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| <b>WAY MICHIGAN ACADEMY</b> |
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407 East Fort - Suite 201

Detroit, MI 48226

Telephone: 313.638.2716

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**SPECIAL MEETING  
WAY MICHIGAN ACADEMY BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

DATE: 8/31/2023

TIME: 6:00 pm

LOCATION: Globe Building

407 E. Fort

Suite 201

DETROIT, MI 48226

**APPROVED**

|                |
|----------------|
| <b>MINUTES</b> |
|----------------|

MEETING TYPE:   ☐ REGULAR    ☒ SPECIAL    ☐ PROPOSED    ☒ APPROVED

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

PRESIDENT DAVID BEAUMONT called the meeting to order at 6:00 ☒ P.M./ ☐ A.M. on Thursday, August 31, 2023.

**II. ROLL CALL**

|                                     |   |  |
|-------------------------------------|---|--|
| Dr. David Beaumont, President       | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present | <input type="checkbox"/> Absent            |
| Ms. Marquita Tharpe, Vice-President | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present | <input type="checkbox"/> Absent            |
| Dr. Tamara Halliburton, Secretary   | <input type="checkbox"/> Present            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Absent |
| Dr. Schequita Owens, Treasurer      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present | <input type="checkbox"/> Absent            |

**ADMINISTRATION**

Mr. Isaiah Pettway, Superintendent, WAY

Mr. James Pack, Director of Programs, WAY Michigan Academy

Ms. Kelli Glenn, Interim Finance Director (Virtual)

Ms. Sherry Lynem, Interim Finance Director

**OTHERS PRESENT (all or a portion of the meeting)**

Mrs. Vanessa Gulley, Board Liaison, Provision

Mr. Fred Borowski, Field Operations, CMU

***THE PROPOSED AGENDA WAS DISTRIBUTED.***

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I. **PUBLIC COMMENT** *(on agenda items only)*

No public comment.

II. **APPROVAL OF THE Thursday, August 31, 2023 MEETING AGENDA**

**MOTION:** VICE PRESIDENT MARQUITA THARPE MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE Thursday, August 31, 2023 MEETING AGENDA AS PRESENTED.

**SUPPORT:** TREASURER SHEQUITA OWENS SECONDED.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY ROLL CALL VOTE.**

III. **APPROVAL OF THE THURSDAY, JULY 13, 2023 MEETING MINUTES**

**MOTION:** PRESIDENT DAVID BEAUMONT MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE THURSDAY, JULY 13, 2023 MEETING MINUTES AS PRESENTED.

**SUPPORT:** VICE PRESIDENT MARQUITA THARPE SECONDED.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY ROLL CALL VOTE.**

IV. **OLD BUSINESS**

a. **BOARD COMPUTER DEVICES- UPDATE**

**Superintendent Pettway** informed board members that either a laptop or an I-Pad could be made available for their use. He also noted that the I-Pad may cost a bit more but would provide greater longevity.

**PRESIDENT BEAUMONT** asked how much was in the board's line item

**Ms. Glenn** responded:

- Mileage 2K
- Board PD 5K
- Food 600
- Misc. 500

**PRESIDENT BEAUMONT** asked that an inquiry be made with Dr. Halliburton to assess her need for a device.

**Superintendent Pettway** also offered that instead of providing devices to each member, they could be set up for use at the meeting and members would not have to be responsible for them.

**MEMBERS** agreed that this was the best solution.

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**V. NEW BUSINESS****a. TRANSPARENCY CERTIFICATION**

**Superintendent Pettway** reported that all document items are up to date as listed except the Audit and Enrollment. He disclosed that the updates will be made to the website when these items are completed in October and November.

**VI. ESP REPORTS****a. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT**

**Superintendent Pettway** reported:

- Introduction of Mr. James Pack as the new Director of Schools for WAY Michigan
  - He has significant experience in Cyber schools
- **Enrollment**
  - Goal 160 scholars, but the budget is based on an enrollment of 140 students
  - Current enrollment
    - 125 completely enrolled
    - 32 applicants in progress
      - The academy has never been this close to the enrollment target at this time of the year
  - Held virtual open house
    - 80 confirmed students participated
    - 15 of the 32 pending students attended
  - Will be holding regional bonding events this year
- **Academic**
  - Will be holding first School Improvement meeting with the State in September
  - All grants are due by midnight 8/31, but were submitted last week

**PRESIDENT BEAUMONT** asked if all necessary technology is in place.

**Superintendent Pettway** responded that an audit had just been completed and the team is ordering 32 new Chromebooks.

- **Staffing**
  - Director of Schools was the only staff change this year
  - Seeking a math interventionist this year

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- Interviews have taken place and is extending an offer to the candidate

#### b. WAY MICH DIRECTOR REPORT

**Superintendent Pettway** noted that he would be reporting out due to the newness of Mr. Pack in the position but also noted that he would be giving the report in the future. Superintendent Pettway reported:

- 6 researchers graduated in July
- Reviewed the written report metrics

**Superintendent Pettway** noted that he forgot to mention that this is the reauthorization year for the academy and the team is working to address the items. He has held off on discussions with the landlord regarding the lease until they hear from CMU. He is also looking for the rent to increase significantly due to the increase in market; will begin analysis discussions.

**PRESIDENT BEAUMONT** asked if the budget provides protection for increases.

**Ms. Glenn** responded that the rent has not been considered for the budget this year but will be for next year's budget.

### VII. FINANCIAL REPORT

#### a. July 2023 Financial Statements

**Ms. Glenn** reported:

- Reviewed the summary documents
- Requested that \$141,486.50 be transferred
  - Amount comprised of AP as of July 31, August vendor invoices, and payroll liabilities from 7/28, 8/11, and 8/25

**VICE PRESIDENT THARPE** asked if the 7/31 was a prepay

**Ms. Glenn** responded in the affirmative.

**PRESIDENT BEAUMONT** asked if the vendor invoices are outside vendors such as Provision.

**Ms. Glenn** responded in the affirmative, that they are all school specific invoices.

**PRESIDENT BEAUMONT** clarified and asked in the amount requested to be transferred includes all items and bills which were also so call the 'academy' bills.

**Ms. Glenn** responded in the affirmative.

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**PRESIDENT BEAUMONT** asked if there was anything that surprised the team regarding the finances

**Ms. Glenn** responded that as school has just begun, there is not. She also noted that she is very happy to hear the enrollment numbers.

**PRESIDENT BEAUMONT** asked where the academy is in the process of the SAN borrowing.

**Ms. Glenn** responded that the academy should receive funding by next week.

**VICE PRESIDENT THARPE** noted that a correction is necessary in the finances regarding reimbursement of the parking lot fees. She noted that it is listed at an amount of \$10.50 where it should be on \$10.00.

**Superintendent Pettway** disclosed that the amount depends on the parking lot that is utilized.

**MOTION: TREASURER SHEQUITA OWENS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE TRANSFER OF \$141,486.50 AS REQUESTED.**

**SUPPORT: VICE PRESIDENT MARQUITA THARPE SECONDED.**

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY ROLL CALL VOTE.**

**b. AUDIT UPDATE**

**Ms. Sherri Lymen** reported that the document list has been requested from the auditor and the audit will begin the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of September.

**VIII. CORRESPONDENCE**

None

**IX. EXTENDED PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**X. AUTHORIZER COMMENTS**

**Mr. Borowski** reported:

- The annual conference was successful and planning to convene the same week and venue next year
  - Greater focus on teacher needs
- This is the reauthorization year
- Review of the CMU Academic Report
  - HS report forth coming
  - Will be reviewing the trend next year
  - Good news: reading increases

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**XI. BOARD COMMENTS**

**PRESIDENT BEAUMONT** requested that Mrs. Gulley take a look at the year and provide some recommendations on where the board can partner with its legal counsel to think about reauthorization and what will need to be done as they consider the future of the academy.


**XII. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION: VICE-PRESIDENT MARQUITA THARPE** MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 7.02 ☒ P.M./ ☐ A.M.

**SUPPORT: TREASURER SCHEQUITA OWENS** SECONDED.  
**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**MINUTES CERTIFICATION**

Proposed minutes respectfully submitted,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Recording Secretary

9/7/2023  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Approved by the WAY Michigan Academy Board of Directors:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Board Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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