

Harwood Union Board of Directors Meeting
Harwood Library
6:00 PM
20 November 2013

Unapproved Minutes

In attendance:

Board: Deb Hunter, Chair; Chris Koliba, Vice Chair; David Goodman; Susi MacLean Daley; Stephen Sands; Dale Smeltzer; Dan Raddock

Administration: Brigid Scheffert, Superintendent; Amy Rex, Co-Principal; Lisa Atwood, Co-Principal

Staff: Michelle Baker, Director of Finance; Ray Daigle, Director of Facilities

Public: Rosemarie White, Warren; Jill Schwenderman, Waitsfield; Cathy Stapinski, MRV-TV; Rob Williams, Waitsfield; Jacob Metayer, VT State Police; Nathan Russell, Moretown; Sienna Jean, Waterbury; Hayden Jones, Moretown; Cole Lavoie, Waterbury; Brennan Degen, Fayston; Bridget Dow, Waterbury; Lynn Mireault, Waterbury; Emma Helmken, Waterbury; Laurie Lavoie, Waterbury; Gretchen Stahl, Montpelier; Chloe Emler, Fayston; Tom Emler, Fayston; Mimi Ewald, Duxbury; Conner Barker, Warren; Nina Sklar, Moretown; Anna Van Dine, Moretown; Nancy Van Dine, Moretown; Callie Anderson, Warren; Ellie Ramsey, Duxbury; Liesbeth Jacobs, Fayston; Mark Clement, WCAX; Ali Freeman, WCAX; Steve Rand, Waterbury; Nick Wilson, Waterbury; Lara Seaberg, Minute Taker

Call to order: Chair Deb Hunter called the meeting to order at 6:03 PM.

The Board and Administration introduced themselves to the public who were present.

Public Hearing: Deb Hunter first read the revised draft of Camera Policy E14-L-HUHS dated 4 Nov 2013 and noted that the cameras will only take video and no audio. Brigid Scheffert asked Ray Daigle for confirmation that the cameras are video only. He answered affirmatively that it is only video. Deb Hunter invited Gretchen Stahl to explain the two posters that were on the walls of the library. Ms. Stahl explained that the posters were an exercise for her classes based on Bloom's taxonomy. They were first for her classes then put into the library for the student body. In addition, two members of the public, three members of the faculty/staff, 13 HUHS students and State Trooper Metayer all addressed the Board. *(Chris Koliba left the meeting at 6:55 pm)* Brigid Scheffert told the students that she appreciated what they were saying and explained how the cameras will work. The Board and Administration thanked the public and students for attending the meeting. Amy Rex informed everyone that there would be an open forum next Tuesday, 26 Nov 2013 after school for the students and staff. Deb Hunter informed the public they were welcome to either leave or stay for the vote. A break from the meeting was taken at about 7:30 PM and the meeting restarted at 7:55 PM. *(Chris Koliba returned to the meeting at 7:50pm)*

David Goodman made a motion to change the final line of the policy about the hours of operation so that it reads that the interior cameras will only record after school hours. Chris Koliba seconded the motion. Discussion on the camera policy followed. After discussion Deb Hunter called for a vote on David Goodman's motion. The vote was as follows, David Goodman (6) in favor and Dale Smeltzer (6), Deb Hunter (4), Dan Raddock (4), Stephen Sands(4), Chris Koliba (3), Susi MacLean Daley (3) opposed. The motion did not pass by a 6-24 vote. Dale Smeltzer then made a motion to adopt Policy E14-L-HUHS as written with Stephen Sands seconding it. The final vote was Dale Smeltzer (6), Deb Hunter (4), Dan Raddock (4), Stephen Sands (4), Chris Koliba (3) and Susi MacLean Daley (3) in favor and David Goodman (6) in opposition. Policy E14-L-HUHS was adopted by a vote 24-6.

Approval of minutes: Dale Smeltzer moved to approve the minutes of the 16 October 2013 meeting as written. Chris Koliba seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with no abstentions.

Finance committee: Stephen Sands shared the November 2013 financials. As of 31 October 2103 they are at a projected fund balance of \$130, 745.00. Amy Rex and Michelle Baker gave a presentation on the different initiatives for the school. Chris Koliba asked if there needed to be a bond for the water system. Michelle Baker replied affirmatively that a bond for the water system should be small and the interest of the first year of the bond would be the cost for a budget. Michelle Baker then continued her earlier financial presentation. She shared that there is an overall budget increase of 3.4% for the FY 2105. There was discussion of the 1:1 technology program and the leasing packages for iPads. The different packages will all cost about \$300 per machine. Chris Koliba wanted a deeper understanding of how the 1:1 program will affect learning and pedagogy. In regard to the new budget building system Michelle Baker informed the Board that she would be going through the details many times before the next meeting.

Policy committee: There was no presentation. Dale Smeltzer invited all Board members to the next Policy Committee meeting on 12 December 2013 at 7:45 AM.

Washington West Executive committee: Superintendent Scheffert asked the Board to confirm renewal of the Agreement to Join the Winooski Valley and Statewide Choice Public High School Choice for the 2014-2015 School Year under Act 129 (Sec.34.8822d 2A). Dale Smeltzer moved to confirm renewal and Susi MacLean Daly seconded. The motion passed unanimously with no abstentions. Brigid Scheffert informed the Board that there are two WWSU meetings that have been scheduled. The first is 6 January 2014 at 6:00 PM which will be a meeting on the WWSU budget and board training. The second is on 31 March 2014 at 6:00PM which will be a reorganization and training meeting. Superintendent Scheffert informed the Board that the WWSU website needs work and the SU is working with Creative Edgeworks in Waterbury. She also informed the Board that the Executive committee approved an action plan on a statewide agenda. The next Executive committee meeting is 11 December 2013 and it may be a full Board meeting. The main discussion topic will be the statewide calendar which is related to how many days faculty are out of the classrooms for training. Superintendent Scheffert would like to reduce cost and improve training. She next shared information on the Central Office Budget of which she stated 84% is for personnel. She shared that the SU finance software is 14 years old

and needs to be replaced. Superintendent informed the Board that at the state level for education funding there will be a new state committee that will look at the functionality of the state supervisory unions. The committee will be looking into teacher and administration effectiveness and student performance. There will also be mergers and consolidations, one of which will affect WWSU. The Windsor Northwest Supervisory Union will be redistricted and WWSU may be given the towns of Granville and Hancock. The WWSU is objecting to a study that says that Washington West can take on the two towns for \$20,000. The SU wrote a rebuttal report and testified to the State Board on Tuesday, 19 Nov 2013. Superintendent Scheffert informed the Board that the WWSU study showed that the redistricting plan would add \$131,700 to the SU budget. The redistricting will be voted upon on by the State Board of Education 20 December 2103.

New Business: Dale Smeltzer made a motion to confirm the Board warrants. Stephen Sands seconded the motion. It passed unanimously with no abstentions.

Board Warrants

FY 2013-2014

33	11/06/13	Accounts Payable	\$ 276,202.30
36	11/20/13	Accounts Payable	\$ 260,828.83

Total Board Warrants \$ 537,031.13

Co-Principals report: Dale Smeltzer asked the administration about dual enrollment and VTLVC regarding students not in regular classes. Lisa Atwood informed her that it could be updated. Co-Principal Atwood then shared a proposed international trip to Greece and Italy in the spring of 2015. Tammy Munford and Cathy Cadwell are proposing the trip. They are asking for pre-approval so they can begin fundraising. The trip meets all the international trip expectations for Board pre-approval. Dale Smeltzer made a motion to pre-approve the trip and David Goodman seconded. The motion passed unanimously with no abstentions. Amy Rex shared that she and three Middle School teachers, Brian Wagner, Jodie Curran and Jon Potts attended an iPad summit in Boston where the teachers presented their technology in education classroom practices. Stephen Sands shared that he, Lisa Atwood, Ray Daigle and some students attended a ceremony at Camel's Hump Middle School for energy efficient school. Harwood has been designated an Energy Star green School. They have also been invited to an event in the spring or summer. Lisa Atwood informed the board that Harwood has been accepted into the League of Innovative Schools.

Executive session: Stephen Sands moved to go into executive session at 10:02 PM to discuss contracts with members of the administration. Dale Smeltzer seconded it and it passed unanimously with no abstentions. Chris Koliba moved to come out of executive session at 10:25 PM and Dan Raddock seconded and it passed unanimously with no abstentions. Dale Smeltzer made a motion to request Superintendent Scheffert confirm with the faculty that the original early retirement offer will not be altered. Susi MacLean Daley seconded and it passed

unanimously with no abstentions. Stephen Sands moved to adjourn at 10:28 PM with Chris Koliba seconding. The motion passed unanimously with no abstentions and the meeting adjourned.

The next Board of Directors meeting is 18 December 2013 at 6:00PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Lara Seaberg
Minute Taker