



Kentucky Environmental Education Council (KEEC)
Special Council Meeting Minutes
December 7, 2016

Meeting Location: 300 Building, 300 Sower Boulevard, 4th Floor, Room 413, Frankfort, KY 40601

Meeting Time: 5:30 p.m. Eastern

Council Members in Attendance: Chair Horace Brown, Vice Chair Billie Hardin, Lona Brewer, Karin Ceralde, Gordon Garner, Greg Higdon, Marcus Norton, Karen Reagor

Absent Members:

Staff in Attendance: Wesley Bullock

Others in Attendance: Mardi Montgomery, Kevin Osborne

Meeting Introduction

The meeting was called to order by H. Brown at 5:48 PM.

Minutes Review

⇒ At 5:49 PM, L. Brewer moved to approve the minutes of the December 5, 2016, Special Council Meeting. K. Reagor seconded. All were in favor; none were opposed. The motion passed.

Motion to Enter Closed Session

⇒ At 5:49 PM, G. Higdon moved to enter closed session pursuant to KRS 61.810(f) to discuss the hiring of a new Executive Director. K. Ceralde seconded the motion. All were in favor; none were opposed. The motion passed.

Motion to Exit Closed Session

⇒ At 6:13 PM, G. Higdon moved to exit closed session. K. Ceralde seconded the motion. All were in favor; none were opposed. The motion passed.

Discussion of Executive Director Hiring

The Council reviewed the minutes of previous meetings to determine whether the selection committee or the full Council would have the final decision on hiring the Executive Director.

Motion to Re-enter Closed Session

⇒ At 6:23 PM, G. Higdon moved to enter closed session pursuant to KRS 61.810(f) to continue the discussion about hiring a new Executive Director. K. Ceralde seconded the motion. All were in favor; none were opposed. The motion passed.

Motion to Exit Closed Session

⇒ At 6:40 PM, G. Higdon moved to exit closed session. K. Ceralde seconded the motion. All were in favor; none were opposed. The motion passed.

Recommendation of Selection Committee

By a 2-1 vote, the Selection Committee of H. Brown, B. Hardin, and M. Norton recommended hiring Billy Bennett of Winchester, KY, as the next Executive Director of the Kentucky Environmental Education Council.

Motion to Hire Billy Bennet as KEEC Executive Director

⇒ At 6:50 PM, G. Higdon moved to accept the recommendation of the Selection Committee and hire Billy Bennett of Winchester, KY, as the next Executive Director of the Kentucky Environmental Education Council. B. Hardin seconded the motion. G. Higdon, B. Hardin, M. Norton, K. Reagor, K. Ceralde voted to approve the motion. H. Brown, G. Gordon, L. Brewer voted against the motion. The motion passed.

Motion Regarding Salary of W. Bullock

⇒ At 6:54 PM, B. Hardin moved to advance the salary of W. Bullock to the extent possible within the agency's budget. M. Norton seconded the motion. All were in favor; none were opposed. The motion passed.

B. Hardin agreed to call B. Bennett to notify him of his selection by the Council for the Executive Director position, pending appointment by the Governor. W. Bullock was assigned to draft a letter to notify Secretary Heiner about the hiring decision.

L. Brewer noted that a former Council member was erroneously listed as present in the minutes of the December 5, 2016, meeting. W. Bullock said he would correct the error before posting the minutes.

Confirmation of Public Notice

W. Bullock confirmed that this meeting was publicized on the agency website, through a press release, and by posting the agenda as required by Kentucky Open Meetings Law.

Interim EE Specialist Hiring Process

Council had no further comment on the hiring process.

Motion to Adjourn

⇒ At 7:02 PM, G. Higdon moved to adjourn the meeting. M. Norton seconded. All were in favor; none were opposed. The motion passed.