North Carolina Textbook Commission Meeting Minutes

June 15, 2022
10:00 a.m.

Members Present: Jodi Autry, Rikki Baldwin, Aubrey Godette, Kathleen Linker, Alicia Ray, Lindsey Sise

Members Absent: Katherine Bailey, William Cheshire, Marlena Bleu, Rob Orrill, Susan Mills

Others Present:  Dr. Carmella Fair

Call to Order and Welcome: Commissioner Linker began the meeting and reviewed the ethics statement. No members stated that they had a conflict of interest.

Roll Call: Dr. Carmella Fair did the roll call.

2022 Textbook Adoption Process – Evaluation Week: Commissioner Linker said that debriefing will start on Thursday afternoon (6/16). She requested that everyone let her know who will be finished and when so that they can determine the order for tomorrow. She is going to make a document and place it in their folder for them to include the information when a group is expected to be finished. This will be placed into the June 5th folder and by doing so they will be able to notify them of how their day will look on tomorrow. Commissioner Sise asked a question. She said that in the past they have had 3 advisors look at every bid, are we still requiring 3? Commissioner Linker said that they prefer 3 but there are at least 2 that she is aware of that only have 2 people. So, they are okay with 2 but everything must have at least 1 eye on it. Commissioner Ray asked if an advisor finishes, for instance, first grade social studies, and they have been trained then certified with experience, and let’s say that the first grade is ready to debrief on Thursday; Would it be possible to fill in holes with those first-grade advisors into others for Friday. Commissioner Linker said yes, it would be okay, that would be possible. If they had made qualifications and had been trained, she (Commissioner Ray) said it was correct. Commissioner Linker said that they can continue working and then they would come back and debrief. Commissioner Ray confirmed that they would debrief twice. Commissioner Linker said that as they get to this point, if they finish on Thursday they would not be needed for Friday and would not be paid for Friday. Commissioner Linker said sometimes they ask because they are not clear how that works. Commissioner Sise said unless we ask them to do it. Commissioner Linker said correctly, because then they are still working, they are just changing their specific assignment. Commissioner Linker said if there is nothing else for them to evaluate or wanted to evaluate then they could
leave on Thursday, return home, and not be paid for Friday because their services were no longer needed. Commissioner Ray said so they will not sign in, they would not come to Webex, they would not do their advisory sign-in or nothing? It would be as if they were going home for the day. Commissioner Linker said it was correct. Commissioner Linker said as a point of reference when we were face to face, they would come in and they would debrief, and the commissioners would have the opportunity to thank them, and they would leave. Commissioner Ray said it was correct. Commissioner Autry asked when they debrief the bids that are K-6, will they debrief each grade level individually or as all? Commissioner Linker said each individually because they were assigned by grade individually. Commissioner Linker said as a reminder as well this year we do have some bids that are bundled. Which means if it is a K-2 bundle, we debrief kindergarten on that bid number and you will see that same bid number when we debrief the 1st grade and the same bid number again when we debrief the second grade. Because it has to meet each grade individually and if it does, then we consider it as the bundle. So, for commission members, as we’re taking notes, and the information that they are giving us their impressions, you might have the same bid number for multiple grade levels. It is how they bundled it and that would be reflected on the bid sheets. As a commission, when we make our report, we’re making it based on if it meets each individual grade level. If it does not meet every individual grade level, then you would say no, as the whole. If it meets each individual grade level, then you could say yes, with the supporting details that you might have as a well. Commissioner Sise asked when they do the debrief, will it be through the Webex where they just jump into a debrief room? Commissioner Linker said yes, they will have a separate Webex link. Her second question was will there not be a commissioner in the room with the people that are not debriefing them? Commissioner Linker said no, there will be some DPI support people in the room. When we debrief it is considered a public meeting, so we will be out of the rooms. The support people will be in contact with Dr. Fair if they need assistance in the room. That is inconsistent with former models, but they would just come to the back of the room, and someone would slip out and try to see what they needed and return. Commissioner Linker said the other thing is we have started to see that there are some links that are not connecting to the correct resources. If you find links that are connecting correctly, make a note of it in the comments, we want the advisors to make a note of it in the comment and continue reviewing.

Commissioner Linker asked if there are any other things that they need to talk about? As a recap, she is going to put a form into google doc in their folder as when people will be finished, and they can work on that when they come back. There were no further questions. Commissioner Godette had a comment, he wanted to express his appreciation for DPI assistance during the time of hybrid work and we hope that the commissioners display the same level of commitment.
Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 11:47am. Commissioner Godette made a motion to adjourn, Commissioner Sise second the motion. All Commissioners in attendance approved.

Minutes taken by: Audrey Long

Date of Approval: August 3, 2022