Dr. Deanie Mehl, president, called the meeting to order. Other Board members present were Ms. Shannon Blatt, Ms. Jeannie Cole, Ms. Barbara Hathcock, Ms. Yvonne Keaton-Martin, and Mr. Wyman R. Wade, Jr. Dr. David Hunton was not present. Administrators present were Dr. Benny Gooden, Dr. Gordon Floyd, Dr. Brenda Sellers, Dr. Barry Owen, Ms. Zena Featherston, Mr. Charles Warren and Dr. Mary Ann Johns. Ms. Carolyn Kincaid was also present.

Dr. Deanie Mehl called the meeting to order and yielded to Dr. Gooden.

Dr. Gooden informed the Board that under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, one category of funding is a competitive grant awarded to states titled “Race to the Top.” These funds are intended to reward states which have pursued school improvement initiatives.

Dr. Gooden presented a brief power point presentation detailing the purpose, responsibilities, and selection criteria of the grant. FSPS is currently engaged in many of the initiatives contained in the memorandum of understanding which is required of participating Districts. There was discussion with FSCTA representatives Chuck Ellery and Belinda Walker regarding the grant and the association’s willingness to be a part of this initiative. Dr. Gooden noted that an important component of the application is the ability to work together with the State to improve the education system. (A copy of the power point presentation is attached.)

Ms. Cole made a motion, seconded by Ms. Hathcock, to approve Fort Smith School District’s participation in the Arkansas Race to the Top Memorandum of Understanding and funding initiative and to authorize the Board President and Superintendent to sign the MOU. The vote for approval was 6/0.

There was no further business and the meeting adjourned at 12:55 p.m.

Dr. Deanie Mehl, President

Mr. Wyman R. Wade, Jr., Secretary