

Approved in Open Board Meeting June 15, 2016

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

April 6, 2016
Tuesday, 9:00 a.m.

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING

The School Board of Broward County, Florida, met in special session at 10:18 a.m., Tuesday, April 6, 2016, in the Board Room of the Kathleen C. Wright Administrative Center, 600 Southeast Third Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Present were: School Board Members, Dr. Rosalind Osgood, Chair; Abby M. Freedman, Vice Chair; Robin Bartleman; Heather Brinkworth; Patricia Good; Donna P. Korn; Laurie Rich Levinson; Ann Murray; Nora Rupert; Robert W. Runcie, Superintendent of Schools (absent); and Barbara J. Myrick, Esq.

Call to Order The Call to Order was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

Changes to Agenda The Chief of Staff indicated that one of the candidates, Peter Levine, withdrew his name this morning because he accepted another job and would not be attending today's meeting.

The Chair approved the changes and announced the changes to the Agenda proposed by the Chief of Staff were accepted by the Chair after being determined that good cause had been established for said changes.

Close Agenda Upon motion by Mrs. Rupert, seconded by Ms. Korn and carried, the Agenda was approved and declared closed. Mrs. Rich Levinson was absent for the vote. Mrs. Bartleman voted no. (7-1 vote)

Purpose Of Meeting For The School Board of Broward County, Florida to Select the Finalists for the General Counsel Position, and any other items the Board deems necessary.

1. Semi-Finalist Selection and Interviews for the General Counsel Position
(Not Approved)

Select the Finalist for the General Counsel Position.

At the March 29, 2016 School Board Workshop, the School Board recommended interviewing the top seven (7) candidates for the General Counsel position. On March 30, 2016, one of the semi-finalists requested that their name be withdrawn.

The goal of the semi-finalist interviews was to select two (2) or three (3) finalists to return for a more extensive interview with the Board on May 4, 2016.

Prior to the interviews there was discussion as to whether or not Ms. Myrick or other internal counsel could apply for the position. Several Board Members had enjoyed working with Ms. Myrick and would have liked to have kept her as the General Counsel if it was possible.

Ms. Myrick stated her contract did not allow her to apply while she was in the position of Interim General Counsel. She also commented she discussed the position with other counsel members, and all had indicated that it was not a good time for them to apply if allowed. Most Board Members stated they would follow the process that had been set in place and were eager for the interviews to begin.

The Chair explained the procedures to be followed and that each candidate would be asked a total of six (6) questions. She thanked all of the candidates for their interest in the position of General Counsel and for graciously waiting to be called for their interview, in order to enable the Board to broadcast and video-stream the interviews, while maintaining an equitable process.

The following semi-finalists interviewed for the position of General Counsel.

Elizabeth McBride
Jacob Jackson
Judith Levine
Yvonne Brown
Denise Wallace

Following the final interview and upon motion by Mrs. Good, seconded by Mrs. Brinkworth and acclamation of the Board, Item 1. was brought to the floor for discussion.

The Chair received input from the audience on this item.

After lengthy interview discussions, the Board came to a consensus that it was not comfortable in submitting the names of two (2) or three (3) candidates as finalists for the position of General Counsel today. Although a couple seemed to interview well, there were some lacking such as experience, education, or leadership. Several Board Members felt it would be disingenuous to the candidates to continue in the process if they were not right for the position.

Motion

Motion was made by Ms. Korn, seconded by Mrs. Good to give direction to the Legal Services Committee to review the process, as well as review the job description, including someone applying from within the District, so staff could come back to the Board at a workshop, in which the Board Members could then review the process and job description. This action hereby formally stopped the interviewing process for General Counsel.

Motion to Amend (Carried)

Motion was made by Ms. Korn, seconded by Mrs. Good and carried to amend Item 1. Semi-Finalists Selection and Interviews for the General Position, that the Board would not be selecting the finalists for the General Counsel position at this time and rather pursue direction to the Legal Services Committee to review the process, as well as review the job description, including someone applying from within the District, so staff could come back to the Board at a workshop, in which it could then review the process and job description. This action hereby formally stopped the interviewing process for General Counsel. Mrs. Rupert was absent for the vote. (8-0 vote)

Adjournment This meeting was adjourned at 4:38 p.m.

/dvn