BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR BOARD MEETING Tuesday, June 13, 2017

Renaissance High School 6565 W. Outer Drive Detroit, MI 48235

MINUTES

Call to Order

The Regular Board Meeting for the Detroit Public Schools Community District was called to order by President and Chair Dr. Iris Taylor at 6:09pm.

Roll Call

Secretary to the Board, Karen Morgan called the roll:

Present: Deborah Hunter-Harvill, Georgia Lemmons, LaMar Lemmons, Sonya Mays, *Angelique Peterson Mayberry, Misha Stallworth, and Iris Taylor

*via Facetime

There being a quorum present, the meeting was declared in session.

Meeting Norms

Meeting Norms were read to the audience by Chair

Moment of Silence

Chair called for a moment of silence

Student Presentation

Color Guard, "Star Spangled Banner", and "Lift Every Voice and Sing"

Welcome

Welcome and greetings were given by Anita Williams, Principal.

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Approval of the Agenda

Treasurer Mays motion to approve the agenda Vice President Peterson-Mayberry seconded

Member L. Lemmons stated he did not see on the agenda a discussion on the issue of the Durfee contract and expenditures as well as clarification of obligation to honor contract specifically for the first 30 days. He then asked if it would be covered under the President's Report or the EAA Transition Report.

Chair stated the Durfee contract will be covered under the President's Report with additional items discussed under the EAA Transition Report.

Treasurer Mays motion to amend the agenda to add an adjustment to Turning Point Academy's transition that will be an action item before Out-of-State Travel.

Vice President Peterson-Mayberry seconded

Roll call

Deborah Hunter-Harvill Yes
Georgia Lemmons Yes
LaMar Lemmons Yes
Sonya Mays Yes
Angelique Peterson-Mayberry Yes
Misha Stallworth Yes
Iris Taylor Yes

Motion Carried without objection

Chair motion to approve the agenda in its entirety

Member L. Lemmons seconded

Roll call

Deborah Hunter-Harvill Yes Georgia Lemmons Yes LaMar Lemmons Yes Sonya Mays Yes

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Angelique Peterson-Mayberry Yes
Misha Stallworth Yes
Iris Taylor Yes

Motion Carried without objection

President's Report

Chair congratulated all 2017 Graduates and thanked the Board members for attending the District's graduation ceremonies.

Chair addressed the Durfee Contract issue by providing the legal opinion of Counsel on the concerns brought forth as follows:

- It was stated that the Durfee lease was unconstitutional and illegal. Counsel's opinion is according to Public Act 192, stating the Transition Manager had power and authority to and including distribution of leases on behalf of the School District.
- Constitutionally, did it require an elected body to approve the lease. According to public opinion, the Michigan Constitution does not prohibit use of funds and property for private school use.
- The Durfee lease is a viable lease and is there an opportunity where the lease can be broken. There are specific terms in the lease whereby the lease can only be broken if Life Remodeled breaches the terms of the lease. What are the options. The options are to have a conversation with life remodeled and lay out specific requirements if this lease was to go forward.

Member L. Lemmons stated in terms of the legal opinion the State Legislature and Michigan laws have been struck down when challenged numerous times. The State cannot take property without due process of law. Durfee belongs exclusively to the city of Detroit and not state of Michigan. The Board should challenge the law under the Headlee Amendment and as a violation of the 14th Amendment.

Secretary Stallworth received an outside legal opinion that supported Counsel's opinion stating an option for an amendment to the lease or a supplemental Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

Chair stated Durfee moving into Central was not to create a new school but to have two (2) schools in the same building. Considering Durfee has been leased to Life Remodeled, the Board must make a decision to agree with the movement of the students.

Treasurer Mays motion to authorize the movement of the Durfee students from the existing Durfee building into Central at the start of the Fiscal Year 2017-2018.

Secretary Stallworth seconded

Member Dr. Hunter-Harvill asked for a possible friendly amendment to make it one school using the name "Durfee at Central" stating that it could place the District in an innovative light to be the second school District with a K-12 building.

Treasurer Mays will table her motion to authorize movement of the Durfee students from the existing Durfee into Central at the start of the Fiscal Year 2017-2018 until the Academic Committee Report is presented.

New Business

Chair stated the Regular Board Meeting Calendar for year 2017-2018 once modified will be posted to the Board's Website. Meetings will be held at Frederick Douglas Academy and selected schools.

Approval of Minutes

Secretary Stallworth motion to approve the minutes of May 9, 2017 Regular Meeting Vice President Peterson-Mayberry seconded Motion carried without objection

Roll call

Deborah Hunter-Harvill Yes
Georgia Lemmons Yes
LaMar Lemmons Yes
Sonya Mays Yes
Angelique Peterson-Mayberry Yes
Misha Stallworth Yes
Iris Taylor Yes
Motion Carried without objection

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Academic Report

Member and Chair Dr. Hunter-Harvill presented the report for the Curriculum/Academic Sub-Committee. Registration for the Adult Education Program is ongoing as well as discussion with Wayne RESA regarding an Academic Audit. Committee members have participated in several events in support of DPSCD students. Chair participated as a panelist for "Crisis in America's Schools" broadcast as well as attended a workshop presentation entitled "Changing the Narrative: Access, Agency, Equity and Education".

Chair recommends looking at a K-12 setting for Durfee at Central and providing parents with a summer packet for reading and mathematics to keep the educational momentum going and building on the two schools becoming one.

Committee Members are scheduled to attend graduation ceremonies at J.R. King and Frederick Douglass Academy. Chair encouraged all to attend an upcoming seminar entitled "All A Board" sponsored by Secretary Stallworth.

Superintendent, Dr. Nikolai Vitti provided thoughts on Chair Dr. Hunter-Harvill's recommendation on a plan for a K-12 School for Durfee at Central stating Durfee at Central could have the unique opportunity to create a model. The Academic Plan needs to be strengthened to insure success which includes working with staff to create a comprehensive plan for the K-12 Model which would also include a homework plan.

Dr. Vitti further stated before the Board takes action on a comprehensive K-12 school, the District would have to secure authorization for a new school code. Superintendent visited both Durfee and Central and although he agrees with Member L. Lemmon's legitimate concerns based on Legal's opinion he does not know how much room there is to get out of the existing contract. Dr. Vitti believes the children moving into central is in the best interest of the children considering the amount of resources that were put in the building for remodeling. The opportunity moving forward would be to hold Life remodeled to a new contract with deliverables that are clear and if they are not met there is an opportunity to break the contract.

Member Dr. Hunter-Harvill asked Superintendent Dr. Vitti if the schools would be under two different school codes and if current data states the school is not achieving.

Superintendent Dr. Vitti replied "yes".

Member Dr. Hunter-Harvill asked Superintendent that if both schools were under one new school code would all data cancel out beginning a baseline data for the upcoming school year.

Superintendent Dr. Vitti replied he believed that could be an opportunity, however, it would need to be explored by the department.

Member L. Lemmons stated the Board needs to challenge the Durfee contract and all the actions of the Transition Manager done without transparency or direct local public oversight.

Chair Dr. Hunter-Harvill acknowledged Thirkell Third Grade Teacher Ingrid Rivers who shared a clip regarding encouraging words to DPSCD.

Treasurer Mays motion to accept the Academic Curriculum Sub-Committee Report Secretary Stallworth seconded

Roll call

Deborah Hunter-Harvill Yes
Georgia Lemmons Yes
LaMar Lemmons Yes
Sonya Mays Yes
Angelique Peterson-Mayberry Yes
Misha Stallworth Yes
Iris Taylor Yes

Motion Carried without objection

Member L. Lemmons motion for the Board to move to void the Durfee contract Member G. Lemmons seconded

Roll call

Deborah Hunter-Harvill No
Georgia Lemmons Yes
LaMar Lemmons Yes
Sonya Mays No
Angelique Peterson-Mayberry No
Misha Stallworth No

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Iris Taylor Motion Failed

Education Achievement Authority Transition (EAA) Ad Hoc Committee Report

No

Treasurer and Chair Mays presented the EAA Transition Ad Hoc Committee Report. The committee's focus is to transition the eleven (11) EAA schools back into DPSCD. The Ad Hoc Committee includes senior staff from DPSCD and EAA. The committee's main focus is to minimize academic disruption for summer school as well as the upcoming school year. A website has been created, radio ads are running, and EAA Welcome Kits will be going out to all parents. The key highlights from the June 6, 2017 meeting were: DPSCD will host summer school for EAA students beginning July 5, 2017. All principals and administrators have been hired for summer school except for one support staff person. Sixty-six (66) teachers have received offer letters. The Transition team is targeting 2200 students for summer school but to date only 50% have enrolled. The EAA is funding \$2.2 million for summer school. Offering summer school with such a tight timeline is a huge early win for transitioning EAA back into DPSCD.

For the upcoming 2017-2018 school year to date, one of the priorities is to retain as many qualified teachers and administrators as possible. Ten (10) out of twelve (12) administrators have been assigned and 50% of EAA Teachers have joined DPSCD. The internal goal is to have 75% join DPSCD. There are challenges with hiring EAA support staff due to the current hiring freeze. As of April, the transfer of all student data has been performed. There is a separate payment agreement between EAA and DPSCD totaling \$5 million which covers the cost of hiring, building renovations, and other transitioning costs related to integrating the systems.

The Board voted previously to rescind the earlier 5-year contract and pursue one year charters for Murphy, Trix, and Stewart Academies. The District is currently in negotiations with Phalen Academies to manage the three (3) schools.

There is a change in recommendation for Turning Point Academy. The District leadership is requesting that students K-8 be relocated to Fleming instead of Henry Ford to provide a better higher-quality learning experience for the students. Treasurer Mays will bring forth a motion later in the meeting.

Finance Committee Report

Treasurer and Chair Mays presented the Finance Sub-Committee Report. The Finance Committee held two meetings in the month of June due to the high volume of contracts and out-of-state travel. The committee prior to Superintendent Dr. Vitti joining the District had pushed for shorter-term contracts to prevent the

District from being locked into long-term contracts and to allow the Superintendent an opportunity to be involved in planning and making changes.

Treasurer and Chair Mays briefly reviewed the nine (9) contracts that will come before the Board. The Finance Committee is recommending approval of the nine (9) contracts. Chair stated Vice President Peterson-Mayberry had concerns about maintenance vendors and accountability for work performance. Chair asked Deputy Superintendent of Operations, Ken Tokarz to make sure as contracts are finalized that the connection between leadership teams and those completing work are strengthened in particularly U.S. Metro Bureau. The plan is that all 3 Zoness will come up for bid starting at the beginning of year 2018/2019.

Chair announced the District's Chief Financial Officer, Marios Demetriou will be leaving the District at the end of the month. Mr. Demetriou was thanked for his service to the District.

Superintendent Dr. vitti and Treasurer have identified a financial consultant for recommendation to be given a one-year contract while a national search is being performed.

The District will receive an early transfer of \$1.3 million from the Education Achievement Authority for transition costs to the District.

Vice President Peterson-Mayberry motion to accept both the Financial Sub-Committee and Education Achievement Authority Ad hoc Committee reports

Secretary Stallworth seconded

Roll call

Deborah Hunter-Harvill Yes Yes Georgia Lemmons LaMar Lemmons Yes Sonya Mays Yes Angelique Peterson-Mayberry Yes Misha Stallworth Yes Iris Taylor Yes Motion Carried without objection Superintendent's Report

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Dr. Nikolai Vitti, Superintendent presented the Superintendent's Report providing administration short-term and long-term views moving forward. Superintendent Dr. Vitti stated he will be imposing a high-level timeline where he will listen & learn, analyze and plan, build and implement. Ending with the implementation of key reforms to fulfill the commitments in the District's strategic plan.

Priorities prior to the start of the 2017/18 school year include defining strategy, restructuring and reinventing systems in alignment with the strategic plan. An Important focus is to build a team of individuals with the goal of improving student achievement and supporting schools directly.

Superintendent Dr. Vitti will engage with stakeholders to understand issues, priorities and context creating a best-in-class leadership team that will lay the groundwork that positions the District for short and long-term success. An immediate priority is to complete the collective bargaining agreement for teachers. District staff and departments will be reorganized eliminating duplication across divisions and departments.

Recruiting and retaining teachers is a priority. Superintendent Dr. Vitti is looking for a smooth transition for the opening of schools. He is participating in the final interview stages for principals.

Several key focus areas for the first year are: Improvement on project management, contracts, board agenda system, board policy, a curriculum audit, updated instructional material, code of conduct, defining enrollment policy and plan, formulate a process of exam schools, eliminate multiple and duplication of testing, and human capital.

Dr. Vitti will define a clear strategic plan for aligning the budget and creating a process to become more efficient implementing a zero-based budgeting process.

There will be a focus on talent, curriculum, the whole child, bringing back the arts, talk about the expansion of health and social emotional services for our students, and an aggressive Detroit Student first state and local policy agenda that promotes the excellence of traditional public schools.

Treasurer Mays motion to approve the Superintendent's Report Secretary Stallworth seconded

Roll call

Deborah Hunter-Harvill

Yes

Georgia Lemmons Yes
LaMar Lemmons Yes
Sonya Mays Yes
Angelique Peterson-Mayberry Yes
Misha Stallworth Yes
Iris Taylor Yes

Motion Carried without objection

Finance report

Marios Demetriou, Deputy Superintendent, Finance and Operations presented the report on the District's finances. Beginning with April finances, the District is at a \$67 million dollar surplus and will end the year with \$66 million dollars. The District currently have enough cash to weather July 2017 through October 2017 when the District receives the state aid payment.

Next year's budget expects to start the year with \$75.7 million dollars adding \$4.4 million. The District funding mostly comes from the state with federal grants totaling \$144 million, local revenue is \$75 million which is primarily the Enhancement Millage and Act 18 that comes from Wayne RESA, and \$15.1 million from food service. The District expenditures is \$500 million in salary and benefits, and \$150 in contracted services, and approximately \$10 million for renovation and capital improvements as well as contingency funds.

There is approximately \$48.5 million in liabilities from Detroit Public Schools (DPS) that will be moved to DPSCD. The funds will not be broken into payments but moved in one lump sum. It will take about 10 years for DPS to be out of a deficit. Capital debt will take another 28 years to be paid off.

Treasurer Mays motion to approve the Finance Report Member L. Lemmons seconded

Roll call

Deborah Hunter-Harvill Yes
Georgia Lemmons Yes
LaMar Lemmons Yes
Sonya Mays Yes
Angelique Peterson-Mayberry Yes

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Misha Stallworth Yes Iris Taylor Yes

Motion Carried without objection

Out-of-State Travel

Treasurer Mays motion to approve all six (6) Out-of-State Travel requests Member Dr. Hunter-Harvill supported

Member G. Lemmons requested clarification on the language that specifically mentions request for reimbursement to School Board members.

Mr. Demetrious mentioned that if there are any trips reimbursed by the general fund it must be approved by the Financial Review Commission (FRC).

Member L. Lemmons does not want the public to be misconceived that Board members are going on trips paid for by the District and request an amendment that the reference to school board members be stricken from the language.

Treasurer Mays motion to approve the six (6) presented out-of-state travel requests and exclude the reference "school board members" from the action item.

Roll call

Deborah Hunter-Harvill Yes
Georgia Lemmons Yes
LaMar Lemmons Yes
Sonya Mays Yes
Angelique Peterson-Mayberry Yes
Misha Stallworth Yes
Iris Taylor Yes

Motion Carried without objection

Contracts

Treasurer Mays motion to approve the renewal of Food Storage, Distribution and Warehousing Contract with US Foods for a one-year period.

Member G. Lemmons seconded

Roll call

Deborah Hunter-Harvill Yes
Georgia Lemmons Yes
LaMar Lemmons Yes
Sonya Mays Yes
Angelique Peterson-Mayberry Yes
Misha Stallworth Yes
Iris Taylor Abstain

Motion Carried without objection

Treasurer Mays motion to approve the DDOT contract not to exceed amount \$420,000 to provide summer school students with bus passes

Member Dr. Hunter-Harvill seconded

Roll call

Deborah Hunter-Harvill Yes
Georgia Lemmons Yes
LaMar Lemmons Yes
Sonya Mays Yes
Angelique Peterson-Mayberry Yes
Misha Stallworth Yes
Iris Taylor Yes

Motion Carries without objection

Treasurer Mays motion to tie bar the approval of the Information Technology (I.T.) Contracts for Vision Pro, LLC., CW Professionals Services, and Direct Internet

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Member L. Lemmons seconded

Roll call

Deborah Hunter-Harvill Yes
Georgia Lemmons Yes
LaMar Lemmons Yes
Sonya Mays Yes
Angelique Peterson-Mayberry Yes
Misha Stallworth Yes
Iris Taylor Yes

Motion Carried without objection

Treasurer Mays motion to approve the U.S. Metro Bureau Contract to provide custodial and maintenance services for Zone II not to exceed (NTE) \$16,925,000.00.

Member L. Lemmons seconded

Vice President Peterson-Mayberry expressed concern that there are provisions to assure that there is adequate staffing for the expectations of the contractor.

Superintendent agreed that there is a lot of work to be done regarding contracts which is why the contract period was moved from a 3 year to a 1 year proposals with language regarding Fair Labor Act. Working on the RFP process moving forward to include principals and provisions for penalties for unclean and unstaffed buildings.

Operations Superintendent Tokarz stated that union issues would not be handled by the District but are handled between the contractor and employees. In terms of hours and cleaning of the building that will be audited on a monthly basis.

Chair asked if there are systems in place on an ongoing basis to monitor the performance of the company.

Mr. Tokarz stated the department will be meeting with contractors to put new perimeters in place.

Member L. Lemmons asked what was the reason the perimeters were not in place before the contract came before the board to vote. There was also concern with employee morale, preventing employees from

collective bargaining or good faith effort with their employees which would be a direct reflection on the services provided.

Mr. Tokarz stated there is approximately a \$35 million contract with all services combined. The Operations department is not currently adequately staffed to properly monitor but the systems will be put in place.

Superintendent Dr. Vitti agreed with Member L. Lemmons concerns and stated it's clear there is a need to strengthen accountability factors with vendors. However, with a short timeframe the recommendation is to move forward and strengthen systems for subsequent years.

Roll Call

Deborah Hunter-Harvill Yes
Georgia Lemmons Yes
LaMar Lemmons Yes
Sonya Mays Yes
Angelique Peterson-Mayberry Yes
Misha Stallworth Abstain
Iris Taylor Abstain

Motion Carried

Treasurer Mays motion to approve the contract Not to Exceed (NTE) \$300,000.00 with Volte Advisors to provide Interim CFO and Finance restructuring support.

Treasurer Mays withdrew to restate the motion.

Treasurer Mays motion to waive the District's competitive bidding policy and approve the contract with Volte Advisors in the Not to Exceed (NTE) amount of \$315,000.00 for one year. Secretary Stallworth seconded

Member L. Lemmons asked for more information about the company.

Treasurer Mays stated the Principal of Volte is Tony Saunders who just completed 3 years as Chief Financial Officer and Chief Restructuring Officer for Wayne County for County Executive Warren Evans. Mr. Saunders is also a member of the Financial Review Commission to which he will remove himself immediately if he accepts the position. Mr. Saunders have a track record of being a change and restructuring agent.

Member L. Lemmons asked if there was an exclusion against Mr. Saunders bidding on future contracts or positions in the district resulting in a potential contract.

Treasurer Mays requested Counsel to review the contract before execution and add a provision that will either prevent Volte from bidding on district work for an extended period of time. Treasurer stated the immediate inclusion from the FRC would extinguish the conflict Member L. Lemmons stated.

Vice President Peterson-Mayberry asked what is the specifics on the timeframe for having Volte as Interim.

Superintendent Dr. Vitti stated the goal is to clear the stop gap with the current CFO's resignation which is effective as of June 30, 2017. Mr. Saunders will start to insure continued management of the budget and budget office. There is an opportunity to use his experience to restructure the budget office, hire middle management, and get away from contract services.

Roll Call

Deborah Hunter-Harvill	Yes
Georgia Lemmons	Yes
LaMar Lemmons	Yes
Sonya Mays	Yes
Angelique Peterson-Mayberry	Yes
Misha Stallworth	Yes
Iris Taylor	Yes
Motion carried without objection	

Treasurer Mays moved to approve the 2016/2017 EAA Summer School Payment Agreement in the amount of \$2,100,000.00

Roll Call

Deborah Hunter-Harvill Yes Georgia Lemmons Yes LaMar Lemmons Yes Sonya Mays Yes

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Angelique Peterson-Mayberry Yes
Misha Stallworth Yes
Iris Taylor Yes

Motion carried without objection

Treasurer Mays motion to approve the Amendment No. 1 to Rent Payment Memorandum Agreement between EAA of Michigan and DPSCD, dated November 1, 2016.

Member L. Lemmons seconded

Treasurer Mays asked that the contract approval of the Amendment No. 1 to Rent Payment Memorandum Agreement Between EAA of Michigan and DPSCD, dated November 1, 2016 be conditional upon review of an accounting of the current cash position at EAA and a better understanding of what the post June 30, 2017 winding down process for EAA will be.

The Board will table voting on the agreement pending additional information and defer voting for a Special Meeting for Monday, June 19, 2017.

Member L. Lemmons motion to Release the Hiring Freeze Vice President Peterson-Mayberry seconded

Roll Call

Deborah Hunter-Harvill Yes
Georgia Lemmons Yes
LaMar Lemmons Yes
Sonya Mays Yes
Angelique Peterson-Mayberry Yes
Misha Stallworth Yes
Iris Taylor Yes

Motion carried without objection

Treasurer Mays motion to approve the DPS Preliminary Budget Member L. Lemmons seconded

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Roll Call

Deborah Hunter-Harvill Yes
Georgia Lemmons Yes
LaMar Lemmons Yes
Sonya Mays Yes
Angelique Peterson-Mayberry Yes
Misha Stallworth Yes
Iris Taylor Yes

Motion carried without objection

Treasurer Mays motion to approve the Levy and Collection of the 18 mils as well as the 13 mils for DPS Secretary Stallworth seconded

Roll Call

Deborah Hunter-Harvill Yes
Georgia Lemmons Yes
LaMar Lemmons Yes
Sonya Mays Yes
Angelique Peterson-Mayberry Yes
Misha Stallworth Yes
Iris Taylor Yes

Motion carried without objection

Treasurer Mays motion to tie bar Budget Amendment #5 for the current fiscal year with approval of the Preliminary 2017/18 Budget

Member L. Lemmons seconded

Roll Call

Deborah Hunter-Harvill Yes Georgia Lemmons Yes LaMar Lemmons Yes Sonya Mays Yes

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Angelique Peterson-Mayberry Yes
Misha Stallworth Yes
Iris Taylor Yes

Motion carried without objection

Member L. Lemmons motion to approve Budget Amendment #2 to transfer funds that are due from DPS to DPSCD

Treasurer Mays seconded

Roll Call

Deborah Hunter-Harvill Yes
Georgia Lemmons Yes
LaMar Lemmons Yes
Sonya Mays Yes
Angelique Peterson-Mayberry Yes
Misha Stallworth Yes
Iris Taylor Yes

Motion carried without objection

Announcement(s) and Acknowledgement(s)

Join Board of Education Member Misha Stallworth on Wednesday, June 14 at 6 p.m. at Frederick Douglass Academy to learn everything you'll need to know about board meetings.

STEAMY Summer Festival, July 22, 2017 from 10:00am – 3:00pm at Drew Farm located at Drew Transition Center, 9600 Wyoming

Robin Ryce senior at Renaissance High School was one of four students across the nation selected by the Council of the Great City Schools (CGCS) to receive the 2017 ExxonMobil Bernard Harris Math and Science Scholarship of \$5,000 for academic performance, leadership qualities and community involvement.

Public Comment

Several participated in Public Comment

Adjournment

Chair motioned for adjournment Meeting adjourned at 9:11 p.m.

Certified:

Karen Morgan, B.S.B.M Secretary to the Board