

BOARD OF EDUCATION SCHOOL DISTRICT 149  
MINUTES OF  
THE SPECIAL BOARD MEETING  
December 4, 2024

The Board Meeting convened at 6:32 p.m.

**Roll Call:** Present: Mrs. Crisler-Liggon, Ms. Jemine, Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. De Vasher-Williams, Mrs. Elston, Mrs. Gray-Everett and Mr. Tillman

Also in attendance: Dr. Maureen White, Attorney Ed Wong, Janene Preston, DeWayne Anderson, Stacy Miles, Torreon Walker, Chief Pointer, Jamar Everett, John Shields, Edward Clark, Shalisa Harvey, G. Waltz, R. Hudson, Denise Pierson, Robert Pierson, Vivian Allen, Stephanie Boone, Lynnette Crenshaw, Georgia Williams, Aderman Ramonde Williams, Paula P., Yvonne Covington, Terry Barnes, Vicki Gavin and Chris Gonzalez

**The Pledge of Allegiance** – Said by all

**Meeting Open for Public Comments** –

Alderman Ramonde Williams addressed the Board regarding the motion to replace the previous attorney. He stated that he has questions as to why there is a sudden change and why the Board would go backward and use the previous attorney who was used to remove a seated board member when the Board does not have the authority to do any like that. Alderman Williams would appreciate responses to his questions at a later date.

Yvonne Covington stated the playground at Berger-Vandenberg is pitiful and needs to be upgraded.

**New Business**

Mrs. De Vasher-Williams stated that she is trying to understand the urgency for the removal of one council. When last year the Board did a process to have legal counsel chosen, whereas a presentation was actually chosen for the counsel, and now all of a sudden we are not privy to know that there was anything that was going on with the current. Mrs. De Vasher-Williams referred to the Superintendent and asked if there was anything that the board needs to know? She stated that she thought that this Board was supposed to be transparent. And if it's not transparent, then she needs to know why we're making such a hasty decision at this time.

Dr. White replied that she works at the behest of this Board and can only take directives from one person, and you all collaborate with that one person. She has been directed to move in this way and that's why you have what you have in front of you.

Mrs. De Vasher-Williams stated that the current president can't speak for everyone. We all have to come collectively to decide on something. She is just trying to figure out what is the decision as to why this urgency is happening. More upon the heels of the three of you all leaving to make a decision for the next two years that are going to take place.

Mrs. Crisler-Liggon replied that when it comes down to the council that is directing or the council that is overseeing the board, it is at the direction of at least four board members could make that change at any point in time, without question. And that's exactly what it seems is happening at this point in time.

Mr. Tillman addressed the Board stating that the Board's three most important hires are the Superintendent is number one, our legal counsel is number two, and then our architect. What we just heard was that if you get four votes, you can do anything you feel like. Without questions, the rest of your board should know no reason why a change is being made.

Mrs. Crisler-Liggons replied that the Board does have the option when they receive the documents. That was the time to ask questions. There was definitely enough time to ask questions and no questions were brought to her. The agenda is provided in advance for that purpose.

Mr. Tillman stated we could have discussed it. To simply say that we were supposed to make a phone call, he does not know how to take something like that. There could have been a closed session to discuss something. Four people got together to make a decision. No discussion, no nothing. Was there something wrong with what OMFm was doing? Was the legal services subpar?

Ms. Jemine replied that for her, there was no follow-up. The follow-up aspect of what they were doing for us. There was no follow-up.

Mrs. De Vasher-Williams stated that this was the first time she had ever heard of that.

Mr. Tillman stated that this is the same exact question he was asking a year and a half ago when we were when we were discussing the possibility of change in council. And the question he asked, in fact, was did they provide good service. And there was a little bit of discussion and something to the effect of us needing a fresh start. So is no follow-up for the reason that we are now looking to terminate the council at the table now and change council.

Mrs. Crisler-Liggons replied yes, it is

<p><b>MOTION</b> by Ms. Jemine, seconded by Mrs. Jolly to approve the dismissal of Odelson, Murphy, Frazier &amp; McGrath Ltd. as legal counsel for Dolton School District 149.  <b>ROLL CALL TO VOTE:</b> Aye: Ms. Jemine, Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Gray-Everett and Mrs. Crisler-Liggons. Nay: Mr. Tillman, Mrs. Elston and Mrs. De Vasher-Williams.  <b>MOTION CARRIED</b></p>	<p>AGENDA ITEM E1</p>
<p><b>MOTION</b> by Ms. Jemine, seconded by Mrs. Jolly, to appoint Del Galdo Law Group, LLC as legal counsel for Dolton School District 149.  <b>ROLL CALL TO VOTE:</b> Aye: Ms. Jemine, Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Gray-Everett and Mrs. Crisler-Liggons.  Nay: Mrs. De Vasher-Williams, Mr. Tillman and Mrs. Elston.  <b>MOTION CARRIED</b></p>	<p>AGENDA ITEM E2</p>

**Adjournment**

<p><b>MOTION</b> by Mrs. Jolly, seconded by Ms. Jemine to adjourn the board meeting at 6:48 p.m.  <b>ROLL CALL VOTE:</b> ALL IN FAVOR SAID AYE  <b>MOTION CARRIED</b></p>	<p>AGENDA ITEM F</p>
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Lolita Crisler-Liggons, President

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Bertha Jolly, Secretary