

West Michigan Academy of Environmental Science  
**4463 Leonard NW Walker, MI 49534**  
**Dr. Philip A. Wheeler Environmental Center**

WMAES Regular Board Meeting  
**6:00 p.m. January 14, 2025**

APPROVED MEETING MINUTES

1. Call to Order

K. DeerInWater called the meeting to order at 6:03 P.M.

2. Roll Call

<b>Board Members</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent</b>
M. Smith – President		X
K. DeerInWater – Vice President	X	
J. Kingma – Secretary/Treasurer	X	
M. Vander Weide – Director	X	
Vacant – Director		

Others Present: Craig McCrumb – CMU; Nate VanDuinen – WMAES; Kevin Maitner – WMAES; Ali DuBois - CSA

3. WMAES Mission Statement

West Michigan Academy of Environmental Science strives to provide an environment that will foster creativity, promote academic achievement, and develop sound character and citizenship principles emphasizing responsibility to the environment and society while improving each child's self-esteem and self-concept.

K. DeerInWater read aloud the mission statement.

4. Public Comment for Agenda Items Only

None

5. Approval of Agenda

It was moved by Member M. Vander Weide and supported by Member J. Kingma to approve the agenda as amended changing item "13.C." Board Member Reappointment – Marnie Vander Weide - Term Expirations: 8/17/24 to 8/17/25.  
3 Yes 0 No - Motion Carried Unanimously

6. Approval of Minutes of the December 10, 2024 Regular Meeting

It was moved by Member J. Kingma supported by Member M. Vander Weide to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes for December 10, 2024, as submitted.

3 Yes 0 No - Motion Carried Unanimously

7. Elementary Art (Discussion)

Discussed. Mrs. Thompson presented how she implements elements learned from attending the Green Schools conference last spring.

8. Service-Learning Trip (Discussion/Action)

It was moved by Member M. Vander Weide supported by Member J. Kingma to approve the Service-Learning Trip with \$3,500 to put towards costs.

3 Yes 0 No - Motion Carried Unanimously

9. Senior Trip (Discussion/Action)

It was moved by Member J. Kingma supported by Member M. Vander Weide to approve the Senior Trip

3 Yes 0 No - Motion Carried Unanimously

10. Correspondence

None

11. Finances

A. December 2024 Financial Statements

It was moved by Member J. Kingma supported by Member M. Vander Weide to approve the December 2024 Financial Statements, pending audit.

3 Yes 0 No - Motion Carried Unanimously

B. Check Signer Update (Discussion)

Discussed.

It was moved by Member M. Vander Weide supported by Member J. Kingma to approve updating the check signers to Matt Smith, Marnie Vander Weide, Jason Kingma, and Kathy DeerInWater.

3 Yes 0 No - Motion Carried Unanimously

C. Finance Committee (Discussion)

Discussed.

It was moved by Member J. Kingma supported by Member M. Vander Weide to approve the Finance Committee with Kathy DeerInWater and Jason Kingma as committee members and Marnie Vander Weide as a substitute.

3 Yes 0 No - Motion Carried Unanimously

12. Old Business

- A. Master Planning
  - a. Update on Elementary HVAC
  - b. RFP for Landscaping
- B. Board Member Vacancy

All items in 12.A. – 12.B. were discussed.

13. New Business

- A. Re-Enrollment/New Enrollment Schedule/Approval of Enrollment Caps & Lottery Procedures - action item

Moved by Member M. Vander Weide, supported by Member J. Kingma, to approve the enrollment dates. Re-enrollment: February 3, 2025 – March 2, 2025 – Open Enrollment: March 3, 2025 – April 11, 2025 – Lottery Date & Time: April 15, 2025 at 4:00 p.m. Maximum enrollment is 900 students.

3 Yes 0 No - Motion Carried Unanimously

- B. Fall 2024 Board Policy Update (Discussion/Approval)

It was moved by Member J. Kingma supported by Member M. Vander Weide to approve the Fall 2024 Board Policy Update.

3 Yes 0 No - Motion Carried Unanimously

- C. Board Member Reappointment - Marnie Vander Weide - Term Expiration: 8/17/25 (Discussion/Approval)

It was moved by Member M. Vander Weide supported by Member J. Kingma to nominate Marnie Vander Weide for another term on the West Michigan Academy of

Environmental Science Board of Directors.  
3 Yes 0 No - Motion Carried Unanimously

D. Employee Engagement Survey (Discussion)

Discussed. Leadership reviewed Employee Engagement Survey data.

E. Deer Management Plan (discussion/action item)

Board discussed gathering data on potential deer management plan.

F. Filter First (Discussion)

Leadership discussed the Filter First plan updates

G. School Sign RFP (Discussion/Approval)

It was moved by Member M. Vander Weide supported by Member J. Kingma to approve the School Sign RFP process to begin, that includes the creation of an RFP, not putting one out.

3 Yes 0 No - Motion Carried Unanimously

H. PD Advisory Committee (Discussion/Approval)

Discussed.

It was moved by Member J. Kingma supported by Member M. Vander Weide to approve the PD Advisory Committee.

3 Yes 0 No - Motion Carried Unanimously

14. Other Business

None

15. CMU Representative Update

16. Management Company Report – Information Only

- Principals' Report
- Superintendent's Report

Discussed.

17. Extended Public Comment

None

18. Closed Session (If requested)

None

19. Next Regular Board Meeting: 6:00 p.m. – **Tuesday, February 11, 2025** – Literature Nest, WMAES

Confirmed

20. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned by J. Kingma – 8:19 p.m.

I certify that, to the best of my knowledge, the foregoing minutes of the January 14, 2025 Regular Board Meeting are accurate and correct.

*Jason Kingma*

Board Secretary  
January 14, 2025

This meeting is a meeting of the Board of Directors in public for the purpose of conducting the Academy's business and is not to be considered a public community meeting. There is a time for public participation during the meeting.

Public will be allowed to address the board during the public comment section(s) of the meeting as noted on the board meeting agenda.

A copy of meeting minutes is available for public inspection at the Academy office within eight business days for proposed minutes and within five business days of approval for approved minutes.

Any individual with a disability who needs special accommodations is encouraged to contact School Principals Nathan VanDuinen or Kevin Maitner at 616-791-7454 in advance of the Board meeting to make arrangements.