

Frontier Regional School Committee Meeting
Frontier Regional School
Media Center
Tuesday, September 12, 2017

MINUTES

Present: Chair Cyndie Ouimette, William Smith, Mary Ramon, Robert Decker, III, William Marrapese, Philip Kantor, Judy Pierce, Lynn Roberts and Bob Halla; Principal Darius Modestow; Director of Business Services Patricia Cavanaugh and Superintendent Lynn Carey

Absent: Damien Fosmot, Keith McFarland

Chair Cyndie Ouimette called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. She thanked everyone for the last 5 years, as she served as Chair.

Superintendent Carey called for nominations for Chair. On a motion from Bob Decker, and a second from Bill Smith, Bob Halla was nominated Chair. Approved 9-0-0.

The meeting was then turned over to Chair Bob Halla who asked for nominations for Vice Chair. On a motion from Bob Halla, and a second from Bob Decker, Bill Marrapese was nominated Vice Chair. Approved 8-0-1.

Nominations were called for Secretary. On a motion from Bob Halla, and a second from Bob Decker, Philip Kantor was nominated as Secretary. Approved 9-0-0. At this point there was a motion made by Bob Halla, seconded by Bill Smith, to have Dr. Carey take the meeting minutes. Approved 9-0-0.

Chair Halla then appointed the following representatives for Budget Subcommittee: Bill Smith, Mary Ramon, Phil Kantor and Keith McFarland.

Chair Halla also appointed the following representatives for the Building Exploration Subcommittee: Bob Decker, Phil Kantor, Judy Pierce and Bill Marrapese.

Additional appointments included Bob Decker as the Collaborative Representative, Bob Decker as the MARS Representative, and Bill Marrapese as the Policy Review Committee Representative.

On a motion from Cyndie Ouimette, and a second from Bill Marrapese, the Minutes of June 13, 2017 were approved 9-0-0.

Patti Cavanaugh, Director of Business Services, presented the Financial Statement. She presented 43 warrants for FY17 totaling \$2,290,799.90 and 31 warrants for FY18 totaling \$2,675,601.76. It was announced that the Scanlon audit is scheduled from October 30th

through November 3rd. The monthly budget sheets need to be analyzed to ensure all payments and encumbrances are posted under the correct budget lines.

Under Public Comment, Evan Moore, a state of Vermont parent, requested information about out-of-state tuition.

James Morrissey, a resident, inquired if the Fee Schedule for the rental of school facilities had been reviewed. He requested the rental agreement for the church that rents the FRSD auditorium. He was instructed to send a request in writing to the central office.

There was no Student Advisory Council Report.

Under Unfinished Business, Policy EEA: Student Transportation was discussed as to amending paragraph 9 to read Grades K-3 students will not be released from the vehicle unless a parent, guardian or designated caregiver *or sibling in grade 4 or higher, with parent or guardian approval*, is present. On a motion from Bob Halla, and a second from Bill Marrapese, the amendment to Policy EEA was approved 9-0-0.

The next item was an update on the building located at 219 Christian Lane. The Town of Whately does not want to assume responsibility of the property. They are interested in selling their adjoining lot concurrently with Frontier Regional School Districts', due to the cross-encumbrances on both properties. The Building Exploration Subcommittee will preview a draft RFP. On a motion from Cyndie Ouimette, and a second from Bill Smith, the Building Exploration Subcommittee will develop an RFP on the districts' parcel and, if possible, work with the Town of Whately to market the properties concurrently.

Bob Smith, Track Coach, spoke about the current condition of the track. It was well-built 20 years ago. We need repairs to it immediately because of the wear and tear on the inside lane, starting lanes and runways. The repairs will last for about 2 years. A new track will cost approximately \$600,000. On a motion from Bob Decker, and a second from Bill Smith, it was agreed to allow funds from the Athletic Light Fund, not to exceed \$20,000, for repairs to the track by a vote of 9-0-0.

Lastly under Unfinished Business, if we add the track replacement to the list of items needing updating, the total of the Bond Anticipation Note (BAN) will be \$3,414,000. Patti Cavanaugh provided proposals for 10, 15 and 20 year estimates that show the effect on each town for each year of borrowing. It was recommended we set a deadline for the voting on the BAN so that we can go to the towns. We will need to meet with the four town Board of Select Boards and Finance Committees to discuss our facility needs. The school committee directed the superintendent set up a meeting of the Frontier Regional School Committee and the four towns' Select Boards and Finance Committees for Tuesday, October 24, 2017 at 6:00 pm at the Frontier Regional School Media Center. Superintendent Carey will send out invite letters.

Under New Business, Bob Lesko, Director of School Facilities, gave an update on Summer Building Maintenance and new personnel. Frontier Regional School had much work done this summer. There was heavy cleaning done, painting, site maintenance, new stair treads

installed, plumbing and electrical done. We also had lead testing for the water, lighting project and we replaced the hot water heater. A 12,000 gallon underground oil tank had maintenance and a new tank for the generator was added.

The MASC/MASS Joint Conference was discussed. On a motion from Bill Smith and a second from Bob Decker, Bill Marrapese was voted as the Official Voting Delegate. Approved 9-0-0.

Florrie Paige, Interim Food Service Director Consultant, was introduced to the Committee. Patti gave an overview of the changes being made in the lunch program. We need to bring the costs down and increase participation. Collections and claims need to be more consistent. Food selections, presentation, purchasing and partnering with local farmers are improving. Short term investment of having an interim food service director/consultant is to put practices and procedures in place for the permanent replacement. We need to establish a budget for school lunch and provide oversight. The Interim Director is preparing to ensure the newly hired person will have success. She will write a complete job description and provide training for the new Food Services Director. It was recommended to have one Food Services Director for all five schools.

There was no report from the Chair and no report from The Collaborative representative.

Principal Modestow gave the Principal's Report. He spoke to the 1:1 high school computer program initiative which has provide each student with a chromebook for use at school and at home. He noted that they are offering a free Greenfield Community College business course and that students who take this course will earn three credits from the college. He thanked Sarah Mitchell, Director of Secondary Education, for her hard work on this. Sarah is also K-12 Health Coordinator and as such she will be providing a lifeguard and CPR course on early release Fridays for students at Frontier Regional. Principal Modestow also talked about the English Department's reading of "Alive: The Story of the Andes Survivors" by Piers Hall Read and informed the committee of the telecast with a survivor to take place on September 29th to discuss the book. Lastly, fundraising efforts to help a school near Houston, Texas that was flooded due to Hurricane Harvey were discussed.

Superintendent Carey gave her report. She spoke to the smooth opening of the school year and that she has made plans to be more visible in the school buildings this year. The administration team met to discuss blizzard bags and decided to spend this year researching other districts who are engaging in the program. Superintendent Carey spoke about the joint four-town and Frontier Regional School District Building Study requested in April 2015. It was recommended that this particular study is no longer relevant to our current needs and we will not go forward with it.

The Committee did not enter into Executive Session.

On a motion from Bill Smith, and a second from Bill Marrapese, the meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m. Approved 9-0-0.

Summary of Documents Presented:

- (1) Subcommittee Index Sheet
- (2) Minutes of June 13, 2017
- (3) Monthly Financial Statement
- (4) Policy EEA: Student Transportation
- (5) Principal's Report
- (6) Superintendent's Report
- (7) Employment List
- (8) Monthly Enrollment

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn M. Carey, Superintendent