



GOVERNING COUNCIL

Meeting of the SAMS Academy Governing Council on
Wednesday, May 19, 2021

Zoom.us

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Larry Kennedy, Roland Dewing, Alex Carothers, Farrah Nickerson, and Mike Romo

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Ed Smith

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

Bridget Barrett, Nathan Hardin, Sean Fry, Connie Dove and Kelly Callahan, Sue Griffith,
Richard Romero

PUBLIC

None

These minutes were approved on _____

By a vote of ___ yes ___no ___absent ___abstained

_____ President

_____ Secretary

I. Call to Order

Larry Kennedy called to order the Regular Meeting of the Governing Council for the Southwest Aeronautics, Mathematics, and Science Academy on May 19, 2021 at 4:30 PM on zoom.us.

A. Roll Call

Larry Kennedy asked Jill Brame to call roll. Jill Brame called Larry Kennedy, Roland Dewing, Farrah Nickerson, Alex Carothers, and Mike Romo. Ed Smith was absent.

B. Adoption of the Agenda*

Larry informed the governing council that the lobbyists were present and he would like to move their item before closed session. Larry Kennedy asked for a motion to approve the amended agenda. Farrah Nickerson made a motion to approve the amended agenda. Mike Romo seconded the motion. Larry Kennedy called for a roll call vote to approve the agenda. Jill Brame called Mike Romo, Alex Carothers, Farrah Nickerson, Roland Dewing, and Larry Kennedy; all voted yes. The motion carried unanimously.

C. Review/Approval of Minutes from April 21, 2021*

Larry asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the April 21 regular meeting. Farrah Nickerson made a motion to approve the minutes. Roland Dewing seconded the motion. Larry Kennedy called for a roll call vote to approve the minutes from April 21, 2021. Jill Brame called Mike Romo, Alex Carothers, Farrah Nickerson, Roland Dewing, and Larry Kennedy; all voted yes. The motion carried unanimously.

* Sue Griffith and Richard Romero spoke here. See notes under new business.

II. Closed Session

A. Real Property Acquisition, pursuant to NMSA 1978, Section 10-15-1(H)(8).

B. Limited personnel matters, head administrator evaluation, pursuant to NMSA 1978, Section 10-15-1(H)(2).

Larry Kennedy made a motion to move to closed session due to real property acquisition, pursuant to NMSA 1978, section 10-15-1(H)(8) and limited personnel matters, head administrator evaluation, pursuant to NMSA 1978, section 10-15-1(H)(2). Farrah Nickerson seconded. Larry Kennedy called for a roll call vote to approve moving to closed session. Jill Brame called Mike Romo, Alex Carothers, Farrah Nickerson, Roland Dewing, and Larry Kennedy; all voted yes. The motion carried unanimously.

Larry Kennedy said the governing council would meet first and then Bridget Barrett would be invited into closed session.

Closed session began at 4:44PM.

III. Open Session

A. Action on matters discussed in Closed Session

Larry Kennedy made a motion to return to open session and affirmed that only items on the agenda were discussed and no action was taken. Farrah Nickerson seconded the motion. Larry Kennedy called for a roll call vote to approve moving back to open session. Jill Brame called Mike Romo, Alex Carothers, Farrah Nickerson, Roland Dewing, and Larry Kennedy; all voted yes. The motion carried unanimously.

Open session resumed at 5:21PM.

IV. Public Comment

None.

V. Administrative Update

A. Student Achievement Report

Bridget Barrett reported:

- data on students finishing their classes
- enrollment for 21-22 school year is looking good. We currently have over 300 students interested in school at SAMS Academy.
- 7 Juniors took the SAT
- She shared a mission minute – story from a senior about her experience at SAMS Academy.

B. In-Person Learning Update

Cumulative exams are taking place during this school week. The last day for students is May 21.

C. Graduation Report

Graduation took place on May 14th. 32 student graduated – 30 walked during the ceremony.

VI. Ongoing Business Matters

A. Aviation Program Update

Nathan reported the following:

- * 19 missions have been flown since last meeting
- * First Recreational pilot check ride was successful – 100% check ride pass rate in the last two years.
- * N739HK is in Addison, TX for first round of upgrades and overhauls to interior and avionics.
- * There will be a ground class prepping students for written test – 21 students are enrolled.

B. Facility Committee Update

Larry Kennedy said the facility committee hasn't met since April. Larry Kennedy asked Connie Dove to give an update on progress. Connie Dove gave drawings for the traffic plan, the LPA is progressing with attorneys exchanging comments Steve Nakamura said plans are about 70% complete. Farrah Nickerson asked about the plans for the building. Farrah Nickerson also asked about a schedule for percentage of completion. Connie Dove said Steve Nakamura is committed to the final number. Larry Kennedy asked if we could see the 70% drawings of the floor plan – drawings of the building from the architect. Connie Dove said she will pass this along to Steve Nakamura to get the drawings. Roland Dewing said the HOA is a concern. Connie Dove said the HOA will be Steve Nakamura's concern.

VII. Governing Council Development

A. Discussion with Kelly Callahan

Kelly Callahan said this would be her last formal meeting for the 20-21 school year. The governing council has met all the hours needed. Kelly Callahan is interested in continuing this partnership if the governing council is interested for the 21-22 school year. Larry Kennedy asked her about doing onboarding for new members. Kelly Callahan looks forward to working with the SAMS governing council again.

VIII. New Business Matters

A. Accept Resignation of Governing Council Member*

Larry Kennedy informed the governing council that he received a letter of resignation from LyDawn Blount on April 21. The governing council needs to accept the letter for the letter to be in effect. Farrah Nickerson made a motion to accept the resignation letter from LyDawn Blount. Alex Carothers seconded the motion. Larry Kennedy called for a roll call vote to accept the resignation letter. Jill Brame called Mike Romo, Alex Carothers, Farrah Nickerson, Roland Dewing, and Larry Kennedy; all voted yes. The motion carried unanimously.

B. Election of Officers: President, Vice-President, Secretary*

Larry Kennedy reminded everyone that every year the governing council needs to elect officers. Larry Kennedy said he would continue to serve as the president and also asked if anyone else wants to take this role. Farrah Nickerson said she would continue as vice-president unless someone else wanted the position. Roland Dewing also said he would continue the position as secretary unless another wanted the role. Being that no one else volunteered for a position, Mike Romo made a motion for Larry Kennedy to remain President, Farrah Nickerson remain the vice-president, and Roland Dewing to serve as the secretary. Alex Carothers seconded the motion. Larry Kennedy called for a roll call vote to approve the officers for FY22. Jill Brame called Mike Romo, Alex Carothers,

Farrah Nickerson, Roland Dewing, and Larry Kennedy; all voted yes. The motion carried unanimously.

C. Permanent Cash Transfer*

Sean Fry explained that there was positive balance on the lease assistance. Moving the cash from lease assistance to operational will clear the fund. Larry Kennedy called for a motion. Farrah Nickerson made a motion to approve the permanent cash transfer. Alex Carothers seconded the motion. Larry Kennedy called for a roll call vote to approve the permanent cash transfer. Jill Brame called Mike Romo, Alex Carothers, Farrah Nickerson, Roland Dewing, and Larry Kennedy; all voted yes. The motion carried unanimously.

D. Lobbyist Report

Sue Griffith introduced herself and Richard Romero. Sue Griffith and Richard Romero reported that SAMS Academy had good support from Rep. Joy Garratt and Senator Pope. There were many new items from this legislative session. SAMS Academy was authorized for capital outlay (\$100,000) and \$60,000 was reauthorized – thanks to Joy Garratt. They suggested we should reach out and thank her. One bill that passed that is good for charter schools is that staff members can have their children at their school without going through the lottery process. Sue and Richard will continue to advocate for charter schools.

IX. Finance Report

A. Business Office Operation Update

Sean reported that the finance committee met before the board meeting. Everything is looking good and every fund is positive. He is working on cash carry-over. The governing council will need to have a special meeting to approve the FY22 budget. He suggested May 26.

He also reported:

- * Revenues are 84.3% of budget.
- * Expenditures are 55.5% of the budget

B. Voucher Approvals*

Larry said that the Finance Committee recommends the check register. Larry called for a motion to approve the vouchers. Farrah Nickerson made a motion to approve the vouchers. Alex Carothers seconded the motion. Larry Kennedy called for a roll call vote to approve the vouchers. Jill Brame called Mike Romo, Alex Carothers, Farrah Nickerson, Roland Dewing, and Larry Kennedy; all voted yes. The motion carried unanimously.

C. Budget Adjustment Requests*

BARs 26-D: Larry called for a motion to approve BAR 26-D. Farrah Nickerson made a motion to approve BAR 26-D. Alex Carothers seconded the motion. Larry Kennedy called for a roll call vote to approve BAR 26-D. Jill Brame called Mike Romo, Alex Carothers, Farrah Nickerson, Roland Dewing, and Larry Kennedy; all voted yes. The motion carried unanimously.

X. Announcements

A. Date for next Regular SAMS Academy Governing Council Meeting

The next regular meeting will be June 16, 2021 at 4:30 PM.

There will need to be a meeting to approve the budget. Governing council should check email for more information.

XI. Adjournment*

Larry Kennedy called for a motion to adjourn. Alex Carothers made a motion to adjourn. Farrah Nickerson seconded the motion Larry Kennedy called for a roll call vote to adjourn the meeting. Jill Brame called Mike Romo, Alex Carothers, Farrah Nickerson, Roland Dewing, and Larry Kennedy; all voted yes. The motion carried unanimously.

The regular meeting of the Governing Council for the Southwest Aeronautics, Mathematics and Science Academy adjourned on May 19, 2021 on zoom.us at 6:25 PM.