

BARRE SUPERVISORY UNION #61 SCHOOL DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
Barre Supervisory Union – Conference Room
May 10, 2016 - 6:00 p.m.

MINUTES

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chad Allen (BT) - Chair
Giuliano Cecchinelli, II (BC) – Vice Chair
J. Guy Isabelle (SHS) - Clerk
Joe Blakely (SHS) – arrived at 6:15 p.m.
Brenda Buzzell (BT)
Kristin McCarthy (BT)
Tyler Smith (BC)
Sonya Spaulding (BC)

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Carlotta Perantoni (SHS)

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:

John Pandolfo, Superintendent
Lisa Perreault, Business Manager

GUESTS PRESENT:

Video Vision Tech Dave Delcore-Times Argus Stacy Emerson Brian Hemenway

1. Call to Order

The Chair, Mr. Allen, called the Tuesday, May 10, 2016, meeting to order at 6:01 p.m., which was held at the Barre Supervisory Union Central Office in the Conference room.

2. Additions and/or Deletions to the Agenda

Add: Negotiations/Contract Issues to Executive Session

3. Public Comment

None.

4. Approval of Minutes

4.1 Approval of Minutes – April 12, 2016 Regular Meeting

On a motion by Mrs. Spaulding, seconded by Mrs. McCarthy, the Board voted 4 to 0 to approve the Minutes of the April 12, 2016 Regular Meeting. Mr. Isabelle abstained.

5. New Business

5.1 Transportation STA Bid

A proposal from Student Transportation of America was distributed. A letter from First Student was distributed (they will not be bidding on the current available contract). Mr. Pandolfo provided an overview of the current busing structure and advised regarding Act 153 legislation that requires compliance by June 1, 2016 (Transportation at the SU level with one busing scheme or multiple schemes with a cost not to exceed the single busing scheme), with implementation no later than July 1, 2017. A report needs to be submitted (for approval) to the Agency of Education no later than June 1, 2016. At the May 9, 2016 meeting, the BCEMS voted to continue with STA. The BTMES Board has indicated they require more time to complete analysis. Mr. Pandolfo advised that in accordance with Act 153, the SU Board is responsible for making the ultimate decision. Mrs. Buzzell questioned the legality of the SU Board making the decision prior to an official vote to consolidate governance. In response to a query, Mrs. Buzzell advised that BTMES would not be submitting a proposal to provide transportation for the entire SU. Mrs. Buzzell advised regarding past parental discord regarding the outsourcing of busing. It was noted that due to a shortage of bus drivers, BTMES has been using an outside company (STA) throughout the 2015 – 2016 year.

Discussion switched to special education transportation. Mrs. Perreault distributed a document titled ‘Transportation Comparison STA/BT/Spec. Education’. Mrs. Perreault provided an overview of the document. It was noted that the comparison document does not reflect all of the BTMES costs, e.g. payroll, management, and liability. Mrs. Perreault advised that additional analysis needs to be performed regarding expenses at the BTMES and SU levels. It was noted that the Director of Special Services spends much time

coordinating transportation and that his time would be better spent on other areas relating to special education. **Mr. Isabelle moved to table discussion until further analysis is performed and additional information is provided. The motion was not seconded.** Mr. Hemenway (of STA) advised that there are time constraints, as new buses need to be ordered by May 15, 2016 in order to assure delivery by the start of the 2016 – 2017 school year. **On a motion by Mr. Blakely, seconded by Mrs. Spaulding, the Board voted 4 to 2 to accept the STA proposal for busing of the Supervisory Union’s Special Education students. Mr. Blakely, Mr. Isabelle, Mr. Smith and Mrs. Spaulding voted for the motion. Mrs. Buzzell and Mrs. McCarthy voted against the motion.**

6. Old Business

6.1 Update on Facility Director Position

A copy of a document titled ‘Barre Supervisory Union Facilities Director Hiring Process and Timeline’ was distributed. Mr. Pandolfo advised that interviews for the position of Facilities Director are scheduled for May 11, 2016, with the goal to interview finalists on May 17, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. In response to a query, it was noted that Mr. Tewksbury and/or Mr. Paterson may attend the meeting in Mrs. Buzzell and Mrs. McCarthy’s absence, but as they are not on the SU Board, they are not eligible to vote. Some of the qualifications required for the Facilities Director position include; personnel management, a detailed understanding of work to be performed (to enable a good working relationship with contractors and vendors), ability to interface with the Union, and the ability to effectively communicate and coordinate with building administrators.

6.2 Update on Organizational Structure

Mr. Pandolfo distributed a document titled ‘BARRE SUPERVISORY UNION Organizational Chart Version 3’. Mr. Pandolfo provided an overview of the flow chart type document, noting changes to the existing structure. In response to a query, Mr. Pandolfo advised that the reorganization is cost neutral.

6.3 Update on Supervisory Union Building Renovations

A floor plan documenting proposed changes to the second floor was distributed. Mr. Pandolfo provided an overview of the proposed changes and the timeline for completion. It was noted that the maintenance crew will perform most of the work in October and November of 2016. \$20,000 is budgeted for these changes. Additional parking needs will be addressed in the future. In response to a query, Mr. Pandolfo advised that due to the lack of an elevator, accommodations are made to meet on the first floor whenever necessary.

6.4 Supervisory Union Board Meeting Schedule

Mr. Pandolfo distributed a proposed schedule for Board and Committee meetings. There was no objection to the SU Board meeting on the third Thursday of each month. This change, if finalized will most likely take effect in July 2016. Two documents were distributed; ‘Annual School Board Self-Assessment Survey’ and ‘Barre Supervisory Union Tri-Board Retreat June 21, 2016, DRAFT 1’. Board Members reviewed the new documents. Mr. Pandolfo advised that due to scheduling conflicts, Harry Frank, rather than Val Gardner, will be facilitating the Tri-Board retreat.

6.5 Sub Pay

A document titled Vermont Sub Rates was distributed. Mr. Pandolfo provided a brief overview of the document which outlines a first proposal for Boards to consider. Mr. Pandolfo advised regarding the current method of reimbursement for substitutes at Spaulding High School. At SHS, substitutes are payed an hourly rate based on ‘instructional’ hours. A three hours of instruction time would result in sub pay of \$52.50; a six hours of instructions time would result in sub pay of \$105.00. Substitutes are not paid for non-instructional time. The document provided analysis regarding the difference in the number of ‘sub days’ that would be covered under the budget using the proposed sub rates.

7. Other Business as Needed

None.

8. Reports to the Board

8.1 Superintendent

A copy of the Superintendent’s report dated May 10, 2016 was distributed. The report included information pertaining to; renovations to the SU building, the Business Office, Curriculum, the BTMES Principal search), Special Services, Technology, Early Education, Human Resources, and the VSBIT BSU HR Assessment. Documents containing insurance claims data (for the SU and state averages) were distributed. A document titled ‘VSBIT Self-Assessment Results and Recommendations – HR Management Practices Conducted by Carol Marold, HR Coordinator’ was distributed. Mrs. McCarthy expressed her gratitude to Mr. Pandolfo for compiling the comprehensive SU report, advising that it is very informative. The Board reviewed the Self-Assessment survey results and noted that much work needs to be done. It is hopeful that the recent hiring of an HR Coordinator will assist with making the necessary improvements.

8.2 Committee Reports

Policy Committee – The Committee has not met. There is nothing to report.

The Barre Supervisory Union BSU EXPENSE BUDGET STATUS REPORT (dated 05/03/16) was distributed. As the Revenue Report is not included in the Board packet, an accurate year-end projection is not available for this evening's meeting.

9. Executive Session as Needed

9.1 Personnel

9.2 Negotiations/Contract Issues

The items proposed for discussion in Executive Session were a personnel issue and negotiations/contract issues.

On a motion by Mrs. Buzzell, seconded by Mrs. McCarthy, the Board unanimously agreed to find that premature general public knowledge of the items proposed for discussion would clearly place the Barre Supervisory Union at a substantial disadvantage should the discussion be public.

On a motion by Mrs. Spaulding, seconded by Mr. Isabelle, the Board unanimously voted to enter into Executive Session at 8:18 p.m. under the provisions of 1 VSA section 313 to discuss the items proposed for discussion.

Mr. Pandolfo was invited to join Executive Session.

The remaining information was provided by the Board Clerk.

On a motion by Mrs. Buzzell, seconded by Mrs. Spaulding, the Board unanimously voted to exit Executive Session at 9:30 p.m.

On a motion by Mr. Blakely, seconded by Mr. Isabelle, the Board unanimously voted to accept the Superintendent's recommendation regarding staffing salaries.

10. Adjournment

On a motion by Mrs. Buzzell, seconded by Mrs. Spaulding, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn at 9:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Andrea Poulin