

**MINUTES OF THE ALABAMA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
THE STATE OF ALABAMA
JUNE 23, 2017
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA**

The Alabama State Board of Education met for a Special-Called meeting of Elementary/Secondary Education matters on Friday, June 23, 2017, at 10:10 a.m. in the auditorium of the Gordon Persons Building, Montgomery, Alabama. The meeting was called to order by the Vice President of the Board in accordance with *Alabama Code* (1975), §16-3-7, as amended.

PRESIDING: DR. YVETTE M. RICHARDSON

Mrs. Ella B. Bell did the invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance was done in unison. The following members were present:

Present

Mrs. Ella B. Bell
Mrs. Stephanie Bell
Mrs. Mary Scott Hunter
Mr. Jeff Newman
Mrs. Betty Peters
Dr. Yvette M. Richardson
Mrs. Jackie Zeigler

Absent

Governor Kay Ivey
Dr. Cynthia McCarty

Mr. Michael Sentance, State Superintendent of Education, was also present.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On motion by Mrs. Stephanie Bell and seconded by Mrs. Ella B. Bell, the agenda was approved with a unanimous vote.

Dr. Yvette Richardson recognized Attorney Dennis Bailey who addressed the Board. Attorney Bailey stated that he was representing three State Department of Education staff members with a total of 37 years combined experience. He made a formal request to provide the Board with a seven-day written response to the Meyer report. that was presented to the Board during the June 21, 2017, Special-Called meeting.

SELECTION OF OUTSIDE COUNSEL FOR THE ALABAMA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

There was a discussion period pertaining to candidates for the position. Mrs. Mary Scott Hunter pointed out that the term "General Counsel" suggested that the Board was replacing current general counsel and suggested that the proper term for the selection be "Outside Counsel" rather than "General Counsel" for the Alabama State Board of Education. Mrs. Stephanie Bell informed Board members that Attorney Mark P. Williams withdrew his name. Mrs. Mary Scott Hunter informed the Board that she was not consulted. Mrs. Ella B. Bell submitted Attorney H. Lewis Gillis' name. Mrs. Stephanie Bell spoke on behalf of Attorney Gillis stating that she did not see a conflict of interest and that his point of contact should be Mr. Michael Meyer. After the discussion period regarding Attorney Gillis' profile, motion was made by Mrs. Ella B. Bell and seconded by Mrs. Stephanie Bell for Attorney H. Lewis Gillis, Means and Gillis Law Firm, LL.C., to serve as Outside Counsel for the Alabama State Board of Education. The law firm, Means and Gillis, LL.C., was included in the motion. The Board voted unanimously in support of the motion. Pertinent information is filed in the Board folder dated June 23, 2017.

On motion by Mrs. Stephanie Bell and seconded by Mrs. Ella B. Bell, the meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

Vice President

Secretary and Executive Officer