

Hope Scholarship Committee on Appeals Minutes

Microsoft TEAMS

October 3, 2024 at 2:00 P.M.

The meeting of the Hope Scholarship Committee on Appeal was called to order by Jonathan “Zak” Ritchie, Acting Chair, on Thursday, October 3 2024 at 2:01 P.M. after determination that a quorum of members was present through a silent roll call. Charles “Charlie” Russell was in attendance. Anthony Woods was absent.

The following West Virginia State Treasurer’s Office (WVSTO) staff members attended the meeting: Steve Bohman, Amy Willard, Michelle Penaloza, Lindsay Marchio, Mindy Parsley, Amy Constable, Christian White, Kayla McNair, Kortnie Workman, and Elizabeth Liston. Invited guests in attendance were Lauren Plymale from the West Virginia State Auditor’s Office and State Trooper Christopher Eastridge.

The agenda for the meeting consisted of the following:

- I. Welcome – Introductions/Roll Call – Call to Order
- II. Approval of Minutes from the September 18, 2024 meeting
- III. Review and Consideration of Applicant Appeals
- IV. Future Meetings
- V. Adjournment

Approval of the Minutes

Zak Ritchie, Acting Chair, indicated the first item on the agenda was the approval of the minutes of the September 18 2024 meeting, which were distributed to the members prior to the meeting. The Acting Chair asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes and none were noted. Mr. Ritchie moved to approve the minutes and the motion was seconded by Charlie Russell. The Acting Chair asked for discussion and there was none. The Acting Chair polled the members and the motion to approve the minutes was adopted.

Review and Consideration of Applicant Appeals

Zak Ritchie, Acting 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. Charlie Russell 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.” Zak Ritchie seconded the motion. No discussion was heard. The Acting Chair polled the members, and the motion was approved to move into Executive Session.

The Committee entered Executive Session at 2:03 P.M. There were only board members, board staff and invited guests in attendance.

The Board returned to order at 2:26 P.M. The Acting Chair issued a reminder that no action was taken during the Executive Session.

Charlie Russell made the following motion regarding applicant appeals:

- For appeals #288 through #298, I hereby move the appeals be denied and that the Hope Scholarship Board staff notify the applicant of the Board’s determination.

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

Future Meetings

The Acting Chair indicated that the next order of business was to discuss future meetings. He stated that the Committee on Appeals will meet as needed depending on eligibility appeals received by staff. Staff will coordinate with Committee 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 Acting Chair asked if there was any other business to come before the Committee 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 2:27 P.M.

Minutes prepared by Elizabeth Liston

Minutes approved by the Committee on November 8, 2024

Jonathan “Zak” Ritchie
Acting Chair of Hope Scholarship Committee on Appeals