

**REGION 8 COOPERATIVE BOARD MEETING  
March 27, 2019**

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Region 8 Cooperative Board was held on March 27, 2019.

**Those in attendance were:**

CSD	Tori Manzi, Andrea Palise, Bob Duke, Dave Perkins	(69.62/ea)
Islesboro	John Gorham	(11.94)
RSU 13	Bill Pearce, Gerald Weinand, Joanne Richards	(77.82/ea)
SAD 40	Matthew Speno, Danny Jackson, Seth Hall	(77.89/ea)
SAD 7	Jerry White	( 7.49)
SAD 8	Yvonne Thomas	(24.58)
St. George		(54.68)

Beth Fisher, Director; Sherry Moody, Business Mgr; Steve Betts; Ron Lamarre, Architect (by phone)

**Absent** – Sherm Hoyt

Chair Jerry White opened the regular meeting at 7:02 P.M. **Total weighted votes: 789.61**

**PUBLIC COMMENT** – Seth Hall discussed a solar forum being held at MVHS in April.

**ADJUSTMENTS** – None

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

MOTION by Jackson, seconded by Gorham, to approve the minutes of the regular February 27<sup>th</sup> meeting

Tori asked about the weighted votes calculation.

Motion approved with one abstention (Richards)

**Total weighted votes: 711.79**

**DISCUSSION OF ISLAND PROGRAMMING**

Beth explained the island programs funding and the declining high school populations. She met with the island school boards and superintendents to discuss teacher positions. Currently, the Region 8 budget has a .5 Islesboro teaching position, a .4 teacher on North Haven and .6 teaching position on Vinalhaven. Beth felt access to CTE programming is important on the island programs.

**DRAFT 2019-20 CALENDAR REVIEW AND APPROVAL**

MOTION by Jackson, seconded by Hall, to approve the 2019-20 draft calendar

Tori asked how closely synchronized we are to the region's schools. Beth advised the calendar coordinates closely with the mainland schools. Gerald asked about full day programming next year. The board discussed how regional calendars statewide have had issues with dissimilar days and scheduling with the CTE programs in their regions. Beth explained how programs are impacted by dissimilar days in our region.

Motion approved unanimously

**Total weighted votes: 789.61**

**CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS UPDATE**

Beth reported the building project is progressing very well. She has three monetary issues to discuss with the board this evening. Beth reported there are four outlets wired in the welding lab and that ten

more outlets need to be installed. The lack of outlets in the lab was a surprise to all. The electrical contractor on the project submitted a quote for the work that was not accepted. She has contacted a local electrical contractor who is willing to do the project for us this summer. [Ron Lamarre joined the meeting by phone.] Bob asked how the electrical outlets were overlooked in the plans. Seth asked what the responsibility of the architect is from a design perspective. Ron explained how there is no set of perfect documents and that document-related change orders occurs as a result. He discussed the construction contingency that covers these changes. Ron pointed out that less than half of the contingency fund has been spent to date and the project is six weeks from completion. Gerald asked if Ron has any issue with a contractor coming in after project completion to do the work. He also discussed the owner changes on the project and that Lavallee Brensinger did not charge extra for design adjustments. Beth discussed changes with the design of the emergency generator. The generator was not set up to cover heating the building during a power outage. Ron explained that most state funded building projects do not cover the heating of a school during power outages by emergency generators. However, Beth requested that the electrical engineer look at the emergency generator to see if the heating system can be wired into the generator. The engineer was able to re-design the system to allow this to occur and the work could be completed by a local electrician after substantial completion (May 15). Gerald asked why the contractor had not pursued hiring another electrician for the job. Ron pointed out the job is almost complete and the work was bid almost two years ago. Dave asked about the cost of the generator changes. Beth's third monetary item is the addition of a bus barn to the project. She would like to see the addition of a bus barn to house our two buses, the van, the school pickup and a few other school owned vehicles. The barn was not included in the original project but her hope is to pay for the project out of left over contingency funds. Beth needs board approval to move forward with design work and permitting for the project. She estimates the cost to be about \$35,000 to get the work started. Bob asked why we would want to keep the vehicles inside. The main reason is vehicle salt corrosion. Ron advised the civil engineer work is for site design and the structural engineer would be for the permitting process with the city. The structural engineer also designs the foundation of the building including frost walls and piers. Gerald asked if there is room on the site for a building. He also felt the design elements from the current building need to be included in the project.

MOTION by Hall, seconded by Richards, to approve the welding shop electrical remediation (not to exceed \$30,000)

Bob has issues voting on this item without knowing the cost and Dave suggested the board vote on a not to exceed cost. Beth felt the work would not exceed \$35,000. Gerald asked if the work should be put out to bid. He also asked if drawings had been done for the work by our architect.

Motion approved unanimously

**Total weighted votes: 789.61**

MOTION by Hall, seconded by Speno, to approve the emergency generator work (not to exceed \$65,000)

Motion approved with one opposed (Duke)

**Total weighted votes: 719.99**

MOTION by Hall, seconded by Speno, to approve the planning process for a bus barn (not to exceed \$35,000)

Bob advised he would rather see solar panels installed on the roof. Seth asked how the board will be involved in the design process. Jerry suggested having the Facilities Committee involved. Gerald felt the design fees are too high.

Motion approved with two opposed (Duke, Weinand) and one abstention (Jackson)

**Total weighted votes: 564.28**

## **FINAL BUDGET DISCUSSION AND VOTE**

MOTION by Jackson, seconded by Pearce, to approve the \$5,622,071 budget as presented

Matt discussed issues with special education in our building and the need for Education Technicians to support special education students. Tori would prefer to have a discussion with details. Beth advised the student population needing accommodations or have IEP's is about twice the percentage of our sending schools. Some programs consistently have a high number of special education students and sending schools do not always send Ed Techs to assist the students. We are now getting IEP's more consistently from our sending schools on a timely basis. Seth asked why special ed funding is not following the student to our school. Joanne asked if a special education committee be formed to discuss the issue.

Motion approved unanimously  
**Total weighted votes: 789.61**

The board discussed if the issue can be discussed in an existing committee. Tori proposed the Curriculum Committee take up the topic. Matt Speno will join the committee.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **FINANCE**

#### **Warrants and Budget**

Bob reported the committee met and signed the warrants for March. He reviewed the financial report ending February 28, 2019 with the board. Bob advised we paid \$200,000 on the Revenue Anticipation Note.

MOTION by Duke, seconded by Jackson, to approve the warrants for March

Motion approved unanimously  
**Total weighted votes: 789.61**

### **PERSONNEL**

Tori reported the committee met and reviewed two job descriptions. The committee will ask the board to vote their approval on the job descriptions next month.

## **CHAIR UPDATE**

Jerry met with the NREA Board of Directors and he will fly to D.C. on Monday. He plans to meet with Maine's congressional delegation while in Washington.

## **DIRECTOR UPDATE**

Beth reported some of our students won gold medals at the Skills USA competition. Three students and their chaperones will be going to Louisville, KY to compete nationally. The CNA training hours issue is still being addressed and we have seen an up tick in CNA students enrolling in our program. We are in process of hiring a new CNA instructor to teach as well. The MACTE organization is working with the Legislature on the CTE funding formula. The formula is still flawed with no equipment funds and the teachers pay is reduced to 84% funding level for salaries. Another issue being discussed by the Legislature is awarding credit by the CTE school to students. Beth advised that Kim Appleby has to resign from the board to address a serious health issue. She would like to have a plaque made to honor Kim's contribution to the building project and her service on the board. Tori would like to see the appreciation plaque placed in the new school.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Jerry declared the meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Next Board Meeting: April 24, 2019

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Elizabeth Fisher, Board Secretary