

Region #9 Board of Education  
Meeting of the Committee on Financial Oversight  
June 21<sup>st</sup>, 2005  
Location: Joel Barlow High School Redding, CT

Attendance: Coppinger, Heller, Poltrack, Bonfanti, DeSalvo and Gombos  
Board members: Shapiro  
Admin: McLiverty, Zudac, Craw, Calabro, Goodpaster, Crowley and Maday  
Public: Mrs. Kubic, Mr. Nycper

Ms. Gombos calls the meeting to order at 6:32 PM.

**Motion:** Motion to accept the minutes of the March 14<sup>th</sup> FOC meeting.  
Maker Heller/DeSalvo  
No discussion  
Motion passes 5,0,1. Bonfanti Abstains

**Motion:** Motion to accept the minutes of the May 5<sup>th</sup> FOC meeting.  
Maker Poltrack/Coppinger  
No discussion  
Motion passes 5,0,1. DeSalvo Abstains

**Motion:** Motion to accept the minutes of the May 9<sup>th</sup> FOC meeting.  
Maker Heller/Poltrack  
No discussion  
Motion passes unanimously.

**Motion:** Motion to accept the minutes of the May 11<sup>th</sup> FOC meeting.  
Maker Heller/Poltrack  
No discussion  
Motion passes unanimously.

**Motion:** Motion to accept the minutes of the May 24<sup>th</sup> FOC meeting.  
Maker Heller/Poltrack  
No discussion  
Motion passes unanimously.

Mrs. Gombos mentions that we will have Mary Maday cover the FOC meeting minutes in the near future as the C3 committee winds down.

**Discussion and possible action on Invoices:**  
Mr. Heller presents invoices dated 6/21/05.

**Motion:** Motion to recommend that the Region 9 BOE approve the following invoices dated 6/21/05.

**INVOICES**

Black Dog Enterprises (Skip Philanoski)		
#265	5/31/05	\$30,080.00
Carmody & Torrence		
#152374	3/10/05	\$8,568.62
154586	4/22/05	16,358.67
155449	5/17/05	33,305.13
EdMor		
#20	5/6/05	\$36,569.98
	Tools/equipment	<u>-7,566.54</u>
		29,003.44
#21	5/13/05	5,054.57
Jim's Tree Services		
#18596	5/1/05	\$1,575.00
18597	5/1/05	1,500.00
Navigant		
	4/15/05	\$10,752.50
	4/22/05	16,330.00
	4/29/05	9,920.00
	5/6/05	2,525.00
Servicemaster of Stamford		
	5/2/05	\$265.00
Van Zelm		
#25730	3/11/05	\$11,054.87
25735	3/11/05	17,282.87
John Watts		
#64726	7/7/04	\$400.00

**CLOSEOUTS**

	<u>REFERENDUM</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>
Aqua Lawn	\$2,925	\$2,925.00
Mariana Cardillo & Sons Inc.	11,290	15,000.00
Central Connecticut Acoustics	40,873	27,668.86
Dalton Contracting	2,900	2,990.00
Intelligent Signage	31,690	14,280.00
Ram Woodworks	43,963	6,503.00
United Blackboard	23,079	20,703.70

Maker Heller/Poltrack

Discussion Mr. Bonfanti what were the Van Zelm services?  
Mr. Heller responds that they were for engineering services.

Mr. Bonfanti asks if the savings shown on the close outs represents actual savings or were costs shifted to other vendors? Mr. Poltrack responds that often cost offsets were incurred through O&G.

Mr. Coppinger asks about the Carrmody and Torrence bills. Should these bills be approved by The BOE Chairperson. Mrs. Gombos responds that these bills were reviewed by the C3 committee and the C3 AP committee and that they have verified the charges. The Chair of the C3 committee has been sitting in on weekly conference calls with the attorneys and can verify those charges.

Motion passes unanimously.

Item 4a Discussion and possible action on purchase of field maintenance equipment.

Walter Zudac presents a proposal for the purchase of a Dixie power mower (\$3,100.00 comparable price on ebay \$3,500.00) and various other lawn maintenance equip:

15" power mower

Aerator

20" trim mower

Fertilizer spreader

For \$2,000 (comparable price on ebay \$2,667)

And a trailer for the Dixie mower (\$1,500)

Mr. DeSalvo asks if this equipment should be put in the capital plan? Mr. McLiverty points out that the cost for the individual items does not meet the \$5,000 threshold.

Mr. Craw notes that we currently have \$118,000 budgeted in the 2600/330 account for field maintenance.

Mrs. Gombos has asked Mr. Calabro and Mr. Craw to come up with a detailed plan to address a possible in-house field maintenance program that could potentially save the district around \$20,000 dollars annually.

Mr. Coppinger asks what the rules are for transferring between line items? Mr. McLiverty states that the all line items transfers regardless of the amount need to be approved by the BOE.

Mr. McLiverty states that there is currently enough money in the 2004-05 2600/330 line item for a transfer.

Mr. DeSalvo suggests that we allow an additional amount in case there is some unforeseen development and bring the total allowable transfer up to \$7,000.

**Motion:** To recommend that the Region 9 BOE move up to \$7000, from the 2004-05 2600/330 line item to the 2004-05 2600/731 line item, for the purchase of field maintenance equipment.

Maker Gombos/Coppinger

Motion passes unanimously.

Mrs. Gombos asks Mr. McLiverty to email the final purchase price of the equipment to the FOC members.

Item #5. Old Business discussion and possible action on the Capital Reserve Plan.

Mr. Crowley presents the preliminary Technology Plan for 2006-08.

Historically since 1983-84 we have always looked at multi year plans and have never bonded (tech plans) except the building project.

Originally, we looked at 5 year plans and then started using 3 year plans ( in 1999) because of the life expectancy for the equipment.

Leasing the equipment over a three year period will allow us to receive a bulk rate discount. We have some residents in our community who can help us with refining a 3 year plan. Mr. Albertelli was able to help in 1994 and might be able to help again.

The plan is a basic replacement of equipment with the exception of two items: 2 laptop labs and data presentation equipment.

The cost of the plan is \$860,000 and will be financed over three years.

Mr. Coppinger asks if there is an expectation that in three years we will be back looking to replace all of this equipment again? Mr. Crowley says that it is difficult to predict with changing technology but most likely, Yes.

Mr. McLiverty asks if we should be leasing the all (tech) equipment or should we purchase and sell the equipment at the end of three years and recoup some money.

Mr. Crowley points out that although the deal is called a lease, we would own the equipment at the end of the three years. In the past we have been able to trade the used equipment for repair credits.

Mr. McLiverty wants any contract to be sent to bond counsel prior to any approval or signing.

Mrs. Gombos wants to reconvene the technology advisory committee and see if Mr. Albertelli if he can assist us. Mr. Bonfanti will join the committee. Mr. Crowley will send a copy of the old plan and a new plan to FOC members before September.

The FOC would look to handle the technology plan in September or as late as October.

**Policies**

Should have policies for next meeting.

**Executive session**

Due to the absence of Counsel Mrs. Gombos request the indulgence of the public and that we will proceed with public comment now.

**Public Comments**

Mrs. Kubic

Will the FOC be part of the contract negotiations? Mrs. Gombos responds that she sits on the negotiations team and is chair of the FOC and will keep the FOC apprised of the continuing negotiations, but that those details will be during executive session due to their confidential nature.

Are there 4 new lawsuits against the district? Mr. McLiverty states that there were 9 actions and that 5 have been settled and that there are 4 actions still remaining.

Mr. Nycper

Makes a comment about the lawn maintenance equipment.

Next meeting date 7/18/05 6:30PM

**Motion:** to adjourn  
Coppinger/Poltrack  
Motion passes unanimously

Meeting adjourns 7:32PM

Respectfully submitted July 29<sup>th</sup> 2005  
Paul N Coppinger  
FOC Secretary