NEWBERRY COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Board Meeting Minutes

DATE: September 25, 2025

LOCATION: 25440 W. Newberry Rd, Newberry FL 32669

CALL TO ORDER: 6:30pm by Derek Danne, Chair

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Derek Danne (Chair), Chuck Clemons, Leslie Hayes Morrison (Treasurer), Veronica Kadala (Secretary); Leslie McGehee was not in attendance; Quorum present by roll call

OTHERS PRESENT: Principal Designee/ Lacy Roberts; Parent Representative/ Leslie Hayes Morrison

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Motion to adopt agenda as distributed. Made by: Chuck Clemons; seconded by: Leslie Hayes Morrison; passed unanimously

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING 9/9/25: Motion to approve the minutes from our last meeting on September 9th. Made by: Leslie Hayes Morrison; seconded by: Chuck Clemons; passed unanimously

PUBLIC COMMENT: Members of the community were invited to comment during discussion of each agenda item

AGENDA ITEMS

1. Domain Name: Motion to authorize Lacy Roberts to purchase a domain name for Newberry Community School, with Chair approval of the name. Made by: Leslie Hayes Morrison; seconded by: Chuck Clemons; passed unanimously.

   Discussion included that the name would be easily recognized for access by the public, as well as the term being a minimum of 3 years.

2. Emerald Data: Motion to authorize Lacy Roberts to accept the $2150.00 quote with Emerald Data for initial set up. Made by: Chuck Clemons; seconded by: Leslie Hayes-Morrison; passed unanimously.

   Discussion included an extensive presentation by Eric May, from Emerald Data. He described the services and different service levels that the company could offer, as well as the steps to create the technology needed in the school. Services provided to address immediate needs include set up of: Goggle space/ Microsoft, email, and domain name. An invitation to return with costs for the different levels of service was extended by the Board to Eric May/ Emerald Data so that future needs could be potentially contracted with them.

3. Job Listing for Principal: Motion to authorize Lacy Roberts, to move forward with posting the job listing, effective October 1, 2025, on the following sites: City of Newberry, LinkedIn, Google Jobs, and Charter Institute job board. Made by: Chuck Clemons; seconded by: Leslie Hayes-Morrison; passed unanimously.

4. Public Records Custodian: Motion to designate Lacy Roberts, Consultant, as the Public Records Custodian for Newberry Community School. Made by: Veronica Kadala; seconded by: Chuck Clemons; passed unanimously
5. Marketing: Motion to authorize Lacy Roberts, Consultant, to move forward with one time cost proposal by Liquid, for Website Design, Branding & Messaging, and 12 Month Comprehensive Marketing & Communications Plan. Made by: Chuck Clemons; seconded by: Leslie Hayes Morrison; passed unanimously.

Discussion included more detailed description of the services under each area. Also noted was that the price for this is within range of the budget, as well as being considered reasonable in comparison to others. It was also recommended that everything done should be proprietary to NCS, and writable vs. PDF. Additional comments reflected the need to get this in place and running as quickly as possible.

6. Board Policies: Discussion only about reviewing model policies provided by Shawn Arnold, attorney, before adopting any policies. It was decided to review all policies and push adoption of policies to the next Board meeting.
7. Consultant Update: Motion to allow the Chair to approve Consultant hours that exceed 50 per month. Made by: Leslie Hayes Morrison; seconded by: Chuck Clemons; passed unanimously.

Lacy Roberts, Consultant reported on her activities:

a. The Meeting with teachers, held earlier today, was very positive. A lot of questions were asked/ answered. Benefits were also presented/ discussed.

b. Based on information from the Charter Institute, the use of Boarddoc is not considered appropriate for NCS at this time. Google Suite or Microsoft would serve our needs better and at a better price.

c. She had a meeting with the Charter Institute that recommended a grant writer in Jacksonville, who she will meet up with soon.

d. She knows, and communicated with, a potential Transportation consultant who is an experienced expert in the field, and may be available to help NCS with Transportation.

e. She reported that the 501(c) 3 is in progress and near finalization.

f. Insurance for the board (error, omission, crime) has been secured.

g. Some board members have already completed, and some still need to complete, the Sunshine Law and Ethics training. She encouraged that this be completed as soon as possible in order to present the certificates of completion to the District.

h. She brought up a question to the attorney about whether the fingerprinting needed for SBAC Volunteer 2 status would suffice for the fingerprinting required of Board members. Shawn Arnold, attorney, replied that if it went through the Clearinghouse, he would agree that it should.

i. Lacy reported that the City has offered a space in the Little Red School House for her and teachers, interested in contributing, to meet and work on projects to help get NCS ready to open. She asked that it be set up with tables, a computer, and a printer for them to use

j. Lacy requested that the correct dates for Board meetings, through the rest of the calendar year (2025), be read into the minutes and included on the City website until the NCS website is established: 10/ 7/ 25, 10/ 20/ 25, 11/ 4/ 25, 11/ 17/ 25, 12/ 2/ 25, 12/15/ 25.

LEGAL UPDATE: Shawn Arnold, attorney, reported that he had attended the state Board meeting yesterday and that the results indicated that NCS was victorious on the appeal by SBAC. The board of Education determined that the alleged concerns brought by the SBAC, were voted to be incorrect and did not show competent, substantial evidence. SBAC may continue to seek legal recourse, but we will take steps to be sure that any appeal does not stop initiation of our process.

BOARD COMMENTS: Chair Danne acknowledged that the desire for livestreaming the Board meetings has been brought to his attention. However, at this time, with the frequency of the Board meetings, the cost ($250/ meeting; $500/ month) would be money not going to student needs, and so will not be spent in this way at this time.

He also reflected on the Board of Education meeting that he attended yesterday – that it was a great hearing and very interesting. He stated that the SBAC was not presented in the best light at the hearing. He suggested that the NCS Board create a social media policy.

Leslie Hayes Morrison expressed appreciation to Lacy Roberts regarding the Teacher Meeting held today, and for the members of the public who showed up and participated in this meeting tonight.

MEETING ADJOURNED: at 8:00pm; by Derek Danne, Chair.