

1 **Southwest Vermont Regional Technical School District (SWVRTSD)**
2 **Regional Governing Board Meeting Minutes: June 20, 2011**

3 Assembly Room, Career Development Center
4

5 Members Present: Gloria Alexander; Jim Boutin; Justin Corcoran; Kevin Goodhue; Rickey
6 Harrington; Larry Johnson; Leon Johnson; Fran Kinney; Jon Peaslee; Rick Pembroke.
7

8 Members Excused: Frank Lamb
9

10 Staff and Others Present: Greg Lewis, Business Manager; Bob Montgomery, Interim
11 Superintendent/ Director; Sandra Redding, Office Manager; Keith Whitcomb, Banner
12 reporter.
13

14 Videotaping: CAT-TV
15

16 Recorder: Barb Schlesinger
17

18 **Call to order**

19 Boutin called the meeting to order at 6:04. Boutin noted that there would be no Executive
20 Session up front; the discussion at tonight's earlier meeting covered the topic.
21

22 **Public Comment** There were none
23

24 **Consent Agenda**

- 25 - Minutes of the May 16, 2011 Regional Governing Board Meeting
- 26 - Minutes of the May 11, 2011 Regional Governing Board Special Meeting
- 27 - Minutes of the May 25, 2011 Regional Governing Board Special Meeting
- 28 - Minutes of the May 24, 2011 Education Committee Meeting
- 29 - Minutes of the June 9, 2011 Education Committee Meeting
- 30 - Minutes of the May 16, 2011 Facilities Committee Meeting
- 31 - Minutes of the May 12, 2011 Strategic Planning Committee Meeting
- 32
- 33 - SWVRTSD Payroll Warrant # 24 5/27/2011 in the amount of \$ 9,756.45
- 34 - SWVRTSD Payroll Warrant # 1044 5/27/2011 in the amount of \$ 71,478.60
- 35 - SWVRTSD Payroll Warrant # 25 6/20/2011 in the amount of \$ 11,216.60
- 36 - SWVRTSD Payroll Warrant # 1046 6/20/2011 in the amount of \$ 77,449.95
- 37
- 38 - SWVRTSD Vendor Warrant # 1045 5/27/2011 in the amount of \$ 68,342.17
- 39 - SWVRTSD Vendor Warrant # 1049 6/20/2011 in the amount of \$143,518.77
- 40

41 **Peaslee moved and Goodhue seconded a motion to approve the Consent Agenda.**
42

43 Discussion:

44 Larry Johnson questioned the more than usual cosmetology expenditures on Vendor
45 Warrants 1045 and 1049. Brief discussion in regards to 'buying ahead', revenue generating
46 programs, how the revenue is handled, and activity funds followed. Greg Lewis will provide
47 a report on the activity generated by the cosmetology program.
48

49 **Vote was taken. All in attendance voted to approve the Consent Agenda.**

1 **Action Items**

2 - Service Position Nominations (3)

3 Leon Johnson voiced that the applicant interview and recommendation continues to be done
4 by one person. In the best interest of the district, two separate people should be involved;
5 one to conduct the interview process and another to recommend.

6
7 Montgomery gave a brief explanation of what each position involves and answered
8 questions.

9 1. Transportation Services

10 Involves upkeep of the fleet, ie inspections and mechanical work on a call-in basis.

11
12 2. Technology Coordinator

13 Year-round position for 1.5 person department. Summer is when much of the work
14 is done.

15
16 3. Policy Services

17 Works hand in hand with Policy committee ensuring policies are updated annually.

18
19 **Kinney moved and Alexander seconded a motion to accept the three nominations.**

20
21 Discussion:

22 Pembroke wondered if with the new contract language a stipend would still need to be
23 provided or could the tasks be now part of the contract. Montgomery reiterated the three
24 positions are 'as needed'.

25
26 Montgomery noted that the Safety Coordinator position has yet to come to the board and
27 that the positions are posted in-house; with their inherent nature, it would be too
28 cumbersome for an outsider.

29
30 Discussion followed as to the new contract language, and if board action should be tabled
31 until the language is understood. Because these are summer positions not taking action
32 tonight would stop this summer's work. Montgomery suggested visiting during the upcoming
33 year and then reviewing before next summer. Harrington questioned if the board could
34 approve these positions through the summer to get us through the summer and then revisit
35 them at the beginning of the school year.

36
37 **Kinney moved and Alexander seconded a motion to amend the original motion to**
38 **accept the nominations until August 31, 2011 and to amend the pay be prorated to**
39 **reflect that date.**

40
41 **Hand vote was taken with all in attendance voting in favor excepting Alexander who**
42 **voted against. The motion carried.**

43
44 **Committee Reports**

45 • Facilities

46 Today's meeting was cancelled due to the 4pm Contract Meeting.

47 They will reschedule and meet in the next several weeks.

- 1 • Strategic Planning
2 Alexander noted the May 12th meeting minutes were in the packet. Alexander
3 also passed out minutes from the more recent May 31st subcommittee on
4 advisory committees meeting.
5
6 • Education
7 Goodhue noted the committee has been busy, having met twice since May's
8 RGB meeting (the AG Advisory Board was in attendance at both these
9 meetings) and reported:
10 1. The Ag Advisory Board recommends hiring a new instructor to begin for
11 the spring 2012 semester
12 2. The greenhouse action has already been voted on and approved by the
13 RGB board. All that is left to do is have the permit signed by MAU.
14 3. Enrollment numbers are what they are.
15 4. Distance learning, ie Virtual Learning, will be discussed at a future
16 meeting
17 5. Perkins Grant funding has been discussed.

18
19 Boutin noted he did agree to contact MAU School Board (with the RGB's
20 permission) to ask for their signature on the greenhouse permit. He also agreed
21 to ask the MAU board to release the old home economics room early.
22

23 **Harrington moved and Peaslee seconded a motion to have Chairman Boutin go to the**
24 **MAU Board with the two requests.**

25
26 Discussion:

27 Pembroke initiated discussion with the question 'what came first, the chicken or
28 the egg'. Goodhue expressed that you need a greenhouse before kids will
29 signup and that according to the Advisory board, curriculum revision has already
30 been done. Montgomery noted the pre-tech foundation course is well attended
31 and needs a greenhouse. Harrington expressed that is similar to a field of
32 dreams, build it and they will come. Leon Johnson does not like the location; he
33 would like to see it somewhere else that would allow for growth. Montgomery
34 noted the 20 x 24 size is sufficient for the program; it will now be located on the
35 west side of the school. Larry Johnson expressed it is time to step back and
36 access; make it a quality program with more components; this is a growth area
37 in Bennington county.
38

39 Kinney asked about the greenhouse at MAU, Montgomery noted it was not a
40 greenhouse but a solar research space. The Ag program tried to use the space
41 but there were too many problems especially with temperature extremes. The
42 MAU space cost CDC \$2,700.
43

44 Boutin stated he is reluctant to go to MAU without a completed permit.
45 Montgomery reported they were all set until Alan Baker made suggestions at
46 recent board meetings that made sense (move from the north side of the
47 campus to the west). Boutin asked that the Facilities committee review and
48 recommend and then come back; Alexander suggested a joint Facilities/
49 Education meeting and recommendation.

1 Larry Johnson spoke of two tech centers he has toured recently and recounted
 2 the sophistication of the programs and equipment. He would like to hold out for
 3 something similar at CDC. Goodhue commented that those centers must have
 4 boards that are not adverse to spending money. Alexander requested Larry
 5 Johnson invite the two centers he has visited to visit the CDC and expand upon
 6 what they are doing.

7
 8 Goodhue asked about redeveloping the program. Boutin would like to see the
 9 program expand to meet more 'green' needs. Harrington commented that they
 10 are great ideas but you need to crawl before you can walk; get started and get
 11 moving with the greenhouse now.

12
 13 **Corcoran called the vote. Hand vote was taken with all excepting Leon Johnson, who**
 14 **abstained, voting in favor.**

15
 16 **Harrington moved and Peaslee seconded a motion to hire an instructor for the 'green'**
 17 **program. Hand vote was taken with all in attendance voting in favor excepting**
 18 **Kinney, Larry Johnson, Leon Johnson, and Pembroke voting nay. The motion**
 19 **carried.**

20
 21 There was brief discussion as to waiting longer to hire and waiting for the 'right
 22 person'. Larry Johnson was requested to diagram where the instructor should
 23 go; with the thought being we need someone to teach more than Plants &
 24 Flowers.

- 25
 26 • Superintendent Search
 27 Larry Johnson reported the big pile of applications is now a little pile. There will
 28 be another meeting to review and then the committee will begin setting up
 29 interviews. They anticipate presenting the RGB with candidates in August or
 30 early September. Boutin noted that a Special Meeting could be called for July if
 31 need be.

- 32
 33 • Policy
 34 Leon Johnson read through the three policies to be warned:

- 35
 36 1. 5002C Policy Against Student Harassment
 37 2. 5003C Bullying Prevention
 38 3. 5050C Discipline of Students, Suspension and Expulsion of
 39 Students

40
 41 **Pembroke moved and Corcoran seconded a motion to Warn policies 5002C, 5003C**
 42 **and 5050C. Hand vote was taken with all in attendance voting in favor.**

43
 44 Policy for comment: 3106C Tuition for Nonresident Student Admission
 45 Leon Johnson asked for comments and noted the policy is being developed.
 46 Their next meeting will be July 12th at 4pm.

1 **Chairman's Report**

2 Chairman Boutin did not give a report this evening.

3
4 **Director/ Superintendent's Report:**

5 Montgomery reported:

- 6 - The closing of school for the day time students went smoothly. The adult ed
- 7 students are still on campus.
- 8 - Culinary is offering summer classes. Three regional chefs along with instructor
- 9 Michael John Galbraith will be teaching evening classes. Classes are \$40/ \$50 per
- 10 individual class and are hands on; you eat what you cook.
- 11 - Regarding distance learning, the Education committee has been in contact with Jeff
- 12 Renard of The Vermont Virtual Learning Cooperative (VTVLC). VTVLC is an
- 13 established model. One of the benefits of going with them is an allocation of 25
- 14 seats for other courses. Leon Johnson asked about the one that Lee-Clark was
- 15 supposed to be setting up. There was brief discussion about the two approaches.
- 16 Lee-Clark will come to the August meeting.
- 17 - Bob Mazur was successful in securing a \$99K grant towards composites training.
- 18 The signing is tomorrow, June 21, 2011.

19
20 **Other**

- 21 - Superintendent pay for Montgomery
- 22 Montgomery has worked 17 days above the 220 called for in his contract.

23
24 **Peaslee moved and Corcoran seconded a motion to pay Montgomery for seventeen**

25 **(17) days per diem. Vote was taken with all in attendance in favor.**

- 26
27 - Bus Routes
- 28 Kinney inquired again as to the cost of the bus routes for sending schools. He would
- 29 like clarification. Lewis reported that tech centers are not obligated to provide
- 30 transportation. Currently we are paid \$2.29 mile by the State; the reimbursement is
- 31 by the trip, not by the number of students. More information will be provided by
- 32 Lewis at budget time.

33
34 **Executive Session**

35
36 **At 7:12, Kinney moved and Peaslee seconded a motion to enter Executive Session for**

37 **both personnel and Superintendent Evaluation. All in attendance were in favor.**

38
39 Being that no action would be taken as the result of Executive Session, Chairman Boutin

40 passed responsibility to Board Clerk Larry Johnson for recording the balance of this

41 evening's Regional Governing Board meeting.

42
43 Clerk Larry Johnson provided the following:

44
45 **Board came out of Executive Session at 7:49**

46 **Took no action**

47 **Voted to adjourn at 7:50**

1 Respectively submitted,
2
3 Barb Schlesinger
4 June 27, 2011
5

6 **Attachments:**

- 7 - Minutes of the May 16, 2011 Regional Governing Board Meeting
- 8 - Minutes of the May 11, 2011 Regional Governing Board Special Meeting
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- 10 - Minutes of the May 24, 2011 Education Committee Meeting
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- 12 - Minutes of the May 16, 2011 Facilities Committee Meeting
- 13 - Minutes of the May 12, 2011 Strategic Planning Committee Meeting
- 14 - SWVRTSD Payroll Warrants # 24 & 1044
- 15 - SWVRTSD Payroll Warrants # 25 & 1046
- 16 - SWVRTSD Vendor Warrant # 1045
- 17 - SWVRTSD Vendor Warrant # 1049
- 18 - Revenue & Expenses
- 19 - Treasurer Report
- 20 - Policies Packet:
 - 21 o Policies for Warning (3)
 - 22 o Policy for Comment (1)
 - 23 o Policy Committee Minutes – June 13, 2011
- 24 - Service Position Nominations (3)
 - 25 o Transportation Services – Thomas Haskins
 - 26 o Technology Coordinator – Michael Lawler
 - 27 o Policy Services – Bruce Lee-Clark
- 28 - Thank you from First Baptist Church regarding Forestry students/ Instructor Dence

29
30 **Meeting Handout:**

- 31 - Minutes of the May 31, Strategic Planning Committee – Subcommittee on Advisory
32 Committees.