

Rice Lake Area School District
BOE Finance Committee
Wednesday, June 7, 2017
2:00 PM

MINUTES

1. **Called to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m.
2. **Roll Call:** **Present:** Steve Bowman, Bill Schmitzer, Doug Kucko and Gary Spear
 Others Present: Patrick Blackaller, Randy Drost
 Absent: None
3. **Statement of Notice:** Patrick Blackaller announced that notice of the meeting was communicated by public notice as required by 19.84 of WI Statutes.
4. **May 4, 2017 Minutes:** Bill Schmitzer and Gary Spear motioned to approve the May 4, 2017 BOE Finance Committee meeting minutes. All present voting yes. Motion approved.
5. **Cash Flow Borrowing:** The Committee agreed to recommend to the BOE cash flow borrowing in the amount of \$3,000,000 at a rate of 1.75% through Dairy State Bank for the purposes of meeting temporary cash flow deficits which may occur during the 2017-2018 school year due to delayed aid and tax payments to the district.
6. **High Demand Teaching Positions:** The Committee is recommending providing the Administration the ability to go up to Step 7 on the teacher salary schedule for hard-to-fill positions. Hard-to-fill positions are to be defined as a position that we receive fewer than three licensed candidates.
7. **Defeasance:** The Committee recommends approving the debt defeasance to prepay past debt. This is part of a planned debt pre-payment started during the 2015-2016 school year.
8. **Clinic Update:** Mr. Blackaller discussed the current efforts related to recruiting staff for the clinic as well as potential partnering opportunities for the clinic. At this point we are still seeking a full time Physician's Assistant for the clinic. Recruiting efforts are continuing.
9. **2017-18 Budget:** The committee reviewed the budget and is recommending preliminary approval of the 2017-2018 budget. This approval gives the district the ability to operate prior to final approval in October.

10. **Preliminary Tax Levy**: This preliminary Tax Levy approval is being done as required by state statute to allow the district to complete its cash flow borrowing. The final actual Tax Levy approval will be done in October.
11. **Mental Health**: From the time Randy discussed this at the last BOE meeting up until now, there have been some changes: there is now a 30-day opt-out clause, and the school districts will not be charged any costs associated with the first three months, should the consortium be running at a loss. The school districts would need to collectively hire a special education teacher between them.
12. **Performance Contracting**: The Committee is recommending we go forward with the \$4.5 million debt issue to repair the Middle School heating system. Our financial Consultant Robert W. Baird is recommending the district issue debt through Dairy State Bank at an interest rate of 2.2 % with no prepayment penalty. The Committee will be recommending approval at our June 26th BOE meeting.
13. **Health Insurance Update**: Mr. Drost and Mr. Blackaller reported on how the staff meetings have gone related to the health insurance transition. Overall, staff have been very open and understanding of the changes in our plan.
14. **OPEB Contribution**: The Committee agreed that we should pay the minimum pay-as-you-go amount plus 5% to the OPEB trust for the 2016-2017 school year. This will allow our payment to be categorically aided.
15. **Athletic Training**: Did not discuss.
16. **COPS/SRO**: The Rice Lake Police Department wishes to submit the COPS grant. This grant would provide \$125,000 total over a 3-year period, with the fourth year of the grant needing to be fully funded. The position is an annual cost of \$90,000. Mr. Drost will have a breakdown available at the BOE meeting.
17. **4K Potential Position**: Due to increasing numbers, a one year, half-time position is needed. This would be a morning section at Tainter Elementary.
18. **Review and Approval of Bills**: The committee reviewed the bills. Bill Schmitzer and Doug Kucko motioned for approval. All present voting yes. Motion approved.
19. **Other**: None
20. **Next Meeting Date**: Did not discuss.
21. **Adjourn**: Gary Spear and Doug Kucko motioned to adjourn the meeting. All present voting yes. Meeting adjourned at 3:35 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Patrick Blackaller.