Conneaut School District Budget/Finance Committee Meeting Minutes April 1, 2020

Conneaut School District Finance/Budget Committee

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The meeting of the Finance/Budget Committee was called to order at 5:30 pm on April 1, 2020 with this being the first meeting held remotely due to Coronavirus physical distancing guidelines. Present for the meeting remotely were Directors Dorothy Luckock, Jamie Hornstein and Theresa Miller, Business Manager Greg Mayle and Superintendent Jarrin Sperry. Present in the ASA gym as part of the remote meeting were two members of the public/media and Rick Kelly who was facilitating.

It should be noted that Governor Wolf closed all schools effective Saturday March 14, and at this time the directive is “until further notice”.

- Greg gave an update on the overall budget as of April 1, updated from March 4.
  - Revenues of $39,728,620 (compared to $39,828,354)
  - Expenditures of $40,571,725 (compared to $40,767,963)
  - Shortfall = $843,105 (compared to $939,609)
  - Note that this still includes a transfer of $500,000 to the Capital Projects Funds.
  - Greg feels that there are still areas where savings can be achieved.
  - This budget is built with no tax increase.
  - Greg also has removed the Transportation Software as due to the schools being closed since March 14, Rick Bridge of Anderson’s is not working. This prevents Greg from working with him on data for analysis. Greg is to begin discussions of a possible alternate plan permitting him to pull raw data and perform analysis in house for the coming year.

- Greg reported that Jarrin has received inquiries from staff regarding rescind date on retirements. Given the current financial climate for many Americans with numerous business being closed, the stock market greatly reduced impacting investments in retirement accounts and the like – the committee agreed to recommend to the full board to permit until April 15 instead of the April 1 contracted requirement for retirement rescind notification. Greg confirmed that is a timeframe that he can work with.

- RFP – Greg is planning on working towards sending out Request for Proposal for both Sub teachers (currently with Kelly Services) and Banking Services.

- Stimulus Program – Greg reported that the Federal Stimulus program is to run through the state and expected to use the Title I funding formula. This could potentially benefit Conneaut with approx. $400,000. Greg noted that it can be used only for specific areas and that it is a one-time funding. Cleaning and improving remote instruction are 2 areas mentioned. Greg said there is a possibility of an exposure for compensatory education costs for special ed students not able to be served completely with the start of remote/packet review being instituted this week.

- Staffing update – it was noted that currently we have 3 that have rescinded their retirement notification so therefore Greg/Jarrin are not able to finalize if there will be any overall reduction due to attrition.

- Greg reported on the Food Distribution program that has really taken off – currently reaching at least 1,000 students per day. This program provides for any child from 0-18. He reported that we can submit reimbursement for 7 days (instead of the 5 during school) because they are
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packing for weekend days as well. HUGE thanks to Nutrition and the cafeteria staff that have made this program successful for the families in our attendance area.

Currently, we anticipate having remote meetings until further notice. We will make every effort to maintain our meeting schedule. The next scheduled meeting is Monday, April 20 at 5:30 pm.

Dorothy Luckock, Board President

Greg Mayle, Board Secretary