

**ORDER OF BUSINESS
OF THE
RESA-6 REGIONAL COUNCIL**

**RESA-6 Training Room
Wheeling, WV 26003**

**Wednesday, March 23, 2011
3:30 p.m.**

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: Patsy Brancazio, Amelia Courts, David Hall, Heidi Hohman, William Jones, James Jorden, Kathy Kidder, George Krelis, James Lazear, Barbara Logue, Fred Renzella, Linda Ritz, Suzan Smith

OTHERS PRESENT: Nick Zervos, Greg Minnich, Marian Kajfez, Robert Dunlevy

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 3:30 p.m. by Mr. Krelis.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: On a motion by Mr. Jones, with a second by Mr. Hall, the Board approved the minutes of the February 10, 2011, meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Karen Price – Manufacturing Association Presentation - Karen Price, by teleconference, addressed the Board regarding the skill sets needed for students to obtain manufacturing jobs in WV. She said that many future jobs would be available because of retirements of current workers. She also indicated that if an Ethane Cracker was built in the northern panhandle that 2500 construction jobs would be available. A discussion centered on SB Policy 2510 and how it prohibited students from taking course work relevant to the rigor necessary for success in manufacturing jobs. Members of the board suggested that Mrs. Price work with the WVDE and State Board to change Policy 2510 so students could schedule needed courses for success. She indicated that she would call Mr. Zervos for more discussion and recommendations for the necessary changes and to discuss a contact list for action. She thanked the Board for their frank discussion and for their recommendations.

Legislative Update (Attachment A) – Mr. Zervos provided the Board members with “The Legislature,” a publication from the WVSBA, which provided a list of senate and house bills passed in the 2010 session. High profile bills missing were the OPEB bill (SB 616) and a bill dealing with changing the timelines for RIF and transfer of employees. It appeared that Bills with a fiscal note attached had no chance of passing this session.

Medicaid Report (Attachment B) – On a motion by Mr. Jones, with a second by Mr. Hall, the Board approved the March 1, 2011, Medicaid report prepared by Mrs. Wojcik in the aggregate amount of \$ 3,267,345.91 (from 7/1/10 through 2/28/11) for the RESA- 6 counties.

OPEB Discussion (Attachment C) - A brief discussion was held regarding OPEB and the fact that the Legislature did not address it this session. The Governor stated that he would not address it in a special session of the Legislature. The OPEB impact has a devastating effect on all 55 county Boards of Education.

SPOKES Discussion (Attachment D) - The Board was advised that the possibility of a SPOKES expansion in Ohio County may occur if funded by the DHHR for the 2011-12 school year. The Hazel Atlas Building would be the site of the program. An additional teacher would be needed.

Advanced Placement Program (Attachment E) - The Board was provided with the Advanced Placement Report to the nation. It contained many charts and graphs outlining the status of AP courses and student success nation-wide. In addition, graphics of the state of WV provided information regarding the number of test takers for each county and their success in passing the AP tests. A brief discussion centered on the low number of test takers. Board members felt that it is due to the lack of incentives to take the courses and to pay for a test.

RESA Cap - Mr. Zervos regrettably reported that the RESA funding cap was not removed which will cause a deficit in the RESA Operational Budgets state wide.

Master Plan for Statewide Professional Development (Attachment F) - Marian Kajfez informed the Board that she was working with the WVDE and the CPD to develop a statewide Master Plan for Professional Development. A draft plan has been completed and will be reviewed and feedback used to complete it.

No Child Left Behind - (Attachment G) - The Board was provided with an article from CNN.com Duncan: “No Child Left Behind Creates failure for US Schools.” It was very intriguing and its content was no surprise to the Board.

Health Savings Plans (Attachment I) – Mr. Minnich explained that his research indicated that Health Reimbursement Accounts which are employer funded and employer directed appear to be a potential vehicle for supplementing employees health benefits. Mr. Minnich indicated and that due to the complexity and flexibility of the programs, a meeting between county administration and the appropriate third party administrator was the necessary first step for a county to access the possibilities for a county health program.

E-School Projections (Attachment J) - As per Brooke County’s request, Mr. Minnich shared with and explained to the Board a chart outlining what it would cost for Brooke to participate in the RESA -6 E-School Smart Find Express substitute calling system. (Attachment J)

RESA Salary Schedules and Raises - On a motion by Mr. Jorden and a second by

Mr. Jones, the Board approved and agreed to pay the salary increase approved by the Legislature. The Executive Director's increase is not included in this motion because only the State Board of Education can legally set his salary.

RESA State Allocation Budget Projections (Attachment K) - Mr. Minnich provided the Board with a chart (Attachment K) projecting the RESA 6 state allocation budget with and without state raises. He presented numbers for FY 2011, FY2012 and FY2013. In all cases the cap on step 5 funding would cause a deficit in 2013 and if OPEB cost is figured in there would be a deficit all three years. This display emphasizes the need of removal of the cap and more importantly the exponential problems of the OPEB cost.

Supplements and Transfers (Attachment L) - On a motion by Mr. Hall with a second by Mr. Renzella, the Board approved the supplements and transfers as presented by Mr. Minnich in Attachment L.

Budget Status Report (Attachment M) - On a motion by Mr. Renzella, with a second by Ms. Smith, and explained by Mr. Minnich, the Budget Status Report was approved.

Checks Issued (Attachment N) - On a motion by Ms. Smith, with a second by Mr. Hall, the RESA-6 Checks Issued in Attachment N were approved.

Executive Director's Evaluation (Attachment H) - Mr. Krelis requested that Board members turn in their independent evaluation of Mr. Zervos utilizing Attachment H. He asked that those not turning in a paper copy should email it to him using the electronic format provided to them by Mr. Zervos. Mr. Krelis will compile the evaluations and provide a report at the April 14 meeting.

Permission to proceed with the Teaching American History Grant and Letter of Support

Marian Kajfez requested that the Board approve a letter of support for a million dollar grant proposal for an American History Grant for RESA 6 counties. On a motion by Mr. Renzella and a second by Ms. Smith, the letter of support was approved. The lone recommendation was that any personnel positions identified in the grant with a name be marked in some way as a place holder with the final personnel employed following the required RESA 6 posting and employment procedures.

PERSONNEL:

On a motion by Mr. Renzella, with a second by Mr. Jones, the following personnel items were approved.

Employment:

Kimberly Creech - Substitute Sign Language Specialist

Leave of Absence: - Lydia Brodegard - Occupational Therapist (Attachment O)

- Barbara Bennett – Sign Language Specialist (Attachment P)

Resignation:

- Charles Masters - Computer Technician (Attachment Q)

On a motion by Mr. Renzella, with a second by Mr. Jones permission to employ a Computer Technician was approved.

WEST VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION REPORT:

Dr. Amelia Courts provided the enclosed 2011 Legislative Session Bill Status Report. She reviewed several of the bills and described their impact. She also spoke about the changes in SB Policy 2510 and the projected phase in time line. She once again complimented RESA 6 and the excellent work done here!

OTHER CONCERNS:

Mr. Lazear had a concern on proceedings in dealing with Marcellus Shale mineral rights and related contracts. Mr. Renzella informed him that Marshall County Schools used Chris Riley and Tim Green in their negotiations.

Mr. Zervos thanked Kathy Kidder for the use of Brooke High for the Upper Ohio Valley Fire School held last weekend.

Mr. Renzella and Mr. Jones were asked to submit provide status of energy managers for FY12.

The Board was informed that RESA technicians would be installing 1.4 million dollars of routers in the upcoming months.

The members were told that Dr. Marple would be presenting her Vision Statement for WV Schools on March 31 at the Cultural Arts Center in Charleston.

ADJOURNMENT: On a motion by Mr. Renzella , with a second by Mr. Jones, the meeting was adjourned.

Co-Chairperson

Executive Director/Secretary