

**Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education,  
Certification and Licensure and Development  
South Pointe Business Park Building  
Room 407  
Clinton, MS  
2:00 p.m.  
June 13, 2016**

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 2:00 p.m. on Monday, June 13, 2016, in Room 407 of the South Pointe Business Park Building, 500 Clinton Center Drive, Clinton, Mississippi.

**Members Attending:**

Rilla Jones	Mary Margaret King	Pamela Manners
Debra Mays-Jackson	Cindy Melton	Doris Perkins
Ginger Tedder	Corey Welch	Susan McClelland

**Members Absent:**

Shannon Doughty	Kelly Fuller	Kenny Goza
Patrick Gray	Cylesha Hopkins	Latoya Lee

**Mississippi Department of Education (MDE) Personnel Attending:**

Paula Vanderford	Rhonda Smith	Demetrice Watts
Crystal Womack	Erin Meyer, Special Assistant Attorney General	

**I. Call to Order**

Dr. Cindy Melton, chair of the Licensure Commission, called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. on Monday, June 13, 2016. The meeting was held via teleconference in room 407 at the South Pointe Business Park building in Clinton, MS. The notice of the meeting was made at least five (5) days in advance including the date, time, place, and purpose of the meeting, and identified the location of the meeting available to the public as room 407, South Point Business Park, 500 Clinton Center Drive, Clinton, MS.

An audio recording is being made of this meeting and minutes were recorded.

The meeting was called to order at 2:07 p.m. on June 13, 2016, by Dr. Cindy Melton.

**II. Establishment of a Quorum**

Dr. Cindy Melton called the names of the Commission members for roll call. Each member was to state their name and location for the purpose of the meeting.

### III. Establishment of a Quorum

A roll call was taken as follows:

Shannon Doughty	Absent
Kelly Fuller	Absent
Kenny Goza	Absent
Patrick Gray	Absent
Cylesha Hopkins	Absent
Rilla Jones	Present via teleconference, Booneville, MS
Mary Margaret King	Present via teleconference, New Albany, MS
LaToya Lee	Absent
Pamela Manners	Present via teleconference, Biloxi, MS
Debra Mays-Jackson	Present via teleconference, Utica, MS
Susan McClelland	Present via teleconference, Canada*
Cindy Melton	Present, via teleconference, Clinton, MS
Doris Perkins	Present, via teleconference, Mendenhall, MS
Ginger Tedder	Present, via teleconference, Starkville, MS
Corey Welch	Present, via teleconference, Clinton, MS

*Susan McClelland was absent during roll call but came to the Commission meeting during discussion of item at 2:28 p.m.*

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

### IV. Adoption of Agenda

Dr. Cindy Melton motioned for the approval of the adoption of the agenda for the June 13, 2016, special-called teleconference meeting. Doris Perkins motioned to approve the agenda and Ginger Tedder seconded the motion. There was no discussion on the motion on the adoption of the agenda.

The votes were as follows:

Members voting aye:

Rilla Jones  
Mary Margaret King  
Pamela Manners  
Debra Mays-Jackson  
Cindy Melton  
Doris Perkins  
Ginger Tedder  
Corey Welch

Members Abstaining: None

Members voting nay: None

Members absent:

Shannon Doughty  
Kelly Fuller  
Kenny Goza  
Patrick Gray  
Cylesha Hopkins  
LaToya Lee  
Susan McClelland

**V. Information/Action Item:**

1. Dr. Cindy Melton moved to the next item on the agenda which was the discussion and the approval of the temporary rule and to begin the Administrative Procedures Act process to revise Part 4: Licensure Guidelines K-12 to include a special, non-renewable educator license.

Dr. Paula Vanderford provided background information on how the special non-renewable license existed previously and was abused. Dr. Vanderford explained that Dr. Wright initially conducted regional meetings in the past weeks with the superintendents across the states. One (1) of the items that came about was an area in the statute about the non-renewable license, which has not been utilized. Also, the district mentioned that without the interim license, this caused a hardship and a shortage of teachers. The districts are arguing that if they can use the special license to have an individual in the classroom in a particular area of expertise that this would assist with the district in having a more qualified individual even though they may not have received a license as far as being certified or become highly qualified; but it will be better than having a long-term substitute teacher in the classroom.

Dr. Vanderford mentioned that Dr. Wright voiced the concern to the staff and to review. They put together a proposal for the Commission to consider and possibly tighten with stronger parameters so it will not be just another opportunity for any individual to apply. One (1) of the criteria that would be considered by the Commission could be to limit the individual to teach only in the area in which the candidate has a degree. If the district would complete the proper application that indicates they had a job, it would eliminate some applications being submitted.

Also, MDE wanted to have a way to ensure the applicants were currently enrolled in either a traditional or an alternate route program. Dr. Vanderford added that the license could be for students who were caught in the transition of the Praxis CORE while enrolled in the education preparation program where they have

taken and passed the Praxis CORE and is the only requirement they lack at this point. These individuals would be anticipated to be good candidates for this type of license. Another consideration to the license was to make it a non-transferrable and non-renewable license which would not allow individuals to move to another district.

Erin Meyer noted again that the license is non-renewable. After the three (3) years, if the individual has not passed the Praxis CORE (if that is the requirement that individual is lacking based on the education preparation program) or if they did not get through the program within the three (3) years, then the individual will not obtain the license again. The individual will have to go through the entire program and pass based on the statutory requirements for a standard license.

Dr. Vanderford noted she is willing to approve the license with any addition that the Commission members wish to make since it is a draft as a starting point to present for their input. Mrs. Meyer added as well that one (1) concern for the Commission, after speaking with Demetrice Watts, was how far back individuals have been enrolled in educator preparation programs and the likelihood is that the educators are aware of the requirements for a license.

Mrs. Meyer suggested to the Commission that they can look at putting an effective date for the completion, such as for those who have completed an educator preparation program on or after January 1, 2014, and that can be based on the small population that was caught within the legislative change that went into effect September 30, 2015.

Dr. Vanderford mentioned to the Commission that if they approved the item to go to the State Board on Thursday, June 16, 2016, they will ask that the State Board approve a temporary rule to begin the Administrative Procedures Act (APA) process based on the section of the statute that allows the rule to be effective immediately upon filing. The recommendation will still have to go through the APA process and the State Board will have the option to come back after the 50-60 day window that is required to make changes. The temporary rule would benefit the agency by allowing the Mississippi Department of Education to begin accepting applications immediately and issuing the licenses without having to wait due to the APA process.

*Susan McClelland joined the Commission meeting during discussion at 2:28 p.m.*

Dr. Vanderford clarified the changes made and that the candidate will have to meet the following criteria:

- The candidate is enrolled in or has completed a standard or alternate route teacher education program on or after January 1, 2014.
- Add language to years two (2) and three (3) that there will be a verification process between MDE and the district to ensure that the district can renew the

- educator.
- Clarify in the document that the candidate will not be able to add additional endorsements during the three (3) year period and these can only be added on to the five (5) year standard license.

Pamela Manners motioned to approve the criteria for a special, non-renewable educator license. Debra Mays-Jackson seconded the motion.

The votes were as follows:

Members voting aye:

Rilla Jones  
Mary Margaret King  
Pamela Manners  
Debra Mays-Jackson  
Susan McClelland  
Doris Perkins  
Ginger Tedder  
Corey Welch

Members Abstaining: None

Members voting nay:

Cindy Melton

Members absent:

Shannon Doughty  
Kelly Fuller  
Kenny Goza  
Patrick Gray  
Cylesha Hopkins  
LaToya Lee

## **VI. Other Business:**

1. Erin Meyer mentioned the Commission took action on five (5) educator licenses recently and the Office of Educator Misconduct will provide more details at the next regularly scheduled Commission meeting.
2. Dr. Vanderford reminded the Commission that the first Educator Misconduct Task Force meeting would take place on June 14, 2016, at 9:00 a.m. at the South Pointe Business Park, Clinton, MS. Dr. Melton is serving as the Commission representative, and Dr. Patrick Gray will be serving as the administrator role. However, he will not be attending the first meeting. Dr. Vanderford is also

extending an invitation to the Commission members to attend as well.

3. Dr. Cindy Melton reminded the Commission members that the next Commission meeting is scheduled for 10:00 a.m. on July 8, 2016, at the South Pointe Business Park, Clinton, MS.

## VII. Adjourn

On a motion made by Ginger Tedder, seconded by Doris Perkins, the Commission unanimously approved the motion to adjourn at 3:10 p.m.

The votes were as follows:

Members voting aye:

Rilla Jones  
Mary Margaret King  
Pamela Manners  
Debra Mays-Jackson  
Susan McClelland  
Cindy Melton  
Doris Perkins  
Ginger Tedder  
Corey Welch

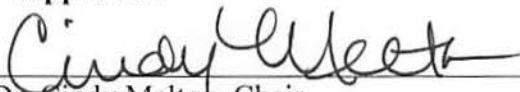
Members Abstaining: None


Members voting nay: None

Members absent:

Shannon Doughty  
Kelly Fuller  
Kenny Goza  
Patrick Gray  
Cylesha Hopkins  
LaToya Lee

**Approved:**

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

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