

**Special Meeting of the  
Lamoille North Supervisory Union and  
Lamoille North Modified Unified Union School District Board  
Minutes of Meeting  
July 8, 2024**

**Board Members Present:** Belvidere: Stephanie Sweet; Cambridge: Amy Listenik, Jan Sander, Susan Prescott, Nancy Guyette; Eden: David Whitcomb, Jeff Hunsberger; Hyde Park: Patty Hayford, Lisa Barry; Johnson: Allen Audette, Katie Audette, Kyle Hill, Mark Nielsen; Waterville: Bart Bezio  
**Board Members Absent:** Cambridge: Mark Stebbins, Denise Webster, Eden: David Whitcomb, Jeff Hunsberger; Hyde Park: Philip Kiely, Tina Lowe; Johnson: Monica Stearns

**Administrators Present:** Deb Clark, David Manning, Blake Nemeth, Cole Hayes, Rene Thibault, Kimberly Hunt

**Minute Taker:** Sue Trainor

**Call to Order, Approval of Agenda and Public Comment:** Nielsen called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. K. Audette made a motion, seconded by Bezio, to approve the agenda. The motion passed unanimously. There was no public comment.

**LNSU/LNMUUSD Routine Business**

**Consent Agenda Items – Minutes from the LNSU/LNMUUSD meeting on June 10, 2024; minutes from the Curriculum Committee and Social/Racial Justice Committee meetings on June 10, 2024; minutes from the Personnel Committee Meeting on June 26, 2024:** Sweet made a motion, seconded by Bezio, to approve the minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

**Board Orders:** Bezio stated he had reviewed the Board Orders and recommended that they be approved. K. Audette made a motion, seconded by Barry, to approve the Board Orders. The motion passed unanimously.

**Approve WES Grades 5/6 Teacher Hire:** Clare Barnard was recommended to be hired as the Waterville Grade 5/6 teacher at an annual salary of \$56,705. Hunsberger made a motion, seconded by Sweet, to approve the recommendation. The motion passed, with Prescott abstaining.

**Tax Anticipation Note Bid Opening:** Clark informed the Board that she had received bids from three banks: Community Bank, Union Bank, and Community Bank, NA. (See attached spreadsheet for details.) Clark noted they currently use Union Bank because they also grant 4% earning on the operating account as long as that account stays with them. Union Bank was the high bidder on the net spread. Therefore, the administration's recommendation was to continue with Union Bank for the tax anticipation borrowing with reinvestment into FY25. Bezio made a motion, seconded by Sweet, to approve using Union Bank for the tax anticipation note. The motion passed, with Nielsen abstaining.

**Laptops/Desktop/Peripherals Bid Opening:** Hayes, the IT Director, stated he had been working on reviewing purchasing throughout the District and how to increase the District's purchasing power. Purchasing centrally as a district versus separately as individual sites had already provided an estimated savings of \$20,000.

Three bid requests had been sent out. Resilient Networks and GovConnection returned bids. The administration recommended approving the bid from Resilient Networks which met the required

specifications in the amount of \$78,271. Barry made a motion, seconded by Whitcomb, to approve the Resilient Network's bid.

Audette asked in what way GovConnection had not meet the specifications. Hayes stated the quantities did not meet the required specifications. Bezio asked if there was a refresh cycle. Hayes stated they were working on this now. Network switches were currently at end of life or would soon be. Hayes stated the ideal was to have a 5-year plan.

Clark stated Hayes had been doing a good job of breaking down the silo walls between schools and purchasing in bulk. These purchases were already budgeted for. Manning stated he supported Hayes' plan and noted that Hayes had worked closely with the principals. One of the things that had been talked about when initially voting to merge into one district was that savings would be seen on items of scale on items such as computers and maintenance. However, it also ensured a level of equity that all the students would be using the same machines.

The motion then passed unanimously.

**Tablets Bid Opening:** Hayes stated the tablets would be for middle and elementary students. RFP's were sent to three vendors and all returned a response. GovConnection did not meet the specifications requested. Apple Inc and Resilient Networks both met specifications. Hayes stated the administration recommended the approval of the low bid from Apple Inc at a cost of \$117,552.20. Guyette made a motion, seconded by Listenik, to approve the recommendation. K. Audette asked how GovConnection had not meet the specifications. Hayes stated the district had not worked with their tablets before and GovConnection used a different operating system. They also didn't meet hardware specifications.

These tablets were purchased on a yearly basis for the new students coming in. Therefore, there was usually a 4-year rotation. Currently the middle school students went from Chromebooks to iPads and then back to Chromebooks. Next year that would change. There was approximately \$6,000-\$7,000 in savings with the Apple purchase by combining the purchases. Clark noted that this purchase also included devices for Cambridge that would be billed back.

The motion passed unanimously.

**Other Business:** There was no additional business.

**Adjourn:** K. Audette made a motion to adjourn at 6:27 p.m.