

VERNONIA SCHOOL DISTRICT 47J  
1201 TEXAS AVENUE  
VERNONIA OR 97064

BOARD OF DIRECTORS WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES

November 8, 2012

**CALL TO ORDER:** A Workshop of the Board of Directors of Administrative School District 47J, Columbia County, Oregon was convened at 6:36 p.m. by Chair Jim Krahn.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

**Board present:** Jim Krahn, Greg Kintz, Tim Bamburg, Cari Levenseller, and Bill Langmaid. Camrin Eyrrick arrived at 6:38 p.m.

BOARD PRESENT

**Board Absent:** Ernie Smith

**Staff Present:** Ken Cox, Superintendent; and Barb Carr, Administrative Assistant.

STAFF PRESENT

**Visitors Present:** None

VISITORS PRESENT

**1.0 AGENDA REVIEW:** Agenda item added for Band out of state travel.

**2.0 ACTION:** Dr. Cox explained the Mr. Izzett will be taking a student to Seattle for a Western International Band Clinic November 16-19. Because this is an out of state trip it requires board approval.

OUT STATE BAND TRIP APPROVED

Bill Langmaid moved to approve out of state travel to Seattle for Mr. Izzett to attend the band clinic. Motion seconded by Tim Bamburg. Motion passed unanimously.

Camrin Eyrrick arrived at 6:38 p.m.

**3.0 District Facilities Discussion:** Dr. Cox shared discussion topics for purchasing the green building:

DISTRICT FACILITIES DISCUSSION

- **What We Need** – a location to hold shop classes next year. Without this the HS could lose its Professional Technical Education (PTE) courses rating with the state. Shop would require 2400 sf including storage, a finishing area, and office spaces. We also need 2400 sf for the Art program including storage and ceramic and kiln rooms.
- **Purchase Approval** – FEMA granted approval on purchasing the building on Oct. 19, 2012 provided we do not use any FEMA funds to purchase the building.
- **The Building** – The green building is 80 x 200 for a total of 16000 sf. It is a steel version of a pole building. Custom Excavating is willing sell us the steel and roof for \$100,000 including windows, doors, and bathroom fixtures. A Project manager would need to be hired to oversee the deconstruction & reconstruction. An estimate for setting up a new steel building & roof (no interior) would be approx. \$587,000. To purchase the green building, set up costs estimated at \$100,000 the total would be \$200,000 saving \$387,000 over purchasing a new building. An estimate for slab, interior walls, electrical, plumbing, and finished construction could be as high as \$1.3 million.
- **Siting** – originally the VRSC building was going to be located east of the school. The site already has gas, power and sewer installed. An additional transformer would have to be installed. The green building is approx. 40' longer than the original plans for the VRSC however the green building consists of "bays" and only what is needed could be constructed.
- **Possible Partnership** – This is still a topic of on-going discussion. The Vernonia Health Board expressed possible interest, however at this time they are unable to make a commitment.
- **Issues to Consider** – The district still needs \$5 million including current debt (\$4.3 million) to repay as well as final finishing items for the school such as solar installation, sound system, and finishing the wetlands. Our parking appears to be inadequate at peak times. Complaints were received during Homecoming. There is a vacant lot to the south of the East parking lot that is owned by a neighboring homeowner.

Jim Krahn asked for board member thoughts on the topic. The following is an overview from each board member:

**Cari Levenseller:** Space is definitely needed to continue our shop program and feels it is ridiculous if we don't buy back the green building, even if purchased and stored until such a time that we have partners to go in with us.

**Tim Bamburg:** Agrees with Cari. Doesn't see how we can let the building go. It shows the community that it is being reused.

**Camrin Eyrrick:** Feels reusing the building would speak volumes to the community. It could be used for storage as well.

**Greg Kintz:** It is a good idea to re-use. It would be disastrous to the community if it left. Programs could be added later if we have the space. Greg asked for confirmation that the D.O. will stay in its current location. Yes. Greg also asked if the Met Group felt confident they could raise the necessary funding we need. According to Dr. Cox, the Met Group feels this would be an uphill battle to reach by the end of their contract next year.

**Bill Langmaid:** Has concerns mostly about sharing space with someone else and whether or not the addition of this building would impact our LEED Status. According to Cox, no. The LEED status is directed to the new school building. Bill agrees it is important to the community to keep the green building but it's not in the best interest of the district to commit to spending more money when there is already a shortfall.

**Jim Krahn:** Feels strongly about keeping the shop program. However torn about spending money we don't have. This is a tough decision. He felt strongly about not spending money on something smaller to get us by only to duplicate the costs a few years later.

Dr. Cox commented on the possibility of getting the community to support a bond to pay for the debt as well as the installation of the sports fields. It was a unanimous consensus from the board that they were not in favor of this.

The board asked Dr. Cox to provide them with following:

1. Cost to purchase and erect only 4 bays of the green building to be used for Shop and Art.
2. Get the opinion of the Met Group on how spending this additional money could impact the overall campaign.

**4.0 OTHER ISSUES:**

Camrin Eyrrick raised concern with all the recent thefts that have occurred at the new school. Dr. Cox and the Administrative team are working through this. He will be addressing staff with an email and will run it by the board prior to sending.

OTHER ISSUES  
THEFTS IN NEW BUILDING

**Policy Committee:** Dr. Cox requested a meeting with the policy review committee of Greg Kintz and Bill Langmaid. There are two packets to be reviewed.

POLICY COMMITTEE

**Facilities Committee:** Dr. Cox would like to meet with the facilities committee of Ernie Smith and Tim Bamburg to review the large punch list of items that still need to be done. Dr. Cox will contact them to set up a meeting.

FACILITIES COMMITTEE

**MEETING ADJOURNED** at 8:28 p.m.

ADJOURNED

Submitted by Barb Carr, Administrative Assistant

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Board Chair

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District Clerk