

**SUMMARY MINUTES OF THE COMMISSION FOR ARKANSAS PUBLIC SCHOOL ACADEMIC FACILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION**

**TELECONFERENCE MEETING AGENDA**

**Originating from Secretary Johnny Key's Conference Room  
September 30, 2022, at 10:00 a.m.**

**Commissioner Members**

Johnny Key, Secretary, Arkansas Department of Education  
Larry Walther, Secretary Arkansas Department of Finance and Administration – *via teleconference (late)*  
Mark Conine, President, Arkansas Development Finance Authority – *via teleconference*

**ADE / Division Staff in Attendance**

Tim Cain, Director, DPSAFT  
Tyrel Pace, Assistant Director, DPSAFT – *via teleconference*  
Carol Bowman, Administrative Analyst, DPSAFT – *via teleconference*

**Quorum was met.**

**Meeting called to order.**

**1. Summary Meeting Minutes – August 17, 2022**

Accepted

**2. Statewide State of Condition of Academic Facilities – October 1, 2022**

Tim Cain indicated that Ark. Code Ann. § 6-21-112(f)(15) requires the Division to report by October 1 of each year to the Governor, the House and Senate Committees on Education, and the Academic Facilities Oversight Committee on the state of condition of academic facilities statewide. The report included summary results of lawfully required inspections of public school academic facilities by state agencies and commissions.

**The Commission approved the report for dissemination as required by law.**

**3. Academic Facilities Master Plan Program – State Plan – October 1, 2022**

Tim Cain reported that Ark. Code Ann. § 6-21-112(f)(16) requires the Division to report by October 1 of each even-numbered year to the Governor, the House and Senate Committees on Education, and the Academic Facilities Oversight Committee on the state academic facilities Master Plan. The state facilities Master Plan included the (1) list of committed projects for public school academic facilities and the estimated amount of state financial participation and (2) the four-year rolling forecast of planned new construction projects related to public school academic facilities.

Secretary Key indicated the Report was very comprehensive and necessary to provide adequate facilities throughout the state.

**The Commission approved the report for dissemination as required by law.**

4. **Act 962 of 2015 - High-Growth School Districts**

Tim Cain stated that per Act 962 of 2015, the Commission shall annually determine which school districts qualify as high-growth school districts under this section. Annually, by November 1, the Commission shall prepare a list of the qualified school districts. He indicated there were 21 school districts with enrollment growth over 4% over the last two years.

Secretary Key indicated the top growth district on the list was a rural school district and it was significant that some rural school districts were gaining.

**The Commission approved the report for dissemination as required by law.**

5. **Rules**

A. **Commission for Arkansas Public School Academic Facilities and Transportation Rules Governing the Academic Facilities Partnership Program (Sections 5.00 and 7.00 only)**

Tim Cain indicated the proposed rule changes were critical to provide the Commission more flexibility to move funds from one category to another in Year-1 as opposed to waiting until Year-2 as the current rule requires. He also indicated school districts could request an early construction start in unusual and limited circumstances and the school district must assume financial responsibility for the project if it is not funded during the cycle. The early construction starts would not be issued for convenience sake and Division could refuse approval of a request.

**The Commission approved the proposed rules pending approval by the Governor for public comment release.**

Secretary Key stated the Division staff did a great job on the Reports and thanked the staff for their hard work. Commission Conine stated that the Reports were well prepared and thorough and also thanked the Division staff.

Secretary Walther indicated he was in agreement with the Reports.

6. **Adjourn**