gotten a written opinion from the attorney in reference to the right of the Aqueduct Company to maintain a pipe line across the Normal School property at Fredericksburg.

Dr. Russell read a letter from the City School Board of Fredericksburg asking that the money appropriated by the Normal School for the Critic Teachers' salaries be paid directly to the School Board in a lump sum instead of being paid to the teachers as heretofore. It was moved, seconded and carried that the request of the Fredericksburg School Board be not granted, but that the payments for the salaries of the critic teachers be paid in monthly payments directly to the teachers, as heretofore.

Dr. Russell presented a bid from Geo. W. Heflin offering to cover the steam pipe line from the boiler room to the new dormitory with asbestos, covering for the sum of \$223.05. On motion, duly seconded and carried this bid was rejected, and Dr. Russell was authorized to do this work with his own force at a cost not to exceed the amount of the bid.

Dr. Russell reported that he had been unable to get a suitable auto truck for \$400.00, the amount he was authorized to spend at the last meeting of the Board, but could get a satisfactory truck for \$435.00. On motion, duly seconded he was authorized to purchase the truck at \$435.00.

After a discussion of the Training School situation at Fredericksburg, Harrisonburg and Radford, it was moved, and carried that the Chair appoint a special committee of three members of the board and the four school presidents to take up and investigate in general the training school situation and make a report to the Board. As members of this committee, the Chair appointed Messrs. Shackelford (Chairman) Shewmake and Hull and the four school presidents.

The Secretary read a written report from Dr. J. P. McConnell dated October 19th, 1917 which was received and filed.

It was moved, seconded and carried that the Chair appoint a committee of three members of this Board to co-operate with the presidents of the four schools in gathering such information as they can in regard to the employment of Normal School graduates as teachers of public schools in the State and to formulate a report as to the best means of bringing before the public and the division superintendents the desirability of utilizing Normal School graduates as far as possible in the public schools of the State, and to consider the recommendations and suggestions contained in Dr. McConnell's report. As members of this committee, the Chair appointed Messrs. Shackelford, Shewmake and Hull.

Dr. McConnell submitted a written report for the Summer quarter for 1917 at the Radford School, which was received and filed.

Dr. Burruss presented a special written report concerning the Harrisonburg School, setting out in detail the growth of the Summer School, the fall quarter attendance, academic distribution of students, the finances of the school and the additions to grounds, buildings and equipment ^{that} ~~sk~~ the school should have, etc. which report was received and filed.

It was moved, seconded and carried that Dr. Burruss be authorized to put screens at all windows of the dining ~~xxxx~~ hall building and Dormitory No. 3, in accordance with the recommendations of his report, the same to be paid for out of the Summer Sch. funds.

On motion duly seconded, the recommendation of Dr .Burruss on page 5 of his report that the third year high school work be "eliminated next session, and that the three years of high school be the minimum requirement for entrance instead of two years as at present" was adopted.

It was moved and carried that Dr.Burruss be authorized to purchase for the school an automobile out of the Summer School funds provided he deems it advisable, after paying for screening the windows, as heretofore authorized.

Dr.Burruss presented a report and statement in regard to the distribution of the "Smith-Hughes fund", setting forth the ruling of the State Board of Education and presenting the claims of the Harrisonburg School for the consideration of the Board in determining how the fund should be distributed among the Normal Schools, which report was received and filed.

After a discussion of the matter, the Secretary-Auditor was, on motion, duly carried, directed to communicate with the State Board of Education in order, that a meeting may be arranged to take steps to secure a part of the fund under the Smith-Hughes Bill, may have an opportunity to submit the claims of the Normal Schools to the State, and that said committee be given authority to take such action as they may deem proper and report to the next meeting of this Board. The members of the foregoing committee are Messrs. Shewmake,Locker and King and the four school presidents.

Dr.Russell asked authority for the Fredericksburg School to offer, beginning with the session of 1918-19,an optional three-year course for students preparing to teach in the High Schools. On motion, duly seconded, Dr.Russell was authorized to offer this course.

Mr. Shackelford presented a letter from Capt. G.M. Harrison to him which was filed with the proceedings of this meeting, explaining why he had put in a claim for \$100.00 additional compensation the payment of which had been declined at the last meeting of the Board. After a thorough discussion it was moved and carried that the former action of the Board in declining ~~the~~ to pay the account be rescinded and that Dr. Russell be authorized to adjust Capt. Harrison's claim by sending him a check for \$100.00.

On motion the meeting adjourned.

Attest:

Arthur Robertson
Secretary-Auditor.

Approved:

President.