

Onteora Central School District
Audit Committee Minutes
May 10, 2021
9:30 A.M.

Committee Members: Robert Curran, Drew Boggess, Kevin Salem, Emily Sherry, Wendy Wolfenson

Invited Guests: Marystephanie Corsones, Interim Superintendent
Monica LaClair, Assistant Superintendent
Deb D'Aprile, Treasurer
Michael Rossi, West & Company

1. Call to order
2. Attendance – Emily Sherry Absent
3. Approval of Minutes – March 1, 2021
 - a. Drew first, Rob Curran second. All in favor
4. External Audit – West & Company

Mike Rossi started off by saying this year's financial statements will include GASB 84, which eliminates the T&A funds that schools have used for over 1000 years and decides how they will be changed. Scholarships will be moved to a new Custodial Fund (CM). ECA could move to either CM or a new TC depending on if the District maintains control of the fund. Also, currently in T&A, are payroll items that will go to the General Fund. In addition, the Custodial fund account will have revenue and expenditures.

GASB 87 – Leases will need to be adjusted starting the 22-23 school year. This GASB change will effect Long term debt and will be a major headache for schools and BOCES where many schools lease equipment from.

Mike Rossi also commented that he will be receiving information from the District shortly. And then he and his team will be coming down to the District and testing payroll and disbursements.

Mike and his team will come in and complete the audit around 2nd week of August and by September 30 an audit committee meeting will need to convene as the audit is due to the state by October 15, 2021. Mike reminded the committee that they are always waiting for the ERS and TRS numbers which could delay the delivery of the final financial statements.

Mike then went on to ask if there was anything specific the Audit Committee would like the external auditor to look at. Rob Curran was curious of purchases made due to and during COVID. He suggested that the purchasing process for pandemic related PPE should be an area for review. Wendy Wolfensen agreed we should look at the process in purchasing pandemic items. Mike confirmed they would be reviewing CARES act funding as part of the grant audit and requested a report on vendors never used before from Deb D'Aprile, the District Treasurer.

Monica LaClair explained that even during COVID, the District tried to purchase through state contract to expedite delivery knowing that above \$20,000 if it is not on state contract, it would need to be bid.

Kevin Salem was curious how much of our normal effort has gone to mitigating pandemic type things. Looking to the future what else could have been done with that time. What was the extra effort? Wendy was curious about pushback from the unions. Marystephanie and Monica both said no. They all saw it as being in it together.

The conversation then tuned back to GASB 84 and the issues with implementing it. Unfortunately, Ulster BOCES is not at the same level as other BOCES when it comes to implementing GASB and all the new account codes. Deb has been in contact with many different Treasurers and BOCES to figure out how to implement GASB 84 within our software.

Rob Curran was surprised he hadn't heard anything regarding this as he is on the BOCES board. Deb agreed to send him some information to see what he could do. OSC and NYSED is also not putting out timely information for schools. The whole system is not working for the end user (ie school districts).

Need to know how it flows through the software. Mike was curious why we were not allowed to participate in a webinar in another BOCES (NERIC). Not sure who makes that decision but believes all should be part of webinars and information.

Mike also mentioned that there are some schools that use prior year ERS and TRS numbers for Audit Committee review that get replaced with actual prior to going to the Board of Education. Something for the committee to consider if they want the

information earlier. He could get the report to the committee by mid-August if he didn't have to include the actual ERS/TRS numbers.

The committee would rather see the full report. Kevin Salem mentioned that October 5 or October 12 would be the BOE date for approval by the Board so scheduling the audit committee for September 20, 2021 should provide enough time to get the actual ERS/TRS information.

5. September Audit Committee Date

Looking at September 20, 2021 for Audit Committee date

Monica will get a draft calendar for 21-22 audit committee dates before I leave

6. Old Business/New Business

Kevin asked Deb if there was anything you need for a transition. Deb commented that while it is a lot of change, we will get through it and that Mike Rossi has been a great help.

Motion to adjourn.

Drew first.

Wendy second. All in favor.

Meeting adjourned 10:30am