In accordance with Miss. Code Ann. § 37-3-2(3) and § 25-41-5, the members of the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification and Licensure and Development (Commission) met at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, April 8, 2016, in the Multi-purpose Room of the South Pointe Business Park Building, 500 Clinton Center Drive, Clinton, Mississippi.

Members Attending:

Shannon Doughty  
Rilla Jones  
Liz Michael  
Patrick Gray  
LaToya Lee  

Kenny Goza  
Pamela Manners  
Doris Perkins  
Mary Margarett King  

Cylesha Hopkins  
Cindy Melton  
Susan McClelland  
Ginger Tedder  

Members Absent:

Kelly Fuller  
Kenny Goza  
Pamela Manners  
Doris Perkins  
Mary Margarett King  
Debra Mays-Jackson  

Mississippi Department of Education (MDE) Personnel Attending:

Dr. Carey Wright  
Dr. Albert Carter  
Demetric Watts  
Sandra Hilliard  

Michael Martin  
Crystal Womack  

Tiffany Jones  
Tracey Miller  
Latawnia Mainor  

Holley Haywood  
Rhonda Smith  
Tarance Hart  

Dr. Paula Vanderford  
John Cartwright  

Erin Meyer, Special Assistant Attorney General  

I. Call to Order

Dr. Cindy Melton, Chair of the Commission, called the meeting to order.

Welcome Message from Superintendent

Before the official Commission meeting began, Dr. Carey Wright welcomed the Commission members and provided words of encouragement. She also thanked the Commission members for all their hard work, assisting with the Commission hearings, and all the effort in making decisions to help impact education.
II. Introduction of New Members

Dr. Albert Carter introduced four (4) new members and their roles as Commission members: Mary Margarett King (teacher), Dr. Patrick Gray (administrator), Ginger Tedder (teacher), and LaToya Lee (lay person). The Commission members also had an opportunity to tell a little about themselves.

III. Establishment of a Quorum

A roll call was taken as follows:

Shannon Doughty Present
Kelly Fuller Absent
Kenny Goza Present
Cylesha Hopkins Present
Rilla Jones Present via teleconference, Booneville, MS
Pamela Manners Present
Debra Mays-Jackson Absent
Cindy Melton Present
Liz Michael Present, via teleconference, Meridian, MS
Doris Perkins Present, via teleconference, Clinton, MS
Susan McClelland Present, via teleconference, Oxford, MS
Patrick Gray Present
Mary Margarett King Present
Ginger Tedder Present
LaToya Lee Present, via teleconference, Cleveland, MS

Dr. Cindy Melton announced that a quorum of the Commission existed.

IV. Approval of Minutes from the February 19, 2016, Commission Meeting

Dr. Cindy Melton asked the Commission members to review the minutes from the February 19, 2016, Commission meeting. On a motion by Doris Perkins and seconded by Shannon Doughty, the Commission unanimously approved the minutes of the February 19, 2016, Commission meeting. The votes were as follows:

Members voting aye:

Shannon Doughty
Kenny Goza
Cylesha Hopkins
Rilla Jones
Pamela Manners
Cindy Melton
Liz Michael
V. Approval of the hearing subcommittee minutes of February 19, 2016

Dr. Cindy Melton motioned to approve the hearing subcommittee minutes of February 19, 2016. A second was followed by Pamela Manners. The votes were as follows:

Members voting aye:

Pamela Manners
Cindy Melton

Members Abstaining: None

Members voting nay: None

Members absent:

Debra Mays-Jackson

VI. Adoption of Agenda

Dr. Cindy Melton discussed the items on the agenda and asked for the Commission members to review the agenda presented. On a motion by Ginger Tedder and seconded by Patrick Gray, the Commission unanimously adopted the agenda. The votes were as follows:

Members voting aye:

Shannon Doughty
Kenny Goza
Cylesha Hopkins  
Rilla Jones  
Pamela Manners  
Cindy Melton  
Liz Michael  
Doris Perkins  
Susan McClelland  
Patrick Gray  
Mary Margarett King  
Ginger Tedder  
LaToya Lee  

Members Abstaining: None  

Members voting nay: None  

Members absent:  
Kelly Fuller  
Debra Mays-Jackson  

VII. MDE Update  

Dr. Paula Vanderford discussed MDE updates referencing her role and the current reorganizational structure of the Research and Development division.  

VIII. Information/Action Items:  

1. Discussion and/or approval of State Board Policy Part 3, Chapter 14, Rule 14.6.2-Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification, and Licensure and Development Operations Policy  

Dr. Paula Vanderford presented and asked for the Commission members to review the State Board Policy Part 3, Chapter 14, Rule 14.6.2-Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification, and Licensure and Development Operations Policy. Dr. Vanderford explained that the document presented outlines what is in state law and that it reiterates in policy the roles and responsibilities of the Commission members. She also stated with the Commission’s approval, the next step will be to take this policy to the State Board for consideration for the April agenda.  

The Commission members asked if there were any changes to the policy from the internal operating procedure of the past. Dr. Vanderford stated there were some minor changes which Erin Meyer could clarify due to statute. Changes
addressed issues that the statute is silent on, including the assignment of the term of how long the member can serve and the chairperson as to how long he/she can serve. Another concern the members had was about the minimum serving time per quarter for hearings.

Dr. Melton entertained a motion to move the following item for discussion and/or approval to the end of the Commission meeting for all members to have time to view the following documentation since some of the members via teleconference have not had the allotted time to view the documentation via e-mail due to technical difficulty. On a motion carried by Kenny Goza and seconded by Doris Perkins, the Commission voted as follows:

Members voting aye:

Shannon Doughty
Kenny Goza
Cylesha Hopkins
Rilla Jones
Pamela Manners
Cindy Melton
Liz Michael
Doris Perkins
Susan McClelland
Patrick Gray
Mary Margarett King
Ginger Tedder
LaToya Lee

Members Abstaining: None

Members voting nay: None

Members absent:

Kelly Fuller
Debra Mays-Jackson

After the discussion of item 9, the Commission revisited and discussed item 1. Commission members did not have any additional questions or comments. On a motion by Doris Perkins and seconded by Ginger Tedder, the Commission unanimously approved State Board Policy Part 3, Chapter 14, Rule 14.6.2. The votes were as follows:

Members voting aye:
2. Discussion and/or approval to establish a Licensure Review Subcommittee to evaluate, revise, and recommend changes to documents including, but not limited to, the *Licensure Guidelines K-12* and the *Process and Performance Review Guide*, as well as develop a training module for Licensure Commission members to ensure alignment with the State Board of Education’s policies and MS law.

Dr. Vanderford expressed that the Research and Development Division will be working with the Licensure Review Subcommittee, as well as with a contractor. The subcommittee will also be responsible for establishing a training module for the Commission members.

Dr. Melton requested for a motion to establish a subcommittee to evaluate, revise, and recommend changes to documents including, but not limited to, the *Licensure Guidelines K-12* and the *Process and Performance Review Guide* and also be tasked with planning the licensure retreat. Ginger Tedder motioned to establish this subcommittee, which was seconded by Shannon Doughty. The votes were as follows:

Members voting aye:

Shannon Doughty
Kenny Goza
Cylesha Hopkins  
Rilla Jones  
Pamela Manners  
Cindy Melton  
Liz Michael  
Doris Perkins  
Susan McClelland  
Patrick Gray  
Mary Margarett King  
Ginger Tedder  
LaToya Lee

Members Abstaining: None

Members voting nay: None

Members absent:

Kelly Fuller  
Debra Mays-Jackson

In addition to voting on the approval of the establishment of a Licensure Review Subcommittee, Ginger Tedder, Shannon Doughty, Pamela Manners, and Cindy Melton offered to serve as part of the subcommittee. Doris Perkins moved to accept the members who have volunteered to be part of the subcommittee. Kenny Goza seconded the motion. The votes were as follows:

Members voting aye:

Shannon Doughty  
Kenny Goza  
Cylesha Hopkins  
Rilla Jones  
Pamela Manners  
Cindy Melton  
Liz Michael  
Doris Perkins  
Susan McClelland  
Patrick Gray  
Mary Margarett King  
Ginger Tedder  
LaToya Lee

Members Abstaining: None

Members voting nay: None
Members absent:

Kelly Fuller
Debra Mays-Jackson

3. Discussion of assessment for early childhood/child development

Dr. Albert Carter mentioned that the Office of Educator Licensure staff have been receiving numerous calls about the assessment test for early childhood. Dr. Carter stated that due to state law, educators who wish to pursue an early childhood license will have to pass the Praxis Core Academic Skills for Educators examination or maintain a twenty-one (21) ACT passing score.

4. Discussion and/or approval to modify existing music education degree program at Mississippi State University

Barry Copeland and Richard Human, Jr., presented a brief overview of the modification program proposal of the music education program for Mississippi State University. The modification program consisted of 130 hours which introduced new courses and more field experiences throughout the program. The proposed date of implementation is August 2016.

Dr. Cindy Melton asked Dr. Albert Carter if all the peer reviews have been met. Dr. Carter confirmed that all the peer reviews have been met. Dr. Melton entertained a motion to the Commission members for the approval of an existing modification of Mississippi State University’s Mississippi music education program. A motion was carried by Ginger Tedder, followed by Shannon Doughty. The votes were as follows:

Members voting aye:

Shannon Doughty
Kenny Goza
Cylesha Hopkins
Rilla Jones
Pamela Manners
Cindy Melton
Liz Michael
Doris Perkins
Susan McClelland
Patrick Gray
Mary Margarett King
Ginger Tedder
LaToya Lee

Members Abstaining: None

Members voting nay: None

Members absent:

Kelly Fuller
Debra Mays-Jackson

5. Discussion and/or approval for new Master of Education and Education Specialist degree programs in School Administration and Leadership at Belhaven University

Dr. David Hand presented the proposal for Belhaven University for new Master of Education and Education Specialist degree programs in School Administration and Leadership.

Susan McClelland posed a question in reference to the Internship 1 and Internship 2. The concern was whether the Internship 1 activity was focusing on an internship in a school setting while the Internship 2 description will be focusing on the capstone paper.

Dr. Melton asked if the Praxis SLLA will be required before exiting the degree program. Dr. Hand confirmed that the Praxis SLLA will be required before exiting the program. Dr. Cindy Melton asked Dr. Albert Carter if all the peer reviews have been met. Dr. Carter confirmed that all the peer reviews have been met.

Pamela Manner moved for the approval of new Master of Education and Education Specialist degree programs in School Administration and Leadership at Belhaven University. Ginger Tedder seconded the motion. The votes were as follows:

Members voting aye:

Shannon Doughty
Kenny Goza
Cylesha Hopkins
Rilla Jones
Pamela Manners
Cindy Melton
6. Discussion and/or approval for a new degree program for emotional and behavioral disorders that will lead to Master of Education, Specialist, or add-on endorsement at William Carey University

Dr. Ben Burnett and Dr. Brenda Thomas presented the proposal for a new degree program for emotional behavioral disorders. Dr. Burnett stated there was a need for educators to be certified in emotional behavioral disorders. The program will be a 12 hour add-on endorsement online program.

Susan McClelland asked Dr. Burnett in terms of non-degree seeking students, who will complete their program with the 12 hours leading to an endorsement, if the proposal is intended for educators with a class A license. Dr. Burnett responded yes. Susan McClelland stated that University of Mississippi is facing a similar issue with their program.

Dr. Carter stated that emotional behavior disorders can only be added at least at the class AA level. Dr. Burnett stated they were not aware that emotional behavior disorders could not be added at the class A level. Dr. Melton confirmed as well that per state policy, emotional disability can only be added at least at the class AA level.

Dr. Burnett stated to the Commission that many of their candidates have a master’s degree; however, there are some who have a bachelor’s degree. He has asked for future consideration in reference to the policy of emotional behavior disorders being offered at the bachelor level for teacher certification.
Pamela Manners questioned, in reference to courses EDU 692 and 792, assessment of students with emotional and behavioral disorders.

Dr. Cindy Melton asked Dr. Albert Carter if all the peer reviews have been met. Dr. Carter confirmed that all the peer reviews have been met. Dr. Melton entertained a motion, based on the February 19, 2016, Commission meeting, referencing the University of Mississippi’s request and William Carey University’s request to recommend that emotional disability (EMD) be considered as an add-on endorsement to the class A level. A motion was carried by Shannon Doughty, followed by Pamela Manners.

The Commission members took a vote to investigate what can be done to allow emotional behavior disorders to be added to a class A license. The votes were as follows:

Members voting aye:

Shannon Doughty
Kenny Goza
Cylesha Hopkins
Rilla Jones
Pamela Manners
Cindy Melton
Doris Perkins
Patrick Gray
Mary Margarett King
Ginger Tedder
LaToya Lee

Members Abstaining:

Susan McClelland

Members voting nay: None

Members absent:

Kelly Fuller
Debra Mays-Jackson
Liz Michael (was disconnected in the middle of discussion)

Dr. Melton entertained a motion for approving a new degree program for emotional and behavioral disorders that will lead to Master of Education, Specialist, or add-on endorsement at the class AA level for William Carey
University. A motion was carried by Patrick Gray, followed by Shannon Doughty. The votes were as follows:

Members voting aye:

Shannon Doughty
Kenny Goza
Cylesha Hopkins
Rilla Jones
Pamela Manners
Cindy Melton
Doris Perkins
Susan McClelland
Patrick Gray
Mary Margaret King
Ginger Tedder
LaToya Lee

Members Abstaining: None

Members voting nay: None

Members absent:

Kelly Fuller
Debra Mays-Jackson
Liz Michael (was disconnected in the middle of discussion)

Dr. Melton asked that if any research can be provided of other states that have emotional behavioral disorders certification at the class A level that it will be of great help for the Commission. It was also noted that it will be up to the Mississippi Department of Education to investigate emotional behavior disorders to be offered at the class A level before it goes before the Commission.

7. Discussion and/or approval to add early childhood concentration to current undergraduate program at William Carey University

Dr. Ben Burnett and Dr. Brenda Thomas presented the proposal to add early childhood concentration to current undergraduate program. Dr. Burnett stated the program is a 21 hour add-on undergraduate program.

Dr. Burnett asked Dr. Carter to clarify his statement earlier in the meeting in reference to the discussion of assessment for early childhood/child development. Dr. Carter and Dr. Melton both stated that Praxis CORE or the ACT is required
for an early childhood license as well as the 2.75 GPA on pre-major coursework. Dr. Carter added that the educator must also meet the additional licensure requirements for early childhood.

Dr. Cindy Melton asked Dr. Albert Carter if all the peer reviews have been met. Dr. Carter confirmed that all the peer reviews have been met. Dr. Melton entertained a motion to add early childhood concentration to current undergraduate program at William Carey University. A motion was carried by Pamela Manners, followed by Patrick Gray. The votes were as follows:

Members voting aye:

Shannon Doughty
Kenny Goza
Cylesha Hopkins
Rilla Jones
Pamela Manners
Cindy Melton
Doris Perkins
Susan McClelland
Patrick Gray
Mary Margarett King
Ginger Tedder
LaToya Lee

Members Abstaining: None

Members voting nay: None

Members absent:

Kelly Fuller
Debra Mays-Jackson
Liz Michael

8. Discussion and/or approval for a new degree program for physics at Blue Mountain College

Dr. Jenetta Waddell and Dr. Johnny Mattox presented a proposal for a 21 hour approved program in physics. Dr. Maddow stated the need for the program was due to the lack of qualified physics teachers in Mississippi. The program will be offered at night and through hybrid courses.

Dr. Cindy Melton asked Dr. Albert Carter if all the peer reviews have been met.
Dr. Carter confirmed that all the peer reviews have been met. Dr. Melton entertained a motion for a 21 hour approved program for physics at Blue Mountain College. A motion was carried by Ginger Tedder, followed by Cylesha Hopkins. The votes were as follows:

Members voting aye:

Shannon Doughty
Kenny Goza
Cylesha Hopkins
Rilla Jones
Pamela Manners
Cindy Melton
Doris Perkins
Susan McClelland
Patrick Gray
Mary Margarett King
Ginger Tedder
LaToya Lee

Members Abstaining: None

Members voting nay: None

Members absent:

Kelly Fuller
Debra Mays-Jackson
Liz Michael

9. Discussion and/or approval for a new Master of Education-Secondary biology degree program at Blue Mountain College

Dr. Jenetta Waddell and Dr. Johnny Mattox presented a proposal that a Master of Education (M.Ed.) in Secondary Education – Biology Degree Program be added to the Master of Education Degree Programs currently offered, which are Master of Education in Elementary Education and Master of Education in Literacy/Reading (K-12).

Dr. Cindy Melton asked Dr. Albert Carter if all the peer reviews have been met. Dr. Carter confirmed that all the peer reviews have been met. Dr. Melton entertained a motion for a new Master of Education-Secondary biology degree program at Blue Mountain College. A motion was carried by Patrick Gray, followed by Ginger Tedder. The votes were as follows:
Members voting aye:

Shannon Doughty
Kenny Goza
Cylesha Hopkins
Rilla Jones
Pamela Manners
Cindy Melton
Doris Perkins
Susan McClelland
Patrick Gray
Mary Margarett King
Ginger Tedder
LaToya Lee

Members Abstaining: None

Members voting nay: None

Members absent:

Kelly Fuller
Debra Mays-Jackson
Liz Michael

10. Discussion and/or approval of ratifications of voluntary surrenders

Michael Martin presented five (5) educators, license #162256, #150676, #256704, #217534, and #261199, who voluntarily surrendered their teacher certification. In addition, two (2) educators, license #200850 and #190952, have entered into agreed orders of rehabilitation. Mr. Martin has asked for the Commission members to consider approval of the ratifications mentioned. The votes were as follows:

Members voting aye:

Shannon Doughty
Kenny Goza
Cylesha Hopkins
Rilla Jones
Pamela Manners
Cindy Melton
Doris Perkins
Patrick Gray
Mary Margarett King
Ginger Tedder
LaToya Lee

Members Abstaining:

Susan McClelland

Members voting nay: None

Members absent:

Kelly Fuller
Debra Mays-Jackson
Liz Michael (was disconnected in the middle of discussion)

IX. Other Business:

Erin Meyer noted that the Commission members will be receiving information soon on upcoming dates for hearings. Patrick Gray volunteered to serve as back-up for the upcoming hearing in May, which Erin Meyer indicated will be a full commitment for the week. A Hearing would also be taking place following today’s Commission meeting, and hearings are scheduled for April 13th and 14th, 2016.

X. Adjournment

On a motion made by Patrick Gray and seconded by Ginger Tedder, the Commission unanimously approved the motion to adjourn at 11:03 a.m. The votes were as follows:

Members voting aye:

Shannon Doughty
Kenny Goza
Cylesha Hopkins
Rilla Jones
Pamela Manners
Cindy Melton
Doris Perkins
Susan McClelland
Patrick Gray
Mary Margarett King
Ginger Tedder
LaToya Lee

Members Abstaining: None
Members voting nay: None

Members absent:
Kelly Fuller
Debra Mays-Jackson
Liz Michael

Approved:

Cindy Melton, Chair
Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification and Licensure and Development

Dr. Paula Vanderford, Executive Secretary
Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification and Licensure and Development