

Newberry Community School

Board Meeting Minutes

October 20, 2025
6:30 PM

Newberry City Hall
25440 W Newberry Rd.
Newberry FL, 32669

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Derek Danne (Chair); Chuck Clemons; Leslie Hayes Morrison (Treasurer); Leslie McGeehee (Vice Chair), Veronica Kadala (Secretary); Quorum present by roll call.

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Motion to approve agenda as distributed. Made by Leslie Hayes Morrison, seconded by Chuck Clemons; no discussion needed; passed unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA: Motion to approve consent agenda. Made by Leslie Hayes Morrison, seconded by Leslie McGeehee; no discussion needed; passed unanimously.

1. Approval of Minutes from Prior Meeting (9/25/25)

PUBLIC COMMENT (LIMIT TO 2 MINUTES)

1. Jordan Marlowe (city manager) requested that an item be added to the agenda that would establish one standard day/ time for the meeting of the board

AGENDA ITEMS

1. Liquid Creative/ Scott Schroeder presented information about what his company has been working on so far, including the logo and website. He also provided information about future marketing and branding options and prices. A logo and color scheme were selected, and web design were presented and suggestions to improve it were made. He will continue to work with the consultant, Lacy Roberts. The board indicated wanting to provide the needed marketing, while being cognizant of the cost. Scott will return with more of a cost break down in price according to services provided. He indicated the typical costs, according to school size, that can be expected. Because this is an already existing school (vs. a completely new school), less in the way of marketing may be needed. It was suggested that the board can approve the basic services, plus any others deemed necessary, and reassess the needs around March (2026).
2. Principal Hiring Update: Jordan Marlowe (City Manager) presented information about the status of principal applications so far. Out of the 11 total applications submitted, 5 did not meet the baseline qualifications that had been established. Of the 6 remaining, some assessments were not yet finished – but should be finished by Wednesday of this week. Jordan Marlowe suggested some possible next steps for the board to consider in the selection process. Based on the applications and information provided by the City's HR department/ Tracy Fair, each board member will individually select his/ her top 3 candidates and submit them to the HR department by 11/3/25. The overall top candidates would be determined and announced on 11/4/25. Following that, the board will establish and follow a procedure for interviewing those candidates.

CONSULTANT UPDATE:

1. Lacy Roberts reported that she attended the Charter Conference in Orlando, where she was able to meet with a variety of vendors and network with some very helpful and knowledgeable people.
2. Lacy had a good meeting with the current elementary school staff.
3. Lacy worked with the District and it was determined that the charter school would need its own MSID#.
4. Lacy has been investigating and getting quotes for food and transportation services.
5. Lacy has asked the district to provide an inventory of what is, and what will remain, at the school, as well as what the district may be planning to remove.
6. Lacy reported that the district Superintendent has established one person for Lacy to contact/ go through for any information. It was suggested that the principal, attorney and/ or chair be included in email requests made to the District.
7. Lacy reported that instead of applying for the Start-up grant now, she was advised that it would probably be better to wait for the new funding cycle. It is anticipated that there will be more money available for grants at that time.

LEGAL UPDATE:

Attorney, Shawn Arnold, reported:

1. that he is still waiting to hear from D.C. regarding food programs
2. that we have the final order from the Florida DOE and that the district will need to consider that they are now on the clock, as well as any added expense that further actions could entail
3. that the Annual Charter School Governance Conference is coming up
4. that any fingerprinting will need to be renewed after 5 years

BOARD COMMENTS:

Derek Danne reported that he also attended the Charter Conference in Orlando and found it, and meeting the vendors there, very informative and helpful.

Leslie Hayes Morrison expressed appreciation for the marketing efforts, as well as building trust with the community

MEETING ADJOURNED: By Derek Danne, Chair at 7:54pm