

**BARRE UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT
FACILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MEETING
Spaulding High School Library and Via Video Conference – Google Meet
May 9, 2022 - 6:00 p.m.**

MINUTES

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Giuliano Cecchinelli, II, Chair – (BC)
Terry Reil, Vice Chair - (BT)
Mary Jane Ainsworth (BT Community Member)
Andrew McMichael (BC Community Member)

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

Renee Badeau (BT)
Tim Boltin - (BC)

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:

Jamie Evans, Facilities Director

OTHER BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Nancy Leclerc – joined at 6:50 p.m.
Sonya Spaulding

GUESTS PRESENT:

1. Call to Order

The Chair, Mr. Cecchinelli, called the Monday, May 9, 2022 BUUSD Facilities and Transportation Committee meeting to order at 6:02 p.m., which was held in the Spaulding High School Library and via video conference.

2. Additions and/or Deletions to the Agenda

None.

3. Public Comment

None.

4. Approval of Minutes

4.1 Approval of Minutes – March 14, 2022 BUUSD Facilities and Transportation Committee Meeting

On a motion by Mr. Reil, seconded by Ms. Ainsworth, the Committee unanimously voted to approve the Minutes of the March 14, 2022 BUUSD Facilities and Transportation Committee meeting.

5. New Business

5.1 Review Revised Five-Year Plan

A copy of the 5-Year Plan (updated 04/04/22) was distributed.

Mr. Evans advised that the District began using a 5 year plan approximately ten years ago, noting that the list is much shorter now, as many projects have been completed. Mr. Evans advised that items marked ‘NA’ are items that have been completed. Mr. Evans provided a brief overview of the completed items/projects, including, but not limited to; replacement of fire alarm panels at all schools, exterior door replacements, BTMES bleacher replacement, and library renovations at BCEMS and SHS. Mr. Evans advised that replacement of carpeting is ongoing. Most carpets are being replaced with tile (easier to maintain and more sanitary). Each year \$5000 is allocated to each school for safety upgrades. It was noted that boilers usually require some repair work and routine maintenance. BCEMS exterior siding issues will need to be addressed in the next few years. It was suggested that the plan include a ‘Parking Lot’ section to document upcoming projects. The BCEMS bus loop project can probably be removed from the list. The SEA Building and Central Office should be added to the Plan. Mr. Reil suggested that the \$15,000 allocation (per building) for flooring be increased to account for the rise in material costs. Mr. Reil queried regarding adding ‘ballpark’ figures for projects. Mrs. Spaulding queried regarding use of funds slated for the BCEMS roof, as that work cannot be performed this year (materials are unavailable). Mr. Evans advised that the funds slated for the BCEMS roof are being directed to BTMES. Mrs. Spaulding queried regarding the Capital Improvement Fund line. Mr. Evans advised that the funds in that line are actually budgeted annual construction funds, and the line item should be renamed (Annual Construction). In response to a query, Mr. Evans advised that the annual Safety Grant from VSBIT is still being received, and that the grant, which is annually rotated between buildings, was last utilized for the SEA Building (installation of cameras). Mr. Evans did not include the VSBIT Safety grant in the 5 year plan this year because the funds will be allocated to whatever building has the most need. In response to a query, Mr. Evans noted that the handicap signs near the CVCC

entrance are there to identify where the accessible 'ramp' to the entrance is located. Accessible parking lot lines will be repainted if necessary.

6. Old Business

6.1 HVAC/sprinkler Upgrades Update

Mr. Evans advised that bids are due tomorrow (05/10/22). The project was advertised to 4 contractors. Mr. Evans noted that based on interest expressed thus far, he believes the District may only receive one bid. Mrs. Perreault has contacted ESSER personnel regarding the District's concern over the number of potential bids. Federal guidelines pertaining to bidding are very strict. The amount of ESSER funds the District anticipated spending on HVAC is approximately six million dollars. It may be necessary to apply all of these ESSER funds to one building. In response to a query, Mr. Evans advised that the District may need to reach out to ESSER representatives regarding bid review. If everything proceeds as anticipated, Mr. Evans believes the construction phase may start (small scale) during the winter break, with most construction occurring during the summer of 2023, with smaller components potentially worked on during other school breaks. Under ESSER restrictions, all work must be completed by 09/30/2024. It is not known if the work being performed will put the building at 100% compliance with all air quality standards. Brief discussion was held regarding 'surprises' found during construction (asbestos, lead etc.). Mr. Evans advised that Federal funding will be available to address those issues.

6.2 PCB Testing

The District is on the State's list of schools to be tested (in the fall of 2023 / July - September). The delay is due to the limited number of State inspectors available to perform the work. BCEMS is new enough that there is no concern regarding PCBs. SHS and BTMES are older, but areas that may contain PCBs (old lighting and window caulking), have been being addressed over the years. Additionally, the District has performed some spot testing, and Mr. Evans is not overly concerned that the District will have many issues. PCB testing is funded by the State. At the present time, there is no known State funding for PCB remediation.

6.3 Electric bus Update

Mr. Evans reported that the second bus was returned to the District today. STA has not advised regarding the exact cause of the charging issue, but it is suspected that the issue was related to wiring. A student broke a window in the other bus, so it is now out of commission until the window can be replaced. No one was injured during the window breaking incident. Regarding the charging stations; a decision needs to be made regarding which station will be used (pedestal mounted or building mounted). Underground wiring needs to be corrected such that there is no underground junction box, and then the pedestal charger can be re-energized. Mr. Evans advised that several sets of chargers have been sent by the bus company. The chargers were initially mounted to the building, but it was determined that if STA had its own electrical service for chargers, the cost of power would be significantly lower. The pedestal mounted chargers were installed to accommodate the separate electrical service. The cost for installing the chargers has been grant funded. No District funds have been expended. It is not known if permits were in place for installation of the chargers. It was noted that although there appears to have been an issue with lack of permitting for chargers, there have not been safety issues.

6.4 Storm Water Run-off Update

Grant funding is/has been provided for permitting and feasibility studies. Engineers are currently in the process of filing storm water permits with the State. Feasibility studies are underway. Once feasibility studies are complete, the District will be notified of the findings. Mr. Evans has heard that 80% funding will be available for the construction phase. The District is working with engineers regarding design, and does have some say in where systems can be installed. If it is determined that a system cannot be installed, there is an opt-out fee the District would need to pay. Details regarding the opt-out fee are unknown (amount, one-time fee, annual fee, etc.). Once systems are installed, the District will be financially responsible for any maintenance. Brief discussion was held regarding conceptual planning/drawings for SHS athletic fields.

7. Other Business

Mr. Reil queried regarding a roofing repair at BCEMS. It was reported at a recent Finance Committee Meeting, that the BCEMS Facilities deficit of approximately \$84,000 was due to a 'roof repair'. Mr. Evans is not aware of any roofing failure, but did note that there was a sinkhole issue that needed to be repaired. It was suspected that a break in the roof drain may have been partially to blame for the sinkhole, but it is believed that the primary cause was a break in the water main.

Mr. Evans provided an overview of summer projects (other than routine maintenance);

BCEMS - floor tiles, victalitic fitting work, water main 'shut-off' installation (working with Barre City), and renovations to student restrooms (partitions).

BTMES – flooring in kindergarten wing, external granite seam maintenance,.

Central Office – repave existing parking lot, and pave new parking lot section.

SHS – replacing floor tiles (4 classrooms), renovation to staff restrooms, conversion of vacant storeroom to an ADA approved single user accessible restroom, replacement of front entrance doors (doors from alcove to lobby), victalitic fitting work, and clean-

up/reclaiming of fence line area along the river bank. Brief discussion was held regarding any State permitting/requirements related to work on the riverbank. Mr. Evans advised that work is not occurring on the riverbank itself, but rather the area leading up to it.

SEA – Re-seeding of some grassy areas.

In response to a query regarding some very rough areas of the SHS parking lot, Mr. Evans advised that the area in question was not repaved when the remainder of the lot was because it would need to be removed when athletic fields revamped. This area of the parking lot requires much patchwork every year.

8. Items to be Placed on Future Agendas

- Updated 5 Year Plan (with estimated figures)
- HVAC Update
- Electric Bus Update (if applicable)
- Granite Benches and Planters

9. Next Meeting Date

The next meeting is Monday, June 13, 2022 at 6:00 p.m., at the Spaulding High School Library and via video conference.

10. Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Reil, seconded by Ms. Ainsworth, the Committee unanimously voted to adjourn at 7:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Andrea Poulin