

Operations Committee Meeting

September 12, 2011

Minutes

Meeting called to order at 3:35 PM by L. King

In Attendance:	D. Noonan	M. Blaine
	S. Trombley	L. King
	R. LaVigne	S. Amo

Mr. Noonan reported that Brockway and Mountain Lake Electric had not closed out their work on the underground fuel line project. Mr. Noonan is pushing them for this work to be closed out soon.

Mr. Noonan reported on several summer maintenance projects as well as special room modifications. These included: modifications of playground gate to allow for wheelchair accessibility to playground ramp; removal of bookshelves in a special needs' classroom to accommodate more adaptive equipment needed to better serve students; aeration of the football field, maintenance and adjustments to sprinkler system, and modifications to the Central Printing area. Also, the chain-link fence at Cumberland Head was installed by JCEO.

Mr. Noonan reported the proposed EXCEL Phase II project is in design phase with no actual activity yet at Cumberland Head. The locker room exit and egress is included in this phase of the project. Also, Mr. Noonan reported that chlorination must be completed by next year and this is also under the Phase II scope of the project.

Mr. Noonan reported that the grease trap at the High School was jetted by Bob's plumbing. A re-design of the grease lines at Cumberland Head is expected to be included in the Phase II of EXCEL.

There was much discussion on the Domestic Hot Water Boiler Emergency Project. The Requests for Proposals came in at \$147,000, excluding the estimated \$30,000 required for Tetra Tech architectural fees. Mr. King questioned how the project changed from the \$40,000 Board-approved resolution as an emergency project. Discussion followed regarding Mr. Noonan's conversations with Tetra Tech and the decision to move ahead with the work was based on the belief that the increased costs would be covered as part of EXCEL and the declaration of the work being determined to be an emergency. Discussion followed about whether the increased cost information should have been brought back to the Operations Committee and Board before the work proceeded. Mrs. Blaine explained that the term EXCEL funding is not an inclusive term intended to mean that the emergency project approval by SED would qualify it as EXCEL aid. It was questioned whether or not Tetra Tech could stop the project at this point and, if so, at

what cost. Mr. Noonan reported most of the work had been completed already but the district would make the inquiry. The committee also asked that Tetra Tech be contacted to determine if any part of this emergency project could be reconfigured so that some of the costs could become eligible for EXCEL. The district will follow up on this question. The committee members began to discuss options for consideration for payment of this emergency project above the \$40,000 amount. The options seemed limited to two: pay for the increase out of the current budget (requiring transfers and line item deductions) or to use a portion of the fund balance remaining. Mr. LaVigne suggested that the Board might consider establishing a reserve account for the future as a means of having funds available for emergency needs. Mrs. Blaine briefly discussed the value of determining any past debt service cost issues as part of this discussion.

Mr. Noonan will contact Iris Willis in seeking responses to the EXCEL aid questions discussed earlier. Mr. Noonan was asked to be prepared to report to the Board on the status of the Hot Water Boiler project and the cost differential.

[Note: A special meeting of the Operations Committee was convened on Friday, September 23, 2011 to apprise the Committee of information learned by the district after consultations with SED and Tetra Tech representatives. A Tetra Tech representative was present for this meeting.]

A suggestion was made to bring in a company that might specialize in determining how water and minerals might affect the projected life spans of domestic hot water boilers.

Finally, there was brief discussion in bringing forward to the Board the costs associated with Head Start/JCEO agreements for classroom rental and other costs associated with maintaining the Head Start program space needs in the district.

Meeting adjourned at 4:45 PM

Respectfully Submitted:

Scott A. Amo