

**UP-ISLAND REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE
OF MARTHA'S VINEYARD
Monday, March 10, 2008
West Tisbury School, 5:00 PM**

Page 1 of 5

Present: Chair - Marshall Segall, Roxanne Ackerman,
Dan Cabot, Skipper J. Manter, Susan Parker
Others: Superintendent's Office: Jim Weiss, Laurie Halt,
Amy Tierney
Principals: Michael Halt, Bob Lane, Diane Gandy
South Mountain: Rob Meyers
Recorder: Marni Lipke

*Late arrivals or early departures

The meeting was called to order.

Minutes Read and Approved (Agenda item # I.)

SUSAN PARKER MOVED TO APPROVE THE JANUARY 22, 2008 MINUTES; DAN CABOT SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 5 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.

Financial Report (Agenda Item # III.)

A. Expenditure Report (See documents on file.)

The loss of \$41,000 in state reimbursement after the West Tisbury School (WTS) building audit can be offset by residuals in the residential placement line. A few WTS Site line items were left in deficit for tracking purposes but could be covered by residuals at the end of the fiscal year.

• *SKIP MANTER MOVED THAT THE IMPACT AID REVENUES BE DEDICATED TOWARDS THE TOWN OF AQUINNAH'S FISCAL YEAR 2008 ASSESSMENT; SUSAN PARKER AND DAN CABOT SECONDED; MOTION PASSED: 4 AYES, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSTENTION – ROXANNE ACKERMAN.*

C. Accept Audit (see 1/22/08 Minutes p. 1-2)

DAN CABOT MOVED TO ACCEPT THE 2007 AUDIT FOR FILING; ROXANNE ACKERMAN SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 5 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS. The Up-Island Regional School Committee (UIRSC) thanked Amy Tierney for her Financial Report.

B. FY09 Budget Update

The West Tisbury Finance Committee (FinCom) gave preliminary approval to the UIRSD budget at 3 ayes, 1 nay, 1 abstention. All URISC members were present at that meeting.

Principal's Report (Agenda item # II.)

A. Diane Gandy – Chilmark (See documents on file.)

Becky Tinnis was training with Technologist Richard Hammond to be next year's Chilmark Information Technologist.

D. Chilmark Energy Update (See documents on file.)

Rob Meyers reviewed the Energy Audit donated by a private citizen (see 10/15/07 Minutes p.2 #V B. III). Some of the recommendations were not costly and could be implemented in a short time frame others would cost more and take longer. Some of the more costly changes along with their maintenance could be bid out by Request For Qualifications (RFQ) to an energy service company (see documents on file). Some funding might be available through the Mass. Dept. of Energy Resources.

• The first step (cost estimate ~\$225,000) would be to reduce the current energy load about 40% by:

- installing a proper air barrier to increase the insulation,
- replacing the oversized air handlers with heat recovery ventilation,
- replacing the over-sized inefficient boilers with one biodiesel and one pellet boiler,
- installing better heat control with timer / occupancy / motion detector thermostats, and
- cutting hot water circulation which was now at 24/7.

• The next step (cost estimate ~\$337,000) would be to shift to renewable energy by:

- constructing a 10kw. wind turbine, (about 100-125 ft. high) and
- installing 25kw. photovoltaic (solar) panels on the grounds.

• The UIRSC discussed:

- the complexity of the term "carbon neutral",
- maintenance and supply costs of the proposed pellet boiler,
- height, site and output of the wind turbine,
- aesthetics,
- funding, pricing, energy regulation and subcontractor process,
- timeline.

Rob Meyers would consult with Cape Light Compact, and sharpen the estimates. The UIRSC thanked him and several members apologized for not being able to attend the previous energy meeting.

• IT WAS THE CONSENSUS OF THE UIRSC TO SUPPORT THE NEXT STEPS IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS.

B. Michael Halt – West Tisbury (See documents on file.)

Prin. Michael Halt thanked the UIRSC for authorizing him to hire Ann Nelson (see 1/22/08 Minutes p.4-5 #V B). The position was working out well and Prin. Halt was working with the School Advisory Council to budget it permanently.

- The UIRSC discussed the new 8th Grade Algebra curriculum (see documents on file).
- To facilitate scheduling math and science would be split into two track one with algebra and one without.
- Both tracks would have 18 students showing a healthy 50% proficient math students. It was expected the regular track students would benefit from the more concentrated attention.
- 8th grade algebra teachers had met Islandwide several times and agreed on a common assessment and textbook as well as coordinating with the High School.
- Asst. Supt. Laurie Halt and Prin. Michael Halt were working to track the need for remedial math intervention as closely as remedial reading and expected to present a report in May. Chilmark Prin. Diane Gandy noted how much the younger children loved math.
- The lunch audit at the WTS school went well.
- Parents and neighbors were getting involved in the Farm to School initiative and in setting up an educational garden in the courtyard.
- The WT Board of Selectmen and FinCom was sponsoring a meeting at Howes House entitled 'West Tisbury Finances through the Looking Glass' March 29th at 10:00AM.
- The Request for Proposals (RFP) for the new boilers should be advertised shortly.
- The roof continued to leak and the system was being studied to determine the problem which might be condensation rather than leaks. In discussing the complexity of the problem and various options several members re-affirmed the need for a Facilities Manager. The Administration would work with the warrantor to get the problem solved before hiring an engineer to look at the roof as a totality.
- The Committee thanked all three UIRSD administrators for their reports.

Superintendent's Report (Agenda Item # IV.)

A. Wind Turbine Update (See documents on file.)

The West Tisbury Energy Com. would meet 3:30PM Wednesday, March 12th at Howes House and then Wednesday, March 19th with the abutters and the community. The UIRSC suggested the abutters be invited half an hour early to address their issues. Articles on the wind turbine had been placed on all three town warrants. A High School student working on his senior project on alternative energy sources would attend all meetings.

B. GASB 45 Motion (See documents on file.)

The General Accounting Standards Board (GASB) 45 unfunded liability issue (see 11/13/06 Minutes p.3 #C) was being addressed Islandwide.

ROXANNE ACKERMAN MOVED TO COSPONSOR LEGISLATION TO ESTABLISH A PERMISSIVE TRUST FUND FOR OPEB LIABILITY WHICH WILL BE OPEN TO MEMBER UNITS OF THE DUKES COUNTY CONTRIBUTORY RETIREMENT SYSTEM; SKIP MANTER SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 5 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.

Old / New / Other Business (Agenda Item # VIII.)

A. Resignation – N. Hawksbee

This part-time music teacher was expecting a third child. *SKIP MANTER MOVED TO ACCEPT THE RESIGNATION OF NANCY HAWKSBEES; DAN CABOT SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 5 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.*

B. Leave Request – M. Chianese

Ms. Chianese has gone on medical leave and would be back this year.

C. Use of West Tisbury Parking Lot by Flea Market

• The UIRSC and Asst. Prin. Bob Lane discussed a proposal by the Chilmark Flea Market to use the WTS as their site from July through August. The Flea Market would contribute \$500 per use, Wednesdays and Saturdays not counting rain days, and the Book Fair. The funds would go to finance the 5th grade trip to England. Both the Administration and the UIRSC expressed considerable doubts on the proposal worrying about such issues as:

- site plans and market/parking configuration,
- traffic and grounds wear and tear – the Flea Market would pay for damage,
- safety and liability,
- student activity fund raising and student/parent participation,
- extra work for Ass. Prin. Bob Lane.

• The UIRSC liked Prin. Halt's suggestion that the money be placed in a field trip scholarship account from which students would earn their share by community service.

• *ROXANNE ACKERMAN MOVED TO AUTHORIZE ASST. PRIN. BOB LANE TO CONTINUE TO PURSUE THE CHILMARK FLEA MARKET PROPOSAL AS A ONE YEAR TRIAL PENDING APPROPRIATE TOWN BOARD / OFFICIALS APPROVAL AND DEVELOPMENT OF A STUDENT COMMUNITY SERVICE PLAN OF ACTION BY THE ADMINISTRATION; SKIP MANTER SECONDED; MOTION PASSED: 4 AYES, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSTENTION – DAN CABOT* due to conflict of interest.

B. FY09 Budget Update (See documents on file.)

The UIRSC and Supt. Weiss discussed the upcoming West Tisbury Annual Town Meeting which would include a significant budget item and a warrant article for withdrawal. Chair Marshall Segall and Dan Cabot would speak to the issues.

• *DAN CABOT MOVED THAT THE UP ISLAND REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE RESIST AS STRONGLY AS POSSIBLE THE NOTION THAT WEST TISBURY SHOULD WITHDRAW FROM THE UP ISLAND REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT; ROXANNE ACKERMAN SECONDED; MOTION PASSED: 4 AYES, 1 NAY – SKIP MANTER, 0 ABSTENTIONS.* Skip Manter stated he was not in favor of withdrawing just of the article which he maintained (as previously) was not a real withdrawal just a means of putting pressure on the district.

Next meeting Monday, 5:00PM, April 14, 2008 at Chilmark School

- The annual educational Day on the Hill with the Mass. State Legislature would be Tuesday, April 29, 2008.
- *DAN CABOT MOVED TO AUTHORIZE ENROLLMENT AND TRAVEL EXPENSES TO SEND MARSHALL SEGALL TO THE DAY ON THE HILL; SKIP MANTER SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 5 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.*

Adjournment

DAN CABOT MOVED TO ADJOURN AT 7:21PM; SKIP MANTER SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 5 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.

Documents on File:

Agenda 3/10/08

UIRSD Expenditures July 1, 2007 to March 10, 2008 3/10/08

Chilmark School Principal's Report (2 p.) 3/10/08

Chilmark Times Winter 2008

Bell Tower Monthly Notes February 2008 (2 p.)

Bell Tower Monthly Notes March 2008 (2 p.)

South Mountain Co. Chilmark School Energy Project Cover Letter (3 p.) 3/5/08

Chilmark School Energy Project: Findings and Recommendations (5 p.) 1/22/08

South Mountain Co. Summary of Third Party ESCO RFQ Process

Request for Qualifications Law (4 p.)

RFQ for Energy Management Services Program City of Quincy MA. (13 p.) 8/10/06

Honeywell to Install & Own Solar Panels on Schools

W. Tisb. School Principal's Report

W. Tisb. School Buildings & Grounds Report 3/10/08

Proposed Flea Market Layout Plan "A"

Proposed Flea Market Layout Plan "B"