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Materials presented at the board meeting may be viewed at:
<https://public.timberlane.net/sau/trsb/Shared%20Documents/Forms/AllItems.aspx?RootFolder=%2fsau%2ftrsb%2fShared%20Documents%2fSCH%20OOL%20BOARD%20MEETING%20AGENDA%20MATERIALS%2f2015%2d16%2f03%2017%202016&FolderCTID=&View=%7b8B0F59BE%2dD93D%2d4E49%2d9509%2dA6F7531FCCAB%7d>*

TIMBERLANE REGIONAL SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Re-organizational Meeting
March 17, 2016
7:30 PM

Superintendent's Office
30 Greenough Road
Plaistow, NH

Call to Order

Superintendent Dr. Earl Metzler called this March 17, 2016 Timberlane Regional School Board re-organizational meeting to order at 7:31pm with the roll call followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by TTA President Lou Broad.

Board Members Present

Peter Bealo, Rob Collins, Stefanie Dube, Donna Green, Dan Guide, Jack Sapia, Susan Sherman, Gregory Spero, and Kelly Ward.

Seated at the Board's Table

Dr. Earl Metzler, Superintendent of Schools
George Stokinger, Business Administrator
Jordan DiTore, Student Representative

Other Administrators Present

Don Woodworth, TRHS Principal

Other District Personnel Present

Lou Broad, President of the Timberlane Teachers Association
Sally Morris, TRMS Kitchen Manager

ELECTION RESULTS AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Dr. Metzler first congratulated the newly elected officials (Stefanie Dube, Dan Guide and Kelly Ward – School Board and Julie Hammond, John Hughes, David Gerns and Alan David – Budget Committee) and acknowledged and thanked outgoing officials for their service to the school district (Rick Blair and Nancy Steenson – School Board and Cathy Gorman, Dennis Heffernan and Michelle O’Neil – Budget Committee). He followed this with a brief overview of the election results noting passing articles (operating budget, capital reserve fund, teachers’ contract, reports and non-binding full day kindergarten) as well as those that did not pass (Danville Elementary sprinkler and middle school lighting study).

SCHOOL BOARD CHAIRMAN

Dr. Metzler opened the floor to nominations for the position of school board chairman for a term of one year.

NOMINATION: Mr. Ward nominated Mr. Bealo for school board chairman; seconded by Mr. Spero.

Dr. Metzler opened the floor to questions for Mr. Bealo as it relates to his philosophy in serving as chairman. Mr. Bealo stated he would lead the board to work together with one another as well as with administration; he would not be an activist leader. Questions were raised about a past incident whereby Mr. Bealo was censored by the board. He indicated the incident had to do with a breakfast meeting he had several years ago to which he does not feel he did anything wrong. Other board members commended Mr. Bealo for his current record as vice chair in that he has already clearly demonstrated his ability to chair a diverse group of people.

With no other comment or additional nominations offered for the position of chairman, Dr. Metzler called for a vote on the nomination for Mr. Bealo to serve as chairman. The vote passed 7-1-1 (Mrs. Green opposed, Mrs. Dube abstained).

SCHOOL BOARD VICE CHAIRMAN

Newly elected Chairman Bealo then called for nominations for the position of school board vice chairman.

NOMINATION: Mr. Collins nominated Kelly Ward for school board vice-chairman; seconded by Mr. Spero.

NOMINATION: Mrs. Green nominated Sue Sherman for school board vice-chairman; seconded by Mrs. Dube.

Chairman Bealo opened the floor to general statements from, as well as questions for, the nominees. Mr. Ward stated he would do his best to assist Mr. Bealo as vice chair and would make every effort run an effective and efficient meeting in his absence. Mrs. Sherman stated she shared Mr. Ward’s vision as vice chair and would act as the chairman’s “wingman” and step in when he is absent from meetings.

Board members commended both nominees for their abilities.

Chairman Bealo called for a show of hands for those in favor of Sue Sherman as vice chair: 4 in favor (Mrs. Green, Mrs. Sherman, Mrs. Dube and Mr. Guide). He then called for a show of hand for those in favor of Kelly Ward: 4 in favor (Chairman Bealo, Mr. Collins, Mr. Spero and Mr. Ward). Mr. Sapia abstained from the vote citing he favors both nominees and does not wish to choose one over the other.

Concern was noted about the possibility of both offices being filled by Plaistow representatives (Bealo and Sherman). Mr. Sapia asked for a revote.

Chairman Bealo called for a show of hands for those in favor of Sue Sherman as vice chair: 4 in favor (Mrs. Green, Mrs. Sherman, Mrs. Dube and Mr. Guide). He then called for a show of hand for those in favor of Kelly Ward: 5 in favor (Chairman Bealo, Mr. Collins, Mr. Spero, Mr. Sapia and Mr. Ward). Mr. Ward was elected vice chairman.

Mr. Bealo noted he would offer leadership positions to other board members through committee membership and board initiatives.

SCHOOL DISTRICT CLERK

MOTION: Mrs. Green motioned to temporarily appoint Nancy Louiselle to the position of school district clerk until a non-SAU staff member can fill the position; seconded by Mrs. Sherman.

Discussion: Commendations were shared about the quality of Ms. Louiselle’s work as were attempts by others to solicit interested candidates. It was noted the vacancy for the position has been published for over a year. Duties of the position were also noted. Compensation was discussed as well as Mrs. Green’s intent to motion later in the meeting to have it increased.

Call the vote: With no further discussion allowed the motion to temporarily appoint Ms. Louiselle to the position of school district clerk failed 1-7-1 (Mrs. Green in favor, Mrs. Dube abstained).

MOTION: Mr. Collins motioned to appoint Nancy Louiselle to the position of school district clerk; seconded by Mrs. Sherman. With no further discussion, the motion passed 7-1-1 (Mrs. Green opposed, Mrs. Dube abstained).

SCHOOL BOARD RECORDING SECRETARY

MOTION: Mr. Guide motioned to appoint Cathy Belcher to the position of school board recording secretary; seconded by Mrs. Sherman. With no further discussion, the motion passed 9-0-0.

TREASURER

MOTION: Mr. Sapia motioned to appoint Paul Sullivan to the position of school district treasurer; seconded by Mr. Collins. With no further discussion, the motion passed 9-0-0.

ASSISTANT TREASURER

MOTION: Mr. Collins motioned to appoint Lori Parrillo to the position of school district assistant treasurer; seconded by Mr. Sapia. With no further discussion, the motion passed 9-0-0.

SCHOOL COUNSEL

MOTION: Mr. Collins motioned to allow the Superintendent to seek legal counsel when necessary and with the firm most appropriate; seconded by Mr. Sapia.

Discussion: Concern was raised that the Superintendent should seek legal counsel only with the school board's knowledge and approval.

MOTION: Mrs. Green motioned to amend the motion on the floor to allow the Superintendent to seek legal counsel only with the school board's knowledge and approval; seconded by Mrs. Dube.

Discussion: Board members noted the directive as stated in the motion to amend could not be done logistically as the school board meets every two weeks and this mandate would stop the work on a day to day basis. Scenarios about the immediate need for legal counsel were noted as was the concern over the amount of legal action by the district over the past year.

With no further discussion the motion to amend the motion failed 2-7-0 (Mrs. Green and Mrs. Dube in favor).

MOTION: Mrs. Green motioned to amend the motion on the floor by adding *but to only take legal action with prior approval of the school board*; seconded by Mrs. Dube.

Discussion: Board members raised concern about the immediate need for child protection measures that could be affected by the amendment language as well as the inappropriateness of Mrs. Green's ongoing argument on the use of legal counsel when she is currently engaged in legal action against the school district.

With no further discussion the motion to amend the motion failed 2-7-0 (Mrs. Green and Mrs. Dube in favor).

Call the vote: With no further discussion allowed the original motion to allow the Superintendent to seek legal counsel when necessary and with the firm most appropriate passed 7-2-0 (Mrs. Green and Mrs. Dube opposed).

BONDING

MOTION: Mr. Collins motioned to bond the treasurer and assistant treasurer as required by statute and Department of Revenue Administration; seconded by Mr. Ward.

Discussion: Mr. Stokinger clarified that Primex references the DRA and the DRA references the statute as it relates to the bonding of treasurer and assistant treasurer thus the motion as it stands is adequate for bonding.

With no further discussion the motion passed 8-0-1 (Mrs. Green abstained).

BANK DEPOSITORY

MOTION: Mr. Collins motioned to appoint TDBank as the district bank; seconded by Mr. Sapia. With no further discussion the motion passed 9-0-0.

REVIEW OF POLICY DFA - INVESTMENT

Mr. Stokinger explained that per law, the school board is to review their investment policy on an annual basis. There were no language changes proposed to the policy; only a review of the policy is warranted. He then fielded questions about the district's invested funds and internal controls to which he responded the Town of Danville holds the funds and the auditors review the internal controls when they conduct their annual audit. Recommendations were made to look into the investment status of district funds in the hopes of obtaining a better return.

REVIEW OF POLICY EI - RISK MANAGEMENT

Mr. Stokinger indicated he has proposed changes to this policy as recommended by Primex and has since forwarded these changes to the Policy Committee for review.

MOTION: Mr. Collins motioned to postpone the review of policy EI until it has been reviewed by the Policy Committee; seconded by Mr. Guide. With no further discussion, the motion passed 9-0-0.

SCHOOL BOARD ETHICS STATEMENT

Chairman Bealo asked board members to review the ethics statement in board packets, sign and submit to the recording secretary pursuant to board policy BCA. Mrs. Green cautioned board members about signing the statement citing her opposition to the 12th paragraph regarding respecting and supporting actions and decisions by the majority or consensus of the board.

SCHOOL BOARD RULES

Chairman Bealo noted he recalls the board is no longer supporting the school board rules based on last year’s review and vote. He asked this information be verified as it will be used to determine the future of the school board rules.

MEETING DATES AND TIMES

Board members reviewed the proposed 2016-17 school board meeting schedule noting board meetings are held on the first and third Thursdays of each month. March dates were modified to avoid meetings during February vacation.

MOTION: Mr. Collins motioned change March meeting dates to the 9th and 23rd); seconded by Mr. Ward.

Board members discussed the three week gap in meetings due to this change as well as the possibility of holding summer meetings. They decided to discuss the topic of summer meetings again in May or June.

With no further discussion, the motion passed 8-1-0 (Mrs. Sherman opposed).

With no other re-organizational business to conduct, Chairman Bealo adjourned the meeting at 8:35pm.

Respectfully submitted,


Catherine Belcher
Recording Clerk

Approved by the School Board May 5, 2016.