

WACHUSETT REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

HOLDEN ♦ PAXTON ♦ PRINCETON ♦ RUTLAND ♦ STERLING

Minutes

Special Meeting #298

Wednesday, June 26, 2013

Media Center
Wachusett Regional High School

Committee Members Present:

Lance Harris, Chair	Sarah LaMountain
Robert Pelczarski, Vice-chair	Matthew Lindberg
Scott Brown	James Mason
Lisa Call (7:32 PM)	Robert McCarthy
Thomas Curran	Kenneth Mills
Matthew Ehrenworth	Robert Remillard
Robert Imber	Erik Scheinfeldt
Stacey Jackson	Christina Smith
Julianne Kelley	Margaret Watson

Committee Members Absent:

William Clute	Tiffany Ralli
Deidre Kosky	Charles Witkes

Administration Present:

Anthony Gasbarro, Interim Superintendent of Schools
Kelley Gangi, Director of Curriculum
Darryll McCall, Director of Operations
Joseph Scanlon, Director of Business and Finance
Susan Sullivan, Director of Human Resources
Rebecca Petersen, Executive Secretary to the Superintendent

Student Representatives Present:

There were no Student Representatives present.

Others present, who desired to be recorded as present (see attached Attendance Sheet – attachment 1).

I. Call to Order

Chair Harris called the special meeting of the School Committee to order at 7:03 PM. Members were provided with a revised meeting agenda (attachment 2).

II. Ratification of Contracts (in open session, per Open Meeting Law)

- Wachusett Regional Education Association, Inc. and the Wachusett Regional School District – September 1, 2013 through August 31, 2015

Motion: To ratify the agreement between the Wachusett Regional Education Association, Inc. and the Wachusett Regional School District from September 1, 2013 to August 31, 2015, voted by the WRSDC on December 10, 2012.

(R. Imber)
(M. Watson)

Roll call vote:

In favor:

Lance Harris
Robert Pelczarski
Scott Brown
Thomas Curran
Matthew Ehrenworth
Robert Imber
Stacey Jackson
Julianne Kelley
Sarah LaMountain
Matthew Lindberg
James Mason
Robert McCarthy
Kenneth Mills
Robert Remillard
Erik Scheinfeldt
Christina Smith
Margaret Watson

Opposed:

None

Motion passed unanimously.

- Wachusett Regional School District and Wachusett Administrators' Association – July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2015

Motion: To ratify the agreement between Wachusett Regional School District and Wachusett Administrators' Association from July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2015, voted by the WRSDC on January 14, 2013.

(K. Mills)
(R.Imber)

Roll call vote:

In favor:

Lance Harris
Robert Pelczarski

Scott Brown
Thomas Curran
Matthew Ehrenworth
Robert Imber
Stacey Jackson
Julianne Kelley
Sarah LaMountain
Matthew Lindberg
James Mason
Robert McCarthy
Kenneth Mills
Robert Remillard
Erik Scheinfeldt
Christina Smith
Margaret Watson

Opposed:
None

Motion passed unanimously.

- Wachusett Regional School District and Wachusett Regional Nurses Association – July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2015

Motion: To ratify the agreement between Wachusett Regional School District and Wachusett Regional Nurses Association from July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2015, voted by the WRSDC on February 12, 2013.

(E. Scheinfeldt)
(K. Mills)

Roll call vote:

In favor:

Lance Harris
Robert Pelczarski
Scott Brown
Thomas Curran
Matthew Ehrenworth
Robert Imber
Stacey Jackson
Julianne Kelley
Sarah LaMountain
Matthew Lindberg
James Mason
Robert McCarthy
Kenneth Mills
Robert Remillard
Erik Scheinfeldt
Christina Smith

Margaret Watson

Opposed:

None

Motion passed unanimously.

- AFSCME Council 93 Local 2885 – Clerical Employees and Wachusett Regional School District – July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2015

Motion: To ratify the agreement between AFSCME Council 93 Local 2885 – Clerical Employees and Wachusett Regional School District from July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2015, voted by the WRSDC on June 10, 2013.

(E. Scheinfeldt)

(K. Mills)

Roll call vote:

In favor:

Lance Harris
Robert Pelczarski
Scott Brown
Thomas Curran
Matthew Ehrenworth
Robert Imber
Stacey Jackson
Julianne Kelley
Sarah LaMountain
Matthew Lindberg
James Mason
Robert McCarthy
Kenneth Mills
Robert Remillard
Erik Scheinfeldt
Christina Smith
Margaret Watson

Opposed:

None

Motion passed unanimously.

- Wachusett Regional School District and Wachusett Cafeteria Association – July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2015

Motion: To ratify the agreement between Wachusett Regional School District and Wachusett Cafeteria Association from July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2015, voted by the WRSDC on April 9, 2013.

(E. Scheinfeldt)

(K. Mills)

Roll call vote:

In favor:

Lance Harris
Robert Pelczarski
Scott Brown
Thomas Curran
Matthew Ehrenworth
Robert Imber
Stacey Jackson
Julianne Kelley
Sarah LaMountain
Matthew Lindberg
James Mason
Robert McCarthy
Kenneth Mills
Robert Remillard
Erik Scheinfeldt
Christina Smith
Margaret Watson

Opposed:

None

Motion passed unanimously.

- Wachusett Regional School District and Teamster Local #170 – Aides – July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2015

Motion: To ratify the agreement between Wachusett Regional School District and Teamster Local #170 – Aides from July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2015, voted by the WRSDC on March 11, 2013.

(E. Scheinfeldt)

(K. Mills)

Roll call vote:

In favor:

Lance Harris
Robert Pelczarski
Scott Brown
Thomas Curran
Matthew Ehrenworth
Robert Imber
Stacey Jackson
Julianne Kelley
Sarah LaMountain
Matthew Lindberg

James Mason
Robert McCarthy
Kenneth Mills
Robert Remillard
Erik Scheinfeldt
Christina Smith
Margaret Watson

Opposed:
None

Motion passed unanimously.

- Wachusett Regional School District and SEIU Local 888 – ABA Program Assistants – Memorandum of Understanding

Motion: To ratify the Memorandum of Understanding between Wachusett Regional School District and SEIU Local 888 – ABA Program Assistants, voted by the WRSDC on April 22, 2013.

(E. Scheinfeldt)
(K. Mills)

Roll call vote:

In favor:

Lance Harris
Robert Pelczarski
Scott Brown
Thomas Curran
Matthew Ehrenworth
Robert Imber
Stacey Jackson
Julianne Kelley
Sarah LaMountain
Matthew Lindberg
James Mason
Robert McCarthy
Kenneth Mills
Robert Remillard
Erik Scheinfeldt
Christina Smith
Margaret Watson

Opposed:
None

Motion passed unanimously.

III. Public Hearing

Chair Harris read aloud the Guidelines for Public Hearing.

Jennifer Moulton, Sterling, addressed the School Committee.
Linda Coyne, Paxton, addressed the School Committee.
Eve-Marie Ceryanek, Hubbardston, addressed the School Committee.
Stephanie Collins, Holden, addressed the School Committee.
Paula Tatro, Sterling, addressed the School Committee.
Cassie Tatro, Sterling, entertained the School Committee.
Debby Greenebaum, Holden, addressed the School Committee.
Margo Fry, Rutland, addressed the School Committee.
Lisa Bergman, Sterling, addressed the School Committee.

7:32 PM Lisa Call joined the meeting.

Susan Logan, Sterling, addressed the School Committee.
Chris Lucchessi, Holden, addressed the School Committee.
Ellen Fineman, Sterling, addressed the School Committee.
Jane Fitzgerald, Rutland, addressed the School Committee.
Cassie Tatro, Sterling, addressed the School Committee.
Danielle Wright, Holden, addressed the School Committee.
Christine Mulroy, Rutland, addressed the School Committee.
Jill Litzowitz, Holden, addressed the School Committee
Jennifer Baum, Hubbardston, addressed the School Committee.

The public hearing concluded at 7:55 PM.

IV. FY14 Budget

Chair Harris outlined the process to address action regarding the budget. Subcommittee Chairs will be asked to address the School Committee; School Committee members will then have the opportunity to address the School Committee.

Motion: To adopt the *FY14 Appropriation* in the amount of \$80,308,859 and total assessments to the Member Towns of:

Holden:	\$21,880,455
Paxton:	\$ 5,261,904
Princeton:	\$ 4,759,024
Rutland:	\$ 8,978,457
Sterling:	\$ 9,858,859

(J. Kelley)
(E. Scheinfeldt)

Chair Harris invited the Interim Superintendent to speak. Interim Superintendent Gasbarro thanked the many members of the public for attending the meeting, and for addressing the School Committee. Interim Superintendent Gasbarro then explained

the budget process to date. He explained that because of the latest state budget numbers based on the Governor's budget, the FY14 budget needed to be cut by \$1.4M, which included eliminating the strings program. Business/Finance Subcommittee Chair Scheinfeldt reported on the meeting of that subcommittee which took place immediately before this special meeting, and he further reported the recommendation of the Business/Finance Subcommittee to support the "reconfigured" budget being proposed. Education Subcommittee Chair Imber reported that while that subcommittee took no formal vote, those on the Education Subcommittee would not want to see cuts to the instructional support or supply lines. Legal Affairs Subcommittee Chair Mills reported that subcommittee did not take any formal action on the budget. Facilities and Security Subcommittee Chair Mason reported that subcommittee has not met yet. Management Subcommittee Chair Harris reported that subcommittee met on June 25, 2013 and voted to recommend to support the "reconfigured" budget. After subcommittee chairs spoke, other members of the School Committee were given the opportunity to speak.

8:10 PM Member Brown left the table.

Many members of the School Committee took the opportunity to address the Committee.

8:12 PM Member Brown returned to the table.

Member comments continued. Chair Harris explained the timeline for passing a budget, and that Paxton and Rutland will be holding override votes on June 25, 2013. Chair Harris commented that if State aid numbers do not come in as planned, the School Committee could be faced with having to reconsider the FY14 budget again at the July 15, 2013 School Committee meeting. More discussion ensued.

8:47 PM Member Smith left the table.

Discussion continued.

8:50 PM Member Smith returned to the table.

Interim Superintendent Gasbarro addressed the School Committee. Member Imber reminded the School Committee that a 2/3 vote of the entire Committee (15 votes in favor) is needed to pass action on a budget. Chair Harris explained an abstention is equal to a "no" vote. More discussion took place. Chair Harris asked Interim Superintendent Gasbarro if he would have other recommendations to reduce, if necessary, for review at the July 15, 2013 meeting, to which Interim Superintendent Gasbarro answered in the affirmative. Chair Harris re-read the motion on the floor and again reminded the School Committee that 15 votes in favor are needed to pass the motion.

Roll call vote:
In favor:

Lance Harris
Robert Pelczarski
Scott Brown
Lisa Call
Thomas Curran
Matthew Ehrenworth
Stacey Jackson
Julianne Kelley
Sarah LaMountain
Matthew Lindberg
James Mason
Robert McCarthy
Robert Remillard
Erik Scheinfeldt
Christina Smith
Margaret Watson

Opposed:

Robert Imber
Kenneth Mills

Motion passed 16-2.

Interim Superintendent Gasbarro told the School Committee revised assessments letters would be prepared for the Member Towns on June 27, 2013.

9:12 PM Interim Superintendent Gasbarro left the table.

V. Revenue Anticipation Note

Motion: To approve the sale of the \$18,000,000 1.00 percent General Obligation Revenue Anticipation Notes (the "Notes") of the District dated July 3, 2013, payable May 30, 2014, to Morgan Stanley & Co. LLC at a price of par and accrued interest, if any, plus a premium of \$84,420.00.

Further: that in connection with the marketing and sale of the Notes, the preparation and distribution of a Notice of Sale and Preliminary Official Statement dated June 14, 2013, and a final Official Statement dated June 25, 2013, each in such form as may be approved by the District Treasurer, be and hereby are ratified, confirmed, approved and adopted.

Further: that the District Treasurer and the Chair of the Committee be, and hereby are, authorized to execute and deliver a significant events disclosure undertaking in compliance with SEC Rule 15c2-12 in such form as may be approved by bond counsel to the District, which undertaking shall be incorporated by reference in the Notes for the benefit of the holders of the Notes from time to time.

Further: that the Chair of the Committee, the District Secretary and the District Treasurer be and hereby are, authorized to take any and all such actions, and execute and deliver such certificates, receipts or other documents as may be determined by them, or any of them, to be necessary or convenient to carry into effect the provisions of the foregoing votes.

(E. Scheinfeldt)
(K. Mills)

Director of Business and Finance Scanlon spoke to the motion, explaining what a Revenue Anticipation Note (RAN) is and why it is needed.

9:16 PM Member LaMountain left the table.

Some discussion took place.

9:17 PM Interim Superintendent Gasbarro returned to the table.

Roll call vote:

In favor:

Lance Harris
Robert Pelczarski
Scott Brown
Lisa Call
Thomas Curran
Matthew Ehrenworth
Robert Imber
Stacey Jackson
Julianne Kelley
Matthew Lindberg
James Mason
Robert McCarthy
Kenneth Mills
Robert Remillard
Erik Scheinfeldt
Christina Smith
Margaret Watson

Opposed:

None

Motion passed unanimously.

VI. School Committee Acceptance of Gift from Wachusett Alumni Association

Motion: To accept the gift of construction of a courtyard at WRHS, from the Wachusett Alumni Association.

(M. Ehrenworth)
(R. Imber)

Interim Superintendent Gasbarro reported to the Committee the Wachusett Alumni Association's plans to construct/finish a courtyard at WRHS, and he showed a sketch of the planned construction. He explained that building materials will need to be "craned" into the courtyard. Douglas Briggs, Rutland resident and a member of the WRHS Class of 1970, addressed the School Committee, explaining the role of the Wachusett Alumni Association and its long term plans to construct "permanent markers" for WRHS alumni. Mr. Briggs told the Committee that, to date, \$12,000 worth of commemorative bricks, which will be used in the construction of the courtyard, have been sold.

9:25 PM Member LaMountain returned to the table.

Vote:

In favor:

Lance Harris
Robert Pelczarski
Scott Brown
Lisa Call
Thomas Curran
Matthew Ehrenworth
Robert Imber
Stacey Jackson
Julianne Kelley
Sarah LaMountain
Matthew Lindberg
James Mason
Robert McCarthy
Kenneth Mills
Robert Remillard
Erik Scheinfeldt
Christina Smith
Margaret Watson

Opposed:

None

Motion passed unanimously.

- VII. Motion: To approve Chair Lance Harris's request for reimbursement to attend the Parliamentary Procedures/Role of the Chair Workshop on July 13, 2013, in accordance with School Committee Policy 1431, *Attendance at Conferences by School Committee* members, suspending the required six-week advance notice.

Roll call vote:

In favor:

Robert Pelczarski

Scott Brown
Lisa Call
Thomas Curran
Matthew Ehrenworth
Robert Imber
Stacey Jackson
Julianne Kelley
Sarah LaMountain
Matthew Lindberg
James Mason
Robert McCarthy
Kenneth Mills
Robert Remillard
Erik Scheinfeldt
Christina Smith
Margaret Watson

Opposed:

None

Abstained:

Lance Harris

Motion passed 17-0-1.

9:30 PM Member Kelley left the meeting.

Before adjourning the meeting, Chair Harris asked if the School Committee would agree to amend the agenda to take action on a matter that is not included on the agenda, which the Committee agreed to by consensus.

Member Watson explained that the School Committee has been offered space for a table at Holden Days, the end of August. Chair Harris asked for a show of hands those members who might be willing to volunteer to man a table, perhaps in one hour time slots, at Holden Days in August. He stressed that all School Committee members are welcome to volunteer; this is not limited to Holden School Committee representatives. Enough School Committee members indicated they would be willing to help at Holden Days (Members Mason, Smith, Call, Scheinfeldt, Mills, Watson).

Motion: To accept the offer extended by Bev Mansfield for a School Committee table/booth and space at the August 2013 Holden Days event.

(K. Mills)

(J. Mason)

Vote:

In favor:

Lance Harris
Robert Pelczarski

Scott Brown
Lisa Call
Thomas Curran
Matthew Ehrenworth
Robert Imber
Stacey Jackson
Sarah LaMountain
Matthew Lindberg
James Mason
Robert McCarthy
Kenneth Mills
Robert Remillard
Erik Scheinfeldt
Christina Smith
Margaret Watson

Opposed:
None

Motion passed unanimously.

VIII. Adjournment

Motion: To adjourn.

(J. Mason)
(S. Brown)

Vote:

In favor:

Lance Harris
Robert Pelczarski
Scott Brown
Lisa Call
Thomas Curran
Matthew Ehrenworth
Robert Imber
Stacey Jackson
Sarah LaMountain
Matthew Lindberg
James Mason
Robert McCarthy
Kenneth Mills
Robert Remillard
Erik Scheinfeldt
Christina Smith
Margaret Watson

Opposed:

None

Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 9:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Anthony A. Gasbarro
Interim Superintendent

AAG:rlp