

NORTHERN TIOGA SCHOOL DISTRICT
110 Ellison Road
Elkland, PA 16920

Minutes – Special Meeting
August 24, 2020

1.0 OPERATIONS

1.1 Call to Order

The special meeting of the Northern Tioga School District Board of Directors was called to order by President, Julie Preston at 6:02 PM.

1.2 Pledge of Allegiance

Julie Preston led those present in the Pledge to the Flag.

1.3 Board Attendance: Board Members Present: Julie Preston, Ed Bonham, Jean Kohut, Ian McLaughlin, James Moyer (entered at 6:04 pm), Jim Neal, and Kim Strauser. Absent: Greg Cummings and Jolene Meisner.

Administrators Present: Superintendent Barnes, Kathy VanSchaick, Dan Fie, Christina Fry, Matt Sottolano, Kris Kaufman, Amy Coots, and Jeremy Freeman. Absent: Jess Millard and Cheryl Sottolano.

The Board convened for an executive session at 6:03 PM for legal and personnel issues.

James Moyer entered the meeting at this time (6:04 pm).

The Board reconvened for the meeting at 6:42 PM.

1.4 Open Forum

Nikki Brockway, Lawrenceville, PA

Ms. Brockway wrote to the Board with concerns regarding the kindergarten teacher her daughter has been assigned to at R.B. Walter Elementary School. She stated that she tried to contact the school after learning of her daughter's class assignment to see if she could be switched to another teacher but was unable to reach anyone for several days. Their family had experienced issues with the teacher when her daughter's older sibling was in kindergarten. After finally getting in touch with the principal, Ms. Brockway was informed that it is the principal's policy that class assignments cannot be changed. She is asking that the Board look into her request.

2.0 DISCUSSION ITEMS

2.1 Dan Cicala – Fidevia

Dan Cicala of Fidevia presented to the Board the contractor close out status for each of the contractors that worked on the building project. Most contractors are essentially closed out with a few punch list items to still be completed. When adjusted for change orders, the overall contract value is at \$15,530,719.00. Dan stated that the 11 month warranty inspection will take place next month.

Kris Kaufman, Principal at Williamson High School, noted that at their school, there are still two unfinished mobile carts, two windows that were installed with cracks, and the floor in the new addition is flaking. Todd Terpstra, Network Supervisor, said the cabling to the interactive boards at Cowanesque Valley High is not complete. Matt Sottolano, Principal at Cowanesque Valley High School, said that at their school there is an issue with one of the gaskets near the new HVAC door. Jeremy Freeman, Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds, will look into these issues.

3.0 ACTION ITEMS

3.1 Mandate Waiver Request Resolution (Exhibit #1)

A motion was made by Jean Kohut, seconded by Jim Neal, to approve the Act 13 of 2020 Mandate Waiver Request Resolution as outlined in Exhibit #1. Roll Call Vote. All votes were affirmative. The motion carried.

3.2 Approval of Replacement of CVHS Roof (Exhibit #2)

A motion was made by Ian McLaughlin, seconded by Ed Bonham, to approve the replacement of the Cowanesque Valley High School roof at a cost of \$1,488,905.80. The project is eligible for PlanCon reimbursement and must be completed by June 30, 2021. Funding will come from the General Fund and the Capital Reserve as outlined in Exhibit #2. Roll Call Vote. The motion carried with Jean Kohut casting a negative vote.

Jean Kohut expressed concerns regarding the roof replacement. She stated that she has concerns over whether the district will actually get PlanCon reimbursement. The district's Northern Tioga Academy and cyber school costs will be much higher this year. She wonders how this will affect next year's budget. She also noted that the district purchased a 10 year warranty on the current roof in 2015. Ed Bonham noted that the warranty is just for inspections, not repairs. Ian McLaughlin asked why the roof needs replaced. Jeremy Freeman stated that there are issues with leaking that will be costly to repair. Kim Strauser asked if the district is considering borrowing money to pay for roof. Kathy VanSchaick, Business Manager, stated that the Buildings and Grounds Committee is looking to fund the project with reserves to avoid the extra costs associated with borrowing. Ed Bonham noted that the capital reserve will remain above 10% of the budget even if funds are used to replace the roof. Kim Strauser and Ed Bonham added that the district could lose the

opportunity for PlanCon reimbursement if the roof is not replaced now. Kathy VanSchaick noted that any PlanCon reimbursement could be put back into the capital reserve if the Board chooses to do so. Kim Strauser stated that, despite the unknown costs the district may be facing after this school year, we know the roof needs replaced. Ed Bonham added that if the roof replacement is approved, it can be put on the schedule to be completed after the roof at Williamson High School is finished.

4.0 ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Ed Bonham, seconded by Jim Neal, to adjourn. All votes were affirmative. The motion carried.

Adjournment was at 7:25 PM.

Alyson Yerrick
Board Secretary

All documents as attachments to the minutes not contained herein are maintained in a separate file located in the Superintendent's Office.