

Hope Scholarship Subcommittee on Appeals Minutes

Microsoft TEAMS

October 6, 2023

The meeting of the Hope Scholarship Subcommittee on Appeal was called to order by Anthony Woods, Chair, on Friday, October 6, 2023 at 2:01 P.M. after determination that a quorum of members was present through a silent roll call. Subcommittee members attending the meeting: Anthony Woods, Jonathan “Zak” Ritchie and Charlie Russell.

The following West Virginia State Treasurer’s Office (WVSTO) staff members attended the meeting: Steve Bohman, Amy Willard, Michelle Penaloza, Lindsay Marchio, Michelle Storage, James Fuerhoff, and Elizabeth Liston.

The agenda for the meeting consisted of the following

- I. Welcome – Introductions/Roll Call – Call to Order
- II. Approval of Minutes
- III. Review and Consideration of Applicant Appeals
- IV. Review and Consideration of Reimbursement Appeals
- V. Future Meetings
- VI. Adjournment

Approval of the Minutes

Anthony Woods, Chair, indicated the first item on the agenda was the approval of the minutes of the September 15, 2023 meeting, which were distributed to the members prior to the meeting. The Chair asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes and none were noted. Zak Ritchie moved to approve the minutes and the motion was seconded by Charlie Russell. The Chair asked for discussion and there was none. The Chair polled the members and the motion to approve the minutes was adopted.

Review and Consideration of Applicant Appeals

Anthony Woods, Chair, indicated the next item on the agenda of the meeting was the review and consideration of applicant of appeals pursuant to W.Va. CSR 112-19-11. Zak Ritchie made a motion to enter Executive Session as provided in *[West Virginia Code, Chapter 6, Article 9A, Section (4), Subsection (b), Subdivision (12)]*, which states a public agency may hold an Executive Session if there is discussion of “...any matter which, by express provision of federal law or state statute or rule of court is rendered confidential, or which is not considered a public record within the meaning of the freedom

of information act.” Charlie Russell seconded the motion. No discussion was heard. The Chair polled the members, and the motion was approved to move into Executive Session.

The Subcommittee entered Executive Session at 2:04 P.M. There were only board members and board staff in attendance.

The Board returned to order at 2:28 P.M. The Chair issued a reminder that no action was taken during the Executive Session.

Zak Ritchie made the following motions regarding applicant appeals:

- For appeals #190 and #198, I hereby move the appeal be approved and that the Hope Scholarship Board staff notify the applicant of the Board’s determination.
- For appeals #167, #188, #189, #191 through #197, #199 through #204, and #206, I move the appeal be denied and that the Hope Scholarship Board staff notify the applicants of the Board’s determination.
- For appeal #205, I hereby move the appeal be placed on hold in abeyance pending requests for additional documentation from the parents, and that the Hope Scholarship Board staff notify the applicant of the Board’s determination.

The Chair asked if any members wished to vote separately on any of the student application appeals and the offer was declined. Charlie Russell seconded the motion. No discussion was heard. The Chair polled the members and the motion carried.

Review and Consideration of Reimbursement Appeals

Anthony Woods, Chair, indicated the next item on the agenda was the review and consideration of reimbursement appeals pursuant to W.Va. CSR 112-19-11. Zak Ritchie made a motion to enter Executive Session as provided in *[West Virginia Code, Chapter 6, Article 9A, Section (4), Subsection (b), Subdivision (12)]*, which states a public agency may hold an Executive Session if there is discussion of “...any matter which, by express provision of federal law or state statute or rule of court is rendered confidential, or which is not considered a public record within the meaning of the freedom of information act.” Mr. Russell seconded the motion. No discussion was heard. The Chair polled the members, and the motion was approved to move into Executive Session.

The Subcommittee entered Executive Session at 2:31 P.M. There were only board members and board staff in attendance.

The Board returned to order at 2:34 P.M. The Chair issued a reminder that no action was taken during the Executive Session.

Zak Ritchie made a motion that reimbursement appeals #R96 through #R117 be denied and that Hope Scholarship Board staff notify applicants of the Board’s determination.

The Chair asked if any members wished to vote separately on any of the student reimbursement appeals and the offer was declined. Mr. Russell seconded the motion. No discussion was heard. The Chair polled the members and the motion carried.

Future Meetings

The Chair indicated that the next order of business was to discuss future meetings. He stated that the Subcommittee on Appeals will meet as needed depending on eligibility appeals received by staff. Staff will coordinate with subcommittee members on the need for meetings when appeals are received. The date and time of any meetings will be announced later in accordance with the Open Meetings Act.

No additional discussion was heard regarding future meetings.

Adjournment

The Chair asked if there was any other business to come before the Subcommittee on Appeals. Hearing none, Mr. Ritchie made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Russell seconded the motion. Upon hearing no discussion, the Chair polled the members and the motion to adjourn the meeting passed. The meeting was adjourned at 2:36 P.M.

Minutes prepared by Elizabeth Liston

Minutes approved by the Board on November 6, 2023



Anthony Woods

Chair of Hope Scholarship Subcommittee on Appeals