

**Minutes**  
**Arkansas Virtual Academy**  
**Board of Directors Meeting**  
**March 16, 2010**

**Board Members Present**

Jerry C. Jones - Chair  
John Riggs- Sec/Treasurer  
Susan Allerheiligen  
Angela Driskill  
Kevin Smith

**Staff Present**

Karen Ghidotti- HOS  
Lisa Williams  
Susan Underwood  
Monique Houston

**Media Present**

**Board Members Not Present**

Lepaine Sharp-McHenry –  
Vice Chair

**Others Present**

Nickole Ellis, Thomas &  
Thomas, LLP  
Cale Turner, Thomas &  
Thomas, LLP  
Teresa Scavulli, K12

**Call to Order**

Board Chair, Jerry Jones, called the board meeting to order at 4:32 p.m., then asked for a roll call and declared a quorum.

<p><b>MOTION:</b> by Angela Driskill and seconded by John Riggs to approve the December 2, 2009, ARVA Board Meeting minutes as written. Motion carried 5-0.</p>
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**Board Chair's Report**

Jerry Jones, Board Chair, requested an update from the Search Committee on the progress of finding a potential candidate to fill the vacant ARVA Board seat.

John Riggs informed the Board that Lepaine Sharp-McHenry has a colleague who is very interested in filling the vacant board seat. Mr. Riggs made a request that the discussion of the potential candidate for the vacant Board seat be placed on the agenda for the next Board meeting due to the fact Ms. McHenry was not present today.

**School/Director's Report**

Karen Ghidotti, Head of School, welcomed and introduced to the Board the official new Head of School, Scott Sides. Mr. Sides' start date will be June 1, 2010. He has signed a non-disclosure agreement with K12 and will be engaged in several school events between now and June 1.

Scott Sides thanked the Board for this opportunity. He expressed his excitement and commitment to Arkansas Virtual Academy. Mr. Sides shared that he is looking forward to working with the ARVA Board and staff.

**MOTION:** by John Riggs and seconded by Angela Driskill to move items out of order and move up the audit report on the agenda. Motion carried 5-0.

### **Audit Report**

Nickole Ellis, Senior Auditor, Thomas & Thomas, LLP thanked the ARVA staff for their help and cooperation. Ms. Ellis explained the Independent Audit Report and findings.

Ms. Ellis submitted a letter outlining the responsibilities both for Thomas & Thomas and the Arkansas Virtual Academy. She emphasized that the report is a good report and the audit went well. Ms. Ellis introduced Cale Turner, Tax Manager for Thomas & Thomas, to discuss the new IRS Form 990.

Cale Turner shared with the Board the new parts of the IRS Form 990 Disclosure Requirements which focus on the governing body and the board policies that are in place. The IRS asks if a copy is provided for the review of each Board member or the Financial Officer. This is a decision that will need to be made before the Form 990 is filed. The policies that need to be in place for the fiscal year which Form 990 is filed are as follows: Written Conflict of Interest Policy, Whistle Blower Policy, and Document Retention Policy. As well as all meetings disclosed; Board members disclose business with organizations, groups, etc.; discloser of management companies; types of activities the organization is conducting; and breakdown of numbers.

John Riggs stated that under conflict of interest, ARVA uses the Financial Disclosures form and files with the State.

**MOTION:** by John Riggs and seconded by Angela Driskill to approve the Acceptance of the Audit Report dated February 23, 2010. Motion carried 5-0.

Nickole Ellis of Thomas & Thomas, LLP left the ARVA Board meeting at 5:00 p.m.

### **New and Updated Policies**

Ms. Ghidotti submitted to the board the new and updated policy of the School Property and Inventory Process. After a brief discussion, the Board made a motion.

**MOTION:** by John Riggs and seconded by Angela Driskill to approve the adoption of the School Property and Inventory Process. Motion carried 5-0.

Ms. Ghidotti introduced Teresa Scavulli, Teacher Effectiveness Trainer for K12, to the Board. Ms. Scavulli demonstrated for the Board the components of the new Learning Management System (LMS) Platform, the new Math+ which is based on current research and aligned with state standards, and the Mark12 Reading intense reading courses.

### **Legislative Updates**

Ms. Ghidotti provided the Board with a summary of events that transpired during the 2010 Arkansas Legislative session.

### **State Testing Plan**

Ms. Ghidotti shared with the Board the testing dates as mandated by the state, the eleven regional testing sites, the training of testing administrators and the plans for testing security.

### **2010-11 Enrollment / Lottery**

Ms. Ghidotti reported to the Board that the ARVA administration provided Parent Information Sessions in the communities of Eudora, Helena/West Helena, Blytheville, and Monticello.

The Lottery Application Process for the school year 2010-11 opened on March 1 and will close on April 15. The first week there were 403 lottery applications.

The Chair asked if there were any comments from the public or press. No response.

The Chair asked if there was any other business.

<p><b>MOTION:</b> by Angela Driskill and seconded by Kevin Smith to adjourn. Motion carried 5-0.</p>
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Meeting adjourned at 6:05 p.m.