

LAMOILLE NORTH SUPERVISORY UNION  
BOARD MEETING  
MONDAY, MARCH 27, 2017  
GMTCC COMMUNITY EDUCATION CENTER

Board members present: Belvidere – Angie Evans; Cambridge – Mark Stebbins; Eden – David Whitcomb; Hyde Park – Patti Hayford, Lisa Barry; Johnson – Mark Nielsen, Katie Orost, Bobbie Moulton; LUSD #18 – Beth Bailey; Waterville – Amanda Tilton-Martin. Others: Catherine Gallagher, Deborah Clark, Charleen McFarlane, Michele Aumand, Jade Hazard, Diane Reilly, Jen Stevens, Kate Torrey, Janet Murray, David Manning, Melinda Mascolino

**Note: All votes taken are unanimous unless otherwise noted.**

**1. Call to Order, Approval of Agenda and Public Comment**

D. Whitcomb called the meeting to order at 6:03.

**MOTION: B. Bailey moved to approve the agenda, P. Hayford seconded, and the motion was passed.**

**2. Reorganization of the Board**

**MOTION: B. Bailey moved to keep the same chair, vice chair, and treasurer and to elect Richard Bailey as clerk, M. Nielsen seconded and the motion was passed.**

**MOTION: M. Stebbins moved to approve the proposed 2017-2018 board meeting schedule (Sept 25, Nov 20, March 26, May 21), B. Moulton seconded and the motion was passed.**

K. Orost asked if committee members will stay the same. D. Whitcomb said yes.

**3. Approval of Consent Agenda Items**

**MOTION: R. Bailey moved to approve the minutes of December 19, 2017, M. Nielsen seconded and the motion was passed.** (M. Mascolino arrived at 6:08.)

D. Clark said the clerk's report shows directors' orders totaling \$3,425,841.54 representing expenditures from July 8 to March 17, 2017. (A. Tilton-Martin arrived at 6:08.) **MOTION: M. Stebbins moved to approve the clerk's report on directors' orders, B. Moulton seconded and the motion was passed.**

**4. HR**

**A. Negotiations Update**

K. Orost said the teachers had asked for a 6.44% salary increase, then came down to 5%. The BNC had proposed a 1.64% increase. Impasse has been declared and we are going to mediation. Support staff proposed a 5.5% salary increase and there has been no movement down from there. The BNC had proposed a 2.5% increase. Impasse has also been declared in support staff negotiations. We are in the process of scheduling mediation.

**B. Dental Plan Amendment**

C. McFarlane asked the board to amend the dental plan to include dependents up to age 26. **MOTION: M. Stebbins moved to amend the dental plan to include dependents**

**up to age 26, seconded by B. Moulton.** B. Bailey asked if other districts are doing this. C. McFarlane said she doesn't know. We are self-insured for dental. It would be easier to administer if the dental and medical plans both covered dependents up to age 26. C. McFarlane said currently we provide teachers 2-person dental coverage and they pay the difference in cost if they want a family plan. Year-round support staff get a 2-person dental plan and school year support staff get a 1-person plan and pay the difference if they want to cover more people. The BNC has put across in negotiations a proposal to pay the cost of 2-person dental for all staff. **The motion was passed 6-4.**

**C. Special Education Van Driver Compensation**

C. McFarlane said it is difficult to find a substitute van driver. We have been paying about \$12.20 per hour for a sub. She recommends that van driver sub pay be \$14/hr. Van drivers are not required to have a CDL. Bus drivers get about \$17.50 per hour. The van drivers are dealing with a specialized population of students and they are in close proximity to students. There is one driver who has been with us 4 years and one new driver. The new one is currently paid \$12.20 per hour but the recommendation is to increase the pay to \$13.50/hr.

D. Clark said this is an enterprise operation. The riders pay for the service. These increases would not put us over budget for expenditures less revenues. There will be no loss incurred as a result of the increase. It is hard to find subs at the last minute.

**MOTION: A. Tilton-Martin moved and M. Stebbins seconded to increase substitute special education van driver compensation to \$14 per hour and to increase compensation for one of the current van drivers to \$13.50 as recommended.** M.

Stebbins asked if there are other adults in the van when students are being transported. C. McFarlane said yes. K. Orost asked if the coordinator position is full time. C. McFarlane said she doesn't believe so. The coordinator drives as well. **The motion was passed with R. Bailey opposed.**

**5. Finance**

**A. Review and Accept the FY 2016 Audit Report**

D. Clark said the auditors gave a clean opinion. They had no difficulties dealing with management, found no reportable misstatements, had no disagreements with management, and did not identify any material weaknesses in internal controls. D. Clark reviewed the fund balance amounts as of June 30, 2016. The SU doesn't have long term debt except for copier leases. Total copier equipment and expenses as of June 30 was \$12,285. Accrued vacation and retirement was \$29,074.

**MOTION: M. Stebbins moved to accept the audit, B. Moulton seconded and the motion was passed.**

**B. Approve Acceptance of Federal Funds and Subgrant Agreements and Assign Agent(s) for Financial Matters**

D. Clark said each year federal grants come into the SU and are distributed through subgrant agreements. She asked the board for a motion to accept federal funds, execute subgrant agreements with member districts, and to assign agents for fiscal matters.

**MOTION: M. Stebbins moved that LNSU accept any and all federal funds, execute subgrant agreements with member districts for distribution of federal funds, authorize the superintendent, business manager and other central office administrators as directed by the board as authorized by the board to sign agreements or contracts in the receipt and distribution of funds, A. Tilton-Martin seconded and the motion was passed.**

**C. Financial Report**

D. Clark said staff accountants are preparing projection reports this month. They will be ready for boards at their next meetings. There is still some work to be done on re-aligning special ed revenue with expenses. Some revenue that was expected to come to the local sites came to the SU instead. In May the board may be asked to give some kind of credit back to sites for revenue budgeted at the sites that came to the SU. So far there are small deficits in a couple of districts and a couple of good-sized surpluses.

**6. Finance**

**A. Administrative Contracts**

C. Gallagher reminded the board that last year Jen Stevens moved to an interim special ed director position when C. Gallagher moved to an interim superintendent position and Jeremy Scannell moved to an interim special ed coordinator position at Lamoille Union. C. Gallagher is seeking to move J. Stevens to a regular Director of Student Support Services position and to move J. Scannell to a regular student support coordinator position at Lamoille Union. She recommends holding compensation pending negotiations.

**MOTION: B. Moulton moved to move Jennifer Stevens to a regular Director of Student Support position and to move Jeremy Scannell to a regular student support coordinator position at Lamoille Union and to hold compensation pending negotiations, seconded by M. Nielsen.** B. Bailey asked if there is a difference in compensation. C. Gallagher said yes. The building-based position currently makes \$65K and the special ed director currently makes \$85K. R. Bailey asked, is that plus benefits? C. Gallagher said it is plus benefits.

C. McFarlane said the superintendent recommends postponing any decision on compensation increases for non-union LNSU employees until after negotiations. If negotiations are not completed until July or August, everyone will get a retroactive increase. No one will lose out on money.

**MOTION: K. Orost moved and B. Moulton seconded to postpone any decision on compensation increases for non-union LNSU employees until after negotiations are completed.** K. Orost asked if that means we won't discuss this at the LNSU level until September. C. McFarlane said she would love to be able to make that decision. **The motion was passed.**

**B. Central Office Report**

C. Gallagher said Waterville voted to join LNMUUSD by a fairly large margin. By law they have 30 days to rescind that vote. A petition was filed so there needs to be a revote. That is scheduled for April 25 and there will be an information meeting on April 20. Out of respect for those who voted to join the MUUSD the board is not going to consider other questions until after the revote. Some community members are seeking infor-

mation on their own. It would be a conflict of interest to assist community members in an effort to look at options outside the SU.

Kate Torrey has accepted a principal position in Morristown. Three candidates for the Waterville principal position are moving forward. They will be interviewed by the local board and then the MUUSD board. Staff will all have a chance to meet them and there will be a public forum for community members to meet them.

Cambridge voted again not to join LNMUUSD. The Cambridge board will meet next week and figure out how to move forward. They have many options. One is to stand alone. One is to do nothing and wait for the state to ask them to do something.

M. Stebbins clarified that standing alone does not mean standing alone outside LNSU. C. Gallagher said M. Stebbins is becoming an Act 46 expert. D. Whitcomb said there is no such thing as an Act 46 expert.

C. Gallagher said the LNMUUSD board voted to renew 4 principal contracts – those for David Manning, Dianne Reilly, Wendy Savery, and Sherry Lussier. They gave them 2-year contracts. The state seems to be moving away from 3-year contracts. She is not sure why. At future meetings C. Gallagher thinks each building principal will talk about work they are doing in their buildings.

D. Clark explained what it would take to overturn the Waterville vote to join LNMUUSD. It would require 2/3 of the original prevailing vote count to vote no. There were 126 yes votes on February 21 so there needs to be at least 84 no votes (and more no votes than yes votes) for the original vote to be overturned. There could be 50 yes votes and 80 no votes and the original vote would stand.

D. Whitcomb asked when that became law. M. Stebbins said in 2007, when a statute was amended. D. Whitcomb asked what brought that on. D. Clark said she doesn't know the history. She can ask.

C. Gallagher said there is a lot of rhetoric out there. Today she heard that there are 96 districts applying for alternative structures, which is not true. (C. Gallagher got confirmation of that from AOE.) There is a lot of information being circulated. She encourages board members, if they hear something that sounds not quite right, to feel free to say the information may not be right.

7. ***Adjourn***

**MOTION: B. Moulton moved to adjourn at 6:40 and the motion was seconded and passed.**

Respectfully submitted by,  
Donna E. Griffiths

Actions taken at the LNSU Board meeting 3-27-17:

1. *Call to Order, Approval of Agenda and Public Comment*

MOTION: B. Bailey moved to approve the agenda, P. Hayford seconded, and the motion was passed.

2. *Reorganization of the Board*

MOTION: B. Bailey moved to keep the same chair, vice chair, and treasurer and to elect Richard Bailey as clerk, M. Nielsen seconded and the motion was passed.

MOTION: M. Stebbins moved to approve the proposed 2017-2018 board meeting schedule (Sept 25, Nov 20, March 26, May 21), B. Moulton seconded and the motion was passed.

3. *Approval of Consent Agenda Items*

MOTION: R. Bailey moved to approve the minutes of December 19, 2017, M. Nielsen seconded and the motion was passed.

MOTION: M. Stebbins moved to approve the clerk's report on directors' orders, B. Moulton seconded and the motion was passed.

4. *HR*

B. *Dental Plan Amendment*

MOTION: M. Stebbins moved to amend the dental plan to include dependents up to age 26, seconded by B. Moulton. The motion was passed 6-4.

C. *Special Education Van Driver Compensation*

MOTION: A. Tilton-Martin moved and M. Stebbins seconded to increase substitute special education van driver compensation to \$14 per hour and to increase compensation for one of the current van drivers to \$13.50 as recommended. The motion was passed with R. Bailey opposed.

5. *Finance*

A. *Review and Accept the FY 2016 Audit Report*

MOTION: M. Stebbins moved to accept the FY2016 audit report, B. Moulton seconded and the motion was passed.

B. *Approve Acceptance of Federal Funds and Subgrant Agreements and Assign Agent(s) for Financial Matters*

MOTION: M. Stebbins moved that LNSU accept any and all federal funds, execute subgrant agreements with member districts for distribution of federal funds, authorize the superintendent, business manager and other central office administrators as directed by the board as authorized by the board to sign agreements or contracts in the receipt and distribution of funds, A. Tilton-Martin seconded and the motion was passed.

6. *Finance*

A. *Administrative Contracts*

MOTION: B. Moulton moved to move Jennifer Stevens to a regular Director of Student Support position and to move Jeremy Scannell to a regular student support coordinator position at Lamoille Union and to hold compensation pending negotiations, seconded by M. Nielsen.

**MOTION: K. Orost moved and B. Moulton seconded to postpone any decision on compensation increases for non-union LNSU employees until after negotiations are completed. The motion was passed.**

7. *Adjourn*

**MOTION: B. Moulton moved to adjourn at 6:40 and the motion was seconded and passed.**

UNAPPROVED