

ESSEX NORTH SHORE AGRICULTURAL & TECHNICAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

REGULAR MEETING

MINUTES

DECEMBER 13, 2012

MEMBERS PRESENT: G.R. Harvey, Essex, Chairman  
M. Patterson, Department of Agriculture, Vice Chairman  
L. Bonfanti, Peabody, Secretary  
L. Siewko-Story, Department of Agriculture  
D. Porteous, Beverly  
M. Crowe, Boxford  
D. Ketcham, Hamilton  
M. Teixeira, Gloucester  
P. Anderson, Lynnfield  
J. Sabella, Manchester  
M. Sweeney, Marblehead  
E. Weitzler, Middleton  
B. Perkins, Rockport  
T. St. Pierre, Salem  
W. Jackson, Swampscott

MEMBERS ABSENT: D. Cahill, Department of Agriculture  
R. Fravel, Danvers  
Nahant  
C. Robinson, Topsfield  
W. Nichols, Wenham

OTHERS PRESENT: D. O'Connell, Superintendent NSRVSD  
C. Worth, District Treasurer  
K. Nigro, PMA  
B. Morgan, Principal, NSTHS  
S. Smith, Attorney EATHS  
J. Alden, Chairman, NSRVSD General Advisory Board  
J. Kimani, President, EATHS Hathorne Federation of Teachers, Local 1269  
K. McKay, Secretary, EATHS Hathorne Federation of Teachers, Local 1269  
C. Levesque, Recording Secretary  
Others

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:42 p.m.

Mr. Harvey welcomed and introduced Ms. Kimani, President and Ms. McKay, Secretary of the Essex Agricultural and Technical High School Hathorne Federation of Teachers, Local 1269.

2. Tentative Regular Meeting Minutes for Approval

A Motion was made by Mrs. Sweeney and seconded by Mr. St. Pierre and VOTED to approve the Tentative Regular Meeting Minutes of October 11, 2012 as presented. Dr. Patterson, Mr. Crowe and Mr. Perkins abstained.

### 3. Treasurer's Report

Mrs. Worth reviewed the November 30, 2012 Balance Sheet and Profit & Loss Statement. There was no discussion.

It was moved by Dr. Anderson and seconded by Mrs. Sweeney and unanimously VOTED to place the November 30, 2012 Balance Sheet on file for audit.

It was moved by Dr. Anderson and seconded by Mrs. Sweeney and unanimously VOTED to place the November 30, 2012 Profit and Loss Report on file for audit.

### 4. Owner's Project Manager Report

#### Request to Award

A motion was made by Mrs. Sweeney and seconded by Mr. St. Pierre to approve the Gilbane "Recommendation to Award" (RTA) for the following:

Food Service/Kitchen Equipment not to exceed \$1,013,572.00 be awarded to Boston Showcase Company of Newton Highlands, MA as recommended by the School Building Committee.

#### Roll Call Vote:

Yes - Dr. Story, Mr. Porteous, Mr. Crowe, Ms. Teixeira, Mr. Ketcham, Dr. Anderson, Mr. Sabella, Mrs. Sweeney, Ms. Weitzler, Mr. Bonfanti, Mr. Perkins, Mr. St. Pierre, Mr. Jackson, Dr. Patterson, Mr. Harvey

No - None

Motion carries.

#### Authorization to proceed (ATP)

Mr. Nigro explained that ATP is utilized in order to expedite work and avoid delays. He reviewed ATP 30-36 which will ultimately result in change orders. ATP 31 & 35 are credits and result in a savings of \$39,000.00. ATP 36 – oil laden soil that was discovered when some farm buildings were demolished. The actual disposal cost of the material was negotiated from \$85.00 to \$54.00 a ton.

A Motion was made by Mr. St. Pierre and seconded by Ms. Weitzler and unanimously VOTED to approve the disposal of the oil laden soil at \$54.00 per ton.

#### North Shore Regional Vocational School District Invoice

A Motion was made by Mrs. Sweeney and seconded by Ms. Weitzler and unanimously VOTED to approve reimbursement to North Shore Regional Vocational School District in the amount of \$9,225.00 for the installation of American Tank 600 gallon, double wall fuel storage tank with a fill rite pump and meter by Townsend Oil, Co., Inc in Danvers, MA.

#### Essex Agricultural and Technical High School Invoice

A Motion was made by Ms. Weitzler and seconded by Mrs. Sweeney and unanimously VOTED to approve reimbursing Essex Agricultural and Technical High School in the amount of \$17,790.00 for work performed to relocate the Dog Grooming program.

#### CDW Invoice

Mr. Nigro reported that CDW was hired to monitor the removal of an oil tank.

A Motion was made by Mrs. Sweeney and seconded by Ms. Teixeira and unanimously VOTED to approve payment to CDW in the amounts of \$15,776.64 and \$1,088.50 for monitoring the removal of an oil tank.

### Gilbane Co. Requisition

A Motion was made by Mrs. Sweeney and seconded by Ms. Weitzler and unanimously VOTED to approve Gilbane Co. Requisition in the amount of \$3,806,845.00.

### Guaranteed Maximum Price

Mr. Nigro reported that members of the School Building Committee and Superintendents' O'Connell and Bourgeois took a hard line stance in negotiating the Guaranteed Maximum Price with Gilbane Co.

It was moved by Dr. Anderson and seconded by Ms. Teixeira and unanimously VOTED to approve the Guaranteed Maximum Price received from Gilbane Co. in the amount of \$110,763,211.00, which included change orders to date, as recommended by the School Building Committee.

Mr. O'Connell stated that he is reaching out to equipment vendors for the new school and is receiving better prices than Gilbane. The equipment overage was at one time over \$800,000 and now is at \$600,000.

Mr. Nigro showed the construction progress on screen i.e. concrete summary, steel progress, etc.

#### 5. Essex North Shore Agricultural and Technical Foundation, Inc. Report – Mr. Dean Porteous

Mr. Porteous reported that the 1964 Buick Lesabre was sold for a high bid of \$8,100.00. The Foundation has received a firm offer of \$20,000 for the 1940 Packard that was donated.

#### 6. Superintendents' Report

Mr. Harvey referred to an email received from Mr. Bourgeois regarding Essex Aggie's E&D account and allocating \$300,000 from the school's account in FY14 to the new district.

In Mr. Bourgeois absence, Dr. Patterson explained that the Essex Aggie's Board of Trustees intent is to transfer \$300,000 from the E&D account in FY14 to the new school. They are waiting for approval of this transfer from the Commissioner of Education.

Also of issue, is the Essex North Shore Agricultural and Technical School District has earned interest of \$36,953 in FY12 and a projected interest income of \$40,000 to \$60,000 in FY13. Mr. Bourgeois stated in an email to Mr. O'Connell "the Trustees do not wish to share in expenses for the new district until these discretionary funds have been exhausted."

In Mr. Bourgeois absence, Dr. Patterson stated that the above was presented to the Trustees and some Trustees questioned why Essex Aggie was sharing expenses when the new district has funds. Dr. Patterson stated that he would prefer that Mr. Bourgeois address these issues with the Committee.

#### 7. Sub-Committee Reports

There was no meeting or report by **District Policy**.

There was no meeting or report by **Finance & Property Policy**

#### **Personnel Policy**

Mr. Porteous gave his rationale as to why a job description for Superintendent-Director was put on hold at this time. Mr. Porteous reported that MASC strongly discourages the hiring co-superintendents.

A Motion was made by Mr. Porteous and seconded by Mrs. Sweeney to interview both in-house Superintendents on January 3, 2013 and January 7, 2013 and if neither Superintendent met the needs of the new district then an outside search for a Superintendent would begin. Discussion followed.

Mr. Bonfanti stated that there are two strong internal candidates that should proceed with interviews and then recommend to the full Committee how best to proceed. Mr. Bonfanti stated that Mr. Gilbert, MASC, advised the Sub-Committee that co-superintendents do not work.

Ms. Teixeira reviewed her list of what needs to be done by a new Superintendent-Director.  
Ms. Weitzler questioned what the plan for hiring a Superintendent-Director is; what is the start date?

Mrs. Sweeney stated that the urgency for hiring a Superintendent-Director is that a FY14 Budget needs to be presented to the cities and towns this spring.

Dr. Patterson stated that there is great respect for both Superintendents and student success is great between both schools. He has been impressed how the Superintendents have collaborated throughout this process. Dr. Patterson stated that he has received feedback from people in the communities that this Committee needs to conduct an open search. The process can be done expeditiously and would not need to hire an outside firm. Dr. Patterson urged Mr. Porteous to modify his Motion.

Mr. Porteous stated that he feels his Motion represents an honest and transparent process.

Ms. Teixeira stated that while there is a Motion on the table she would not want to force members to make a decision if they feel uncomfortable.

Mr. Sabella feels the Committee will be scrutinized if the Committee does not conduct an open search. Mr. Perkins agrees.

Mr. Crowe stated that this Committee has never developed a hiring timeline, tentative budget and key dates, etc. Clearer direction needs to be developed.

Mrs. Sweeney stated the Motion on the table is to interview the two Superintendents in January and then decide how to move forward.

Dr. Patterson stated that the current Superintendents could get the Committee through a search. He is not diminishing the work that the Personnel Sub-Committee has done to date, but feels it would be a huge mistake not to have an open search.

Mr. O'Connell was asked his opinion and he stated that he finds this discussion confusing as he did ask at the last School Committee meeting if the Committee was hiring from within and did the Committee have a timeline. The answer last month was yes to both questions. He stated that although he is disappointed, he respects whatever process the Committee chooses. He also stated that inside candidates should be granted interviews in January and then a decision could be made as the best way to proceed. There are many administrative decisions that need to be addressed as soon as possible, i.e. students' schedules, exploratory schedule, In-District vs. Out of District, just to name a few

Mr. Perkins feels very uncomfortable making a decision tonight. He understood that the Superintendents were working well together and it is critical that this continue to the end of the school year.

Mr. O'Connell reported that due to both schools preparing for Coordinated Program Reviews collaborative professional developments between the two schools had to be postponed.

A Point of Order was made by Dr. Anderson.

It was moved by Dr. Anderson and seconded by Mr. Porteous to interview both in-house candidates on January 3, 2013 and January 7, 2013 and the Personnel Sub-Committee will report to the full School Committee on January 10, 2013.

A roll call vote was taken:

Yes – Mr. Porteous, Dr. Anderson, Mrs. Sweeney

No - Dr. Story, Mr. Crowe, Ms. Teixeira, Mr. Ketcham, Mr. Sabella, Ms. Weitzler, Mr. Bonfanti, Mr. Perkins, Mr. St. Pierre, Mr. Jackson, Dr. Patterson, Mr. Harvey.

Motion Defeated.

Discussion followed with regards to preparing a timeline – schedule of what needs to be accomplished until the opening of the new school.

Dr. Patterson offered that he would be willing to serve on a small committee to prepare a merger activities timeline. After discussion, Dr. Patterson, Mr. Perkins, Mr. Crowe and Superintendents O’Connell and Bourgeois will serve on a temporary sub-committee with its sole purpose to develop a timeline.

Dr. Patterson will contact members and schedule a meeting as soon as possible.

8. Other

Mr. Harvey reminded members that the Annual Dinner/Meeting is scheduled for January 10, 2013. Mr. Harvey stated that he would only accept nominations for Chair from the current Vice Chair. The North Shore Regional Vocational School Committee will meet at 5:00 p.m. Dinner will follow at 6:00 p.m. in the Log Bridge Inn. The Essex North Shore Agricultural and Technical School Committee will meet after dinner at approximately 7:30 p.m.

Mrs. Sweeney stated that Rep. Joyce Spiliotis, who represented Peabody in the Massachusetts House of Representatives since 2003, died of cancer on November 29, 2012. Rep. Spiliotis will be remembered for her fierce commitment to her constituents, work on local issues and supported the merging of the new school district.

9. Warrant

A Motion was made by Dr. Anderson and seconded by Mrs. Sweeney unanimously VOTED to approve the Warrant of December 13, 2012 and place on file for audit.

10. Adjourn

It was moved by Mrs. Sweeney and seconded by Ms. Teixeira and VOTED unanimously to adjourn.

The Chairman declared the meeting adjourned at 10:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary

Meeting hand-outs

- None