

VERNONIA SCHOOL DISTRICT 47J  
1201 TEXAS AVENUE  
VERNONIA OR 97064

BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

March 13, 2014

- 1.0 CALL TO ORDER:** A Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of Administrative School District 47J, Columbia County, Oregon was called to order at 6:12 p.m. by Bill Langmaid. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER
- Board Present:** Bill Langmaid, Ernie Smith, Greg Kintz, and Brett Costley. Cari Levenseller arrived at 6:15 p.m. Jim Krahn arrived at 6:18 p.m. BOARD PRESENT
- Board Absent:** Tim Bamburg BOARD ABSENT
- Staff Present:** Ken Cox, Superintendent; Nate Underwood, Middle/High School Principal; Aaron Miller, Elementary Schools Principal; Dawn Plews, Business Manager; Marie Knight, Fiscal Assistant; Barb Carr, Administrative Assistant; Juliet Safier, VEA President; and Jan Dyer, Jeana Gump, and Amanda Wolf, Classified Staff. STAFF PRESENT
- Visitors Present:** Carol Cox, Camrin Eyrrick, Jacob Eyrrick, Kaitlyn Eyrrick, Sherrie Ford, Scott Laird, Maria Lemay, Gail Law, Amy Cieloha, Sue Vandehey, Neil Vandehey. VISITORS PRESENT
- 1.1** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- 1.2** Agenda Review: The following items were added to the agenda. AGENDA REVIEW  
6.2 Green Globes Expenditure  
6.3 Project Manager Contract
- 2.0 PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS:** PUBLIC COMMENT  
Gail Law expressed concerns with bullying in the school. According to Dr. Cox, the District has an article in the next issue of the Voice addressing bullying. Bullying is also the focus of the PBIS program this year. GRAND PARENT CONCERNED OVER BULLYING  
Cari Levenseller arrived at 6:15p.m. Jim Krahn arrived at 6:18 p.m.
- Students Jacob Eyrrick and Kaitlyn Eyrrick reported on the robotics team – Loggerbots #4127. They recently finished 13<sup>th</sup> out of 35 teams at a district event and reached the quarter finals. The team is self-funding (requiring an annual budget of \$10,000) and compete against all schools within a geographic area regardless of size. They expressed concern of not having a shop to fabricate their robots. They will provide a final report at the end of the school year. ROBOTICS TEAM GIVE UPDATE
- 3.0 CONSENT AGENDA:**
- 3.1** Minutes of 02-13-14 Regular Meeting and 03-04-14 Workshop. MINUTES APPROVED  
Greg Kintz moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Cari Levenseller seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with those in attendance.
- 4.0 REPORTS & DISCUSSION**
- 4.1** Student Reports: No student reports were given. STUDENT REPORTS
- 4.2** Building Reports: BUILDING REPORTS  
Aaron Miller added gave an update on elementary attendance. Mr. Miller feels the new plan is educating parents and increasing awareness. They are still working to make the plan better by making adjustments to the process. Miscellaneous attendance data for K-5 was shared with the board.

Nate Underwood stated that he is not comfortable with the 6-12 attendance data at this time. He is not convinced that the data is totally accurate and wants to confirm prior to reporting. Mr. Underwood indicated to the board that he would like to see one of the required graduation elective credits eliminated. This was presented to the board at a previous meeting. Dr. Cox stated that a revised policy addressing this will be presented at the April meeting for discussion. Also at the High School, 14 students were inducted into National Honor Society (NHS) yesterday.

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| 4.3                                     | <b>Financial Report:</b> Dawn Plews reported that our enrollment is down slightly. The usable carry over amount that can be budgeted is about same as last year, \$40,000. This is not a healthy amount. There were no questions from board.   | FINANCIAL REPORT  |
| 4.4                                     | <b>Maintenance Report:</b> Mr. Brown's report was reviewed. There were no questions  | MAINTENANCE REPORT  |
| 4.5                                     | <b>SHAW Clinic Report:</b> Sherrie Ford updated the board on the School Based Health Center (SBHC). The clinic has been closed due to an unfortunate staffing issue in October. Starting after Spring Break the clinic will be open two days a week (Wednesday and Friday). The new Physician's Assistant is Sandy Kosik who will be at the clinic on Fridays. A Nurse Practitioner will be in on Wednesdays with the hope to increase this position to 2 days a week.   | SHAW CLINIC REPORT  |
| 5.0 <b>INFORMATION &amp; DISCUSSION</b> |  |   |
| 5.1                                     | <b>Volunteer Coordinator Report:</b> Amanda Wolf, the District Volunteer Coordinator, reported on the work of volunteers in our District. From October to current approximately 1700 volunteer hours have been logged. This year the software program "Help Counter" is being used. Volunteers are able to check themselves in and out and the system easily tracks hours and other important information. Outstanding volunteers are being recognized monthly on the school bulletin board as well as in Vernonia's Voice. This year's volunteer appreciation and recognition dessert will be held towards the end of May. Board members were invited.  | VOLUNTEER<br>COORDINATOR REPORT                           |
| 5.2                                     | <b>Vernonia Community Indicators of Vitality Report:</b> Scott Laird and Bill Langmaid gave an overview of the results of the Vernonia Community Indicators of Vitality project. This project was in cooperation with OSU, Ford Institute for Community Building and the Nonprofit Association of Oregon. A community forum will be held on Saturday, April 5 <sup>th</sup> in the school library. This opportunity to come together with community members will open the dialog about the future of Vernonia. The Indicators of Vitality report will be shared in full.   | VERNONIA<br>COMMUNITY<br>INDICATORS of<br>VITALITY REPORT |
| 5.3                                     | <b>School Schedule Task Force:</b> The School Schedule Task Force will look at a 4-day school week as well as a full year school calendar. Committee work will include researching the following items: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Compile data from Oregon schools currently operating with 4-day or full year calendars</li> <li>• Collect sample schedules and school year calendars</li> <li>• Collect research articles</li> <li>• Develop lists of pros and cons from students, staff and parents</li> <li>• Discuss budget implications</li> </ul> <p>Dr. Cox asked interested board members to join the task force. Jim Krahn and Cari Levenseller volunteered. The next committee meeting will be Thursday, April 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm at the District Office. It was stated that nothing will change for the 2014-15 school year. The focus of the task force at this point is to merely gather data and research materials.</p> | SCHOOL SCHEDULE<br>TASK FORCE                             |
| 5.4                                     | <b>Budget Committee Vacancies:</b> Currently there are 4 vacancies on the budget committee. Terms are for 3 years and work takes place in the spring. Applications are available at the District Office and were available at the meeting. Interested persons should contact Barb Carr the District Office if they have questions.   | BUDGET COMMITTEE<br>VACANCIES                             |
| 5.5                                     | <b>Lower Columbia College (LCC) Partnership:</b> Recently Mr. Underwood, Mr. Miller and  | LCC PARTNERSHIP   |

Mr. Weisel met with representatives from Lower Columbia College (LCC) about starting a program in Vernonia which allows students to earn HS and college credits prior to graduation. Many details still need to be worked through but all felt it is a program that would benefit our students.

DISCUSSED

## 6.0 ACTION ITEMS

- 6.1 Superintendent Vacancy:** Bill Langmaid explained the process of replacing our current superintendent. The public was given opportunities to provide input towards the Qualities and Qualifications of a Supt. and this list was adopted by the board. A timeline was also approved for filling the position. Internal applications were accepted and an interview held.

MILLER HIRED AS  
INTERIM PART TIME  
SUPERINTENDENT

Ernie Smith moved to hire Aaron Miller as half-time Interim Superintendent and negotiate a one year contract effective July 1, 2014. Greg Kintz seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with those in attendance.

- 6.2 Green Globes Expenditure:** Ken Cox explained that this was discussed at last month's board meeting however action was not taken to approve the expenditure. Jim Krahn moved to approve expenditures not to exceed \$25,000 for the purpose of applying for and securing Green Globe designation on our new K-12 school facility. Cari Levenseller seconded the motion.

GREEN GLOBE  
EXPENDITURE  
APPROVED

Discussion: Jim Krahn asked how solid the receipt of any donations would be once this designation is obtained. According to Dr. Cox the District has one donor willing to help with the expenses of obtaining this certification. Once we have the Green Globe Designation Dr. Cox feels additional timber industry donors will step forward. The Metropolitan Group recommends the District move forward with this and feel it will more than pay for itself in their opinion. Ernie Smith expressed concern with expending money the District doesn't have.

Motion passed unanimously with those in attendance.

- 6.3 Project Manager Contract:** The Project Manager Contract will carry through the final stages of the Spencer Park Improvements, as well as the woodshop and greenhouse. This contract will also oversee the completion of sports fields drawings. Total for these comes to over \$10,000 which requires board approval.

PROJECT MANAGER  
CONTRACT  
NEGOTIATION  
AUTHORIZED

Jim Krahn moved to authorize the Superintendent to negotiate a contract for construction project management services not to exceed \$15,000 for the remainder of 2014. Brett Costley seconded the motion.

Discussion was held on the amount of the total package. A vote was taken. All board members in attendance voted against the motion. Motion failed.

Jim Krahn moved to authorize the Superintendent to negotiate a contract for construction project management services not to exceed \$16,000 for the remainder of 2014. Brett Costley seconded the motion.

Yes votes: Jim Krahn, Brett Costley, Cari Levenseller, Bill Langmaid, and Greg Kintz.

No votes: Ernie Smith. Motion passed.

## 7.0 SUPERINTENDENT REPORT: Dr. Cox updated the board on the following:

- Vernonia Brochure is finalized and ready for distribution
- April 18 and May 9 will now be school days to make up for missed weather days
- Recently held Town Hall was a success
- Greenhouse is nearly finished
- Special thanks to Earl Davis for dropping some trees around the District Office
- The RFP for completing Spencer Park Improvements is available for review. It will be

SUPERINTENDENT  
REPORT

published soon.

**8.0 RECESS TO EXECUTIVE SESSION** under O.R.S. 192.660 (2) (i) at 7:45 p.m.

RECESSED TO  
EXECUTIVE SESSION

The board reviewed administrative staff contract renewals.

**9.0 RECONVENE TO REGULAR SESSION** at 8:07 p.m.

RECONVENED TO REG.  
SESSION

Brett Costley moved to adopt resolution 1314-03 Administrator Contract Extensions. Cari Levenseller seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with those in attendance.

ADMINISTRATIVE  
CONTRACT RENEWALS  
APPROVED

**10.0 MEETING ADJOURNED** at 8:08 p.m.

ADJOURNED

Submitted by Barb Carr,  
Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent and Board of Directors

Board Chair

District Clerk