

APPROVED

2-8-21

DENNIS-YARMOUTH REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
Minutes of a School Committee Meeting
Monday, January 25, 2021

A Dennis-Yarmouth Regional School Committee meeting was held on Monday, January 25, 2021, via remote technology in accordance with the Governor of Massachusetts' March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law G.L. c. 30A, Section 20.

Members Present: Jeni Landers, Chairperson; Joseph Tierney, Vice Chairperson; James Dykeman, Jr.; Secretary; Phillip Morris, Treasurer; Joe Glynn; Jennifer Rose; Zane Fitzgerald.

Others Present: Carol Woodbury, Superintendent of Schools; Kenneth Jenks, Assistant Superintendent for Administrative and Business Services; Tainan Nunes, Student Representative to the School Committee; Eileen Whalen, Recording Secretary to the School Committee; Carole Eichner, Director of Early Learning; Maria Marasco, Cape & Vineyard Electric Cooperative; Lynne Welsh, UniBank; Paul Murphy, Russ Maciel, ENE Systems, Inc.; Michelle Dunn, DYEA; Vida Morris.

At 6:33 p.m., Jeni Landers, Chairperson, called the meeting to order.

Roll Call Attendance:

James Dykeman, Jr.	yes
Zane Fitzgerald	yes
Joe Glynn	yes
Phillip Morris	yes
Jennifer Rose	yes
Joseph Tierney	yes
Jeni Landers	yes

Reports

DYRSD School Committee Student Representative – Tainan Nunes: Tainan reported on the happenings at the high school. Everyone is doing a great job with Covid; the guidance department is working very hard with students applying for college. He followed up on the subject of adding an additional student representative to the School Committee. A brief discussion followed. On a motion by Phil Morris, seconded by James Dykeman, and carried 7-0 by roll call vote, it was

VOTED: To add an additional student representative to the School Committee.

James Dykeman, Jr.	yes
Zane Fitzgerald	yes
Joe Glynn	yes
Phillip Morris	yes
Jennifer Rose	yes
Joseph Tierney	yes
Jeni Landers	yes

At this point in the meeting Chair Landers welcomed the newest member of the committee, Mr. Zane Fitzgerald. She also wished to thank Tracy Post for filling in as interim member.

Superintendent Report – Carol Woodbury:

- A. Cape & Vineyard Electric Cooperative Presentation: Mrs. Woodbury introduced Maria Marasco, Deputy Director of the Cape & Vineyard Electric Cooperative. Ms. Marasco passed on regrets from Liz Argo who was unable to attend. Ms. Marasco shared a PowerPoint presentation which had previously been sent to the Committee in the packet. She gave a brief history of CVEC's relationship with the Dennis-Yarmouth school district. Their mission is renewable energy. At the conclusion of her presentation Ms. Marasco thanked the superintendent and also Sandy Cashen, Facilities Director. Mr. Tierney thanked Ms. Marasco for the presentation. Mr. Morris asked about Cape Light Compact; Ms. Marasco said they are two different and distinct entities and that CVEC is a management development team for municipalities. Chair Landers suggested Mr. Morris follow up with Ms. Marasco for further information.
- B. Pooled Testing: Mrs. Woodbury shared information about pooled testing which had been distributed electronically to the committee prior to the meeting. The district has had no evidence of school based transmission. The testing is a screening; there are many preconditions such as completing the application, making statement of assurance, and consent forms for all participants. This testing would be once a week. We are not an Abbott Binax district; application for that status would have to be completed by this Thursday. It would be the district's responsibility to transport the test results daily to the lab which would most likely be off-Cape. If there is a positive result in the pool all participants would have to quarantine; further testing would have to be arranged, perhaps with a drive-thru arrangement. The superintendent has consulted with the district nurse as well as the health directors of Dennis and Yarmouth. More staff would have to be hired; current union contracts would need MOAs regarding this. Mrs. Woodbury said that we cannot burden our nursing staff further. Nurses are in high demand. The superintendent recommends that the district focus resources on vaccinating staff. The Chair asked for comments from the Committee. Mr. Glynn asked if the towns would help. He does not support pooled testing at this time. Mr. Tierney did not wish to make a decision at this meeting but would like to move forward as much as possible without making a commitment. Perhaps it could be for K-7 students only. Mr. Fitzgerald asked if we can get out of testing as of March 28th once the costs go up; are there any alternatives? Ms. Rose asked how long it takes to get results. Mr. Dykeman asked how many districts are participating; the district would have to add nursing staff; the state makes promises and the district is left with the bill. Chair Landers is concerned about the huge burden on staff; the cost of tests; liability; manpower; all without much of a benefit to the district. She feels that the district is doing a great job and that the focus should be on vaccines. Discussion continued regarding surveying the parents and staff; do the benefits outweigh the costs; and allocation of resources. Mr. Glynn made a motion not to recommend moving forward at this time. After further discussion Mr. Glynn withdrew the motion. Chair Landers asked the superintendent to keep the committee updated.

School Committee Liaisons to the Boards of Selectmen:

Dennis: Chair Landers attended the recent meeting; nothing of note to report regarding the schools.

Yarmouth: Mr. Glynn reported on the selection of a new School Committee member to fill the seat left by Mr. Sullivan. He also welcomed new member Zane Fitzgerald. He said that all four applicants indicated that they would run for the seat in the spring election.

Building Committee Report – Joseph Tierney: Mr. Tierney introduced Lynne Welsh of UniBank who gave a brief update on borrowing for the new school.

UniBank Representative Update on Borrowing: Lynne Welsh gave a brief update. The note will mature on March 1st. She has been in contact with the Owners Project Manager. The MSBA will perform an audit at the end of the project. She anticipates that the bids will be good. She says that the district does not want to over-borrow. Chair Landers thanked Ms. Welsh for the update. The Committee had no follow-up questions.

Assistant Superintendent Report – Kenneth Jenks:

- A. HVAC Reports: Mr. Jenks introduced Paul Murphy and Russ Maciel of ENE Systems; the district has used ENE for at least 20 years. Mr. Murphy said that the report indicates the physical condition of the system at the time of the report. Engineers physically measured the equipment. Mechanicals were repaired to the extent possible; he commended Ken Jenks and Sandy Cashen for proactively keeping up with the equipment. A question and answer session followed. Mr. Morris was very impressed with the detail of the report and said that the Dennis-Yarmouth district is way ahead. Mr. Tierney asked if all air purifiers are in place. Mr. Jenks said that the offices will be done last. Mr. Fitzgerald asked about HEPA filters. Mr. Jenks said that having the windows cracked moves the air significantly and that the good weather has been helpful. Mr. Glynn asked if heat affects the flow of air. Mr. Maciel said there is a finite amount of energy that the system can handle.
- B. Ezra Baker Structure Damage – Room 106: Mr. Jenks referenced the memo included in the packet regarding the structure damage in Room 106 at the Ezra Baker School. After a brief discussion, on a motion by Phil Morris, seconded by Joe Glynn, and carried 6-0 by roll call vote with one abstention it was

VOTED: To award a contract to Lohr Construction Co., Inc. located in South Dennis, Mass. to provide the structure repair, as per our specifications and Lohr Construction Co., Inc. bid response of January 13, 2021.

James Dykeman, Jr.	yes
Zane Fitzgerald	yes
Joe Glynn	yes
Phillip Morris	yes
Jennifer Rose	yes
Joseph Tierney	abstain
Jeni Landers	yes

- C. Tentative FY22 Budget Review: Mr. Jenks referenced the PowerPoint presentation and budget sheets which were distributed electronically prior to the meeting. At this time the Governor's budget has not been made available. He reviewed the enrollment data; college plans; the timeline; and accomplishments. This would be an increase of 4.26%. A discussion followed regarding the official certified budget, final adoption, free cash and Excess and Deficiency. On a motion by Phil Morris, seconded by Joseph Tierney, and carried 7-0 by roll call vote it was

VOTED: That the Committee adopt a tentative FY22 budget of \$67,498,997.

James Dykeman, Jr.	yes
Zane Fitzgerald	yes
Joe Glynn	yes
Phillip Morris	yes
Jennifer Rose	yes
Joseph Tierney	yes
Jeni Landers	yes

School Committee Business

Consent Agenda: On a motion by James Dykeman, seconded by Joe Glynn, and carried 4-0 by roll call vote with three abstentions it was voted to approve the following items included in the consent agenda:

Donations

Move to accept a case of small grocery-style bags from the International Fund for Animal Welfare to the students of M.E. Small Elementary School.

Move to accept a \$500 grant from the Exxonmobile Educational Alliance program to the Wixon School.

Move to accept an HP Laptop to the Dennis-Yarmouth Technology Department from Mr. Jeff Ritchie of South Yarmouth.

Minutes

January 11, 2021

James Dykeman, Jr.	abstain
Zane Fitzgerald	abstain
Joe Glynn	yes
Phillip Morris	yes
Jennifer Rose	abstain
Joseph Tierney	yes
Jeni Landers	yes

Calendars

The upcoming calendars were included in the packet.

Bills and Requisitions

Bills and requisitions will be signed at the District offices by the Committee.

Items Distributed Electronically Prior to the Meeting:

Memo from the Commissioner: Pooled Testing in K-12 Schools–COVID-19 Mitigation Strategy

Memo from the Commissioner: Pooled Testing in K-12 Schools

PowerPoint Presentation: Implementing Pooled Testing

PowerPoint Presentation: Pooled Testing Initiative for K-12 Schools

HVAC Report

PowerPoint Presentation: Initial Budget Proposal FY22

Budget Sheets

Public Comment

Chair Landers said that 15 minutes was allotted for Public Comment, she indicated that she would allow 30 minutes. She said that participants should use the “raise hand” option; this is not a question and answer session.

Vida Morris asked about pooled testing; she agrees that the district should concentrate on vaccinations. She also indicated that the Yarmouth town administrator said there would be no increase in insurance this year. Michelle Dunn said we cannot control vaccine distribution; we can ask other towns about batch testing.

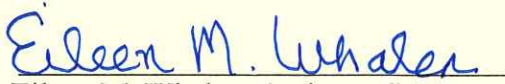
Adjourn

At 9:05 p.m., on a motion by James Dykeman, seconded by Phil Morris, and carried 7-0 by roll call vote it was

VOTED: To adjourn the meeting.

James Dykeman, Jr.	yes
Zane Fitzgerald	yes
Joe Glynn	yes
Phillip Morris	yes
Jennifer Rose	yes
Joseph Tierney	yes
Jeni Landers	yes

Minutes recorded and prepared by,


Eileen M. Whalen, Assistant Secretary