

PEQUEA VALLEY SCHOOL BOARD
Committee Meeting Minutes
March 4, 2025

The monthly Committee meeting of the Pequea Valley School Board was called to order by President Bryant Ferris at 7:00 p.m. Members present were Michael Fisher, Mike Hartmann, Fred Hertzler, Freida Huyard, Ben Ingles, Steve Riehl, Casey Rohrer, and Steve Temple. Also present were Erik Orndorff, John Bowden, Rich Eby, Cathy Koenig, Ashley Bottiglieri, John Trovato, Fred Kendall, Ellen Geisel, Marcella Peyre-Ferry, Dan Sauder, and Jennifer Gilman.

Construction Update – Mr. Kendall presented an update on the Pequea Valley Secondary School. He also indicated that there are change orders in the amount of \$777,799.04, that will need to be approved next week. Of that amount, \$656,309.43 is for extending general conditions due to delays. Mr. Bowden stated that of the 2.13 million of contingency for change orders, there is \$268,103.46 remaining. Mr. Bowden stated the other \$121,489.61 is due to changes needed to the auditorium sound system and changes to speakers and TVs in the cafeteria. Additionally, topsoil will be added behind the retaining wall in the amount of \$26,891.19. There is also \$42,188.00 needed for custom controls and a pressure switch for the propane system. Mr. Bowden also stated that a contract for Martin CFS to provide moving services in the amount of \$63,494.00 will be included on the March 13, 2025, Board meeting agenda. Mr. Wentz from Crabtree Rohrbaugh and Associates also gave an update on Phase II of the project.

Pequea Valley’s Approach to AI – Ashley Bottiglieri talked about how AI has progressed since the last time she spoke to the Board in March 2024. Topics included ethics, teaching, learning tools and plans for growth.

2025-2028 Comprehensive Plan – Dr. Eby presented a clean version of the 2025-2028 Comprehensive Plan. The plan will be voted on for approval at the March 13, 2025, Board meeting.

Preliminary General Fund Budget – John Bowden presented the preliminary 2025-26 General Fund budget. The current budget would need a 1.26% millage increase to balance the budget. Mr. Bowden stated that he would work to bring the budget to balance with minimal to no tax increase.

Public Participation – Ellen Geisel, Honey Brook, commented on AI.

Chief of Finance & Operation’s Recommendations:

On a motion by Mr. Hartmann and a second by Mr. Fisher, the Board approved the following minutes, financial reports, and bills.

- February 15, 2025, regular meeting
- The Financial Reports for January 2025, as appearing on pages 12594-12594I of the Treasurer’s Supplement.
- General Fund, totaling \$2,630,830.31 and appearing on pages 12593-12608
- Capital Reserve, totaling \$1,070.00, and appearing on pages 12611-12612
- Construction Payments, totaling \$26,240.54, and appearing on page 12613
- Food Service, totaling \$41,827.11, and appearing on pages 12614-12620

Motion carried: Voting yes: Ferris, Fisher, Hartmann, Hertzler, Huyard, Ingles, Riehl, Rohrer, Temple. No: 0; Absent: 0

No further information was presented, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:47 p.m.

Bryant Ferris
President

John A. Bowden
Secretary