

**UP-ISLAND REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE
OF MARTHA'S VINEYARD
Monday, May 5, 2008
Martha's Vineyard Regional High School, 6:00 PM**

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Present: Chair - Marshall Segall, Roxanne Ackerman,
Skipper J. Manter, Susan Parker
Others: Superintendent's Office: Jim Weiss, Laurie Halt,
Amy Tierney
Principals: Michael Halt, Bob Lane,
Press - Tom Mayhew - MVTV
Recorder: Marni Lipke

*Late arrivals or early departures

The meeting was called to order.

Boiler Bid

Only one bid was received however the Subcommittee considered it a good bid from a good company. The bid exceeded the funds reserved for the project. The Up Island School Committee (UIRSC) discussed:

- the bid price in comparison with previous bids,
- off-Island work involving transport and housing,
- timing of the work,
- the status of the current boilers (which had finally shut down definitively),
- and work oversight, warranties, and testing.

• *ROXANNE ACKERMAN MOVED TO ACCEPT THE BID FROM SEEKONK AS CONTRACTED AT \$138,000, AND TO AUTHORIZE THE WITHDRAWAL OF \$52,000 FROM EXCESS AND DEFICIENCY FOR THE PROJECT; SUSAN PARKER SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 4 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.*

• *IT WAS UNDERSTOOD THE UIRSC CONSULTING ENGINEER WOULD MONITOR CONSTRUCTION/INSTALLATION, AND THAT THE PROPER LABOR AND MANUFACTURER WARRANTIES WOULD BE IN PLACE.*

The roof contractor had been diligent in working on the West Tisbury School roof leaks (see 9/17/07 Minutes p.2 #V) and discovered a rotten triangular window which could be the cause of the leak in Bob Lane's office. The School will instigate repairs immediately. Otherwise the contractor felt they had finished remediation and was requesting payment.

The proposed West Tisbury School wind turbine had passed a non-binding resolution in West Tisbury and would be voted at the Aquinnah Town Meeting. However due to various considerations the article was not on the Chilmark Town Meeting warrant.

• *IT WAS THE CONSENSUS OF THE UP ISLAND REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE TO ACCEPT THE VOTE OF THE CHILMARK BOARD OF SELECTMENT IN REGARDS TO THE NON-BINDING REFERENDUM ON THE WEST TISBURY SCHOOL WIND TURBINE WITH THE UNDERSTANDING THAT THE MATTER WOULD BE PLACED ON THE NEXT SPECIAL OR ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT.*

SKIP MANTER MOVED TO ADJOURN AT 7:34PM; SUSAN PARKER SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 4 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.

**UP-ISLAND REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE
OF MARTHA'S VINEYARD
Monday, May 19, 2008
West Tisbury School, 5:00 PM**

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Present: Chair - Marshall Segall, Dan Cabot,
Skipper J. Manter, Susan Parker*
Others: Superintendent's Office: Jim Weiss, Laurie Halt,
Amy Tierney
Principals: Michael Halt, Bob Lane, Diane Gandy
Staff: Victoria Phillips,
Recorder: Marni Lipke

*Late arrivals or early departures

The meeting was called to order.

Minutes Read and Approved (Agenda item # I.)

*SKIP MANTER MOVED TO APPROVE THE APRIL 14, 2008 MINUTES; DAN CABOT
SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.*

Financial Report (Agenda Item # III.)

A. Expenditure Report (See documents on file.)

As expected SpEd Teachers salaries were in deficit but in general the budget was in good shape for both sites.

B. FY09 Budget and Town Meetings (See documents on file.)

West Tisbury passed the school budget as did Chilmark—both at Town Meeting and the ballot box. Aquinnah also passed the budget although some comments showed the public needed more accurate information. Supt. Weiss will continue to talk to the Selectmen, Finance Committees and broader public of all three towns.

Principal's Report (Agenda item # IV.)

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

Chilmark School Principal Diane Gandy emphasized that all positions will have to be reposted as no appropriate candidates have applied. The Modern Dance performance was greatly enjoyed by all.

- The Up-Island Regional School Committee (UIRSC) was invited to the Chilmark School Memorial Day observance at 10:30AM Friday, May 23rd, at Chilmark Town Hall.

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

- The UIRSC was also invited to the West Tisbury Veterans School Memorial Day observance in the WTS auditorium at 1:00PM Friday, May 23rd with some veterans and a sixth grade slide show.

- Prin. Michael Halt outlined the Farm to School initiative to face lift and restore the central courtyard; including landscape architects, mahogany benches, and raised garden beds for each grade. The 8th grade last year won \$1,500 grant from New England Melanoma Foundation for a shade garden. Skip Manter offered to contact a funding group. The project was also linked to the curriculum.

- Library books (History of Western Art, My Dog May Be a Genius, and America the Beautiful) had been purchased in honor of last year's retired teachers who will be invited to a presentation meeting.
- The School Advisory Council (SAC) was working with Amy Tierney and Tina Miller on improving the West Tisbury School (WTS) cafeteria. There would be a meeting with Chartwell at the High School.
- A little later in the report Prin. Halt reported on the 8th graders participation in the Islandwide government and debate forum.
- **Building and Grounds** (see documents on file):
 - Five Star was again examining the roof. The UIRSC discussed technical and legal standing on the roof project and possible solutions to the current situation including the possibility of a green roof.

SKIP MANTER MOVED TO ASK THE BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR AND MICHAEL HALT TO ENGAGE APPROPRIATE TECHNICAL CONSULTANT TO LOOK AT THE ROOF ON THE WEST TISBURY SCHOOL TO BE PAID FROM THE RESIDUAL OF THE FY08 WTS BUDGET WITH THE UNDERSTANDING THAT ANY OVERAGE OR REIMBURSEMENT BE TAKEN FROM EXCESS AND DEFICIENCY; DAN CABOT AND MARSHALL SEGALL SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 4 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTION.

- The UIRSC discussed treatment for the caterpillar infestation in terms of environmentally safe pesticides and asked Asst. Prin. Bob Lane to research the matter further.

- Work on the boiler had commenced but there was some question as to whether the burners were included in the bid.

SKIP MANTER MOVED TO ASK THE BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR AND SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION TO INVESTIGATE THE INCLUSION OF THE WEST TISBURY SCHOOL BOILERS BURNERS IN THE SPEC'S AND IF NOT TO AUTHORIZE THE EXPENDITURE NOT TO EXCEED \$25,000 TO PURCHASE AND INSTALL SUCH TO BE PAID FROM THE RESIDUAL OF THE FY08 WTS BUDGET WITH THE UNDERSTANDING THAT ANY OVERAGE OR REIMBURSEMENT BE TAKEN FROM EXCESS AND DEFICIENCY; DAN CABOT SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 4 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTION.

Superintendent's Report (Agenda Item # V.)

A. Tech Plan Approval

The required annual UIRSD Technology Plan was approved, allowing the schools to take advantage of the e rate for phones and to be eligible for grants.

B. Action on Admin. and Non-Union Salaries for FY09

The All Island Personnel Sub-Committee had authorized a pool for these salary increases and Supt. Weiss had recommended raises in relation to the significant raises negotiated with the Teachers Union and to the staff's relative position in regards to other Island administrators. (See documents on file.) The UIRSC considered: the technician raise, the bus driver exception, and principal contract status.

DAN CABOT MOVED TO ACCEPT OR APPROVE THE SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDED SALARY LIST; SUSAN PARKER SECONDED; DAN CABOT CALLED THE QUESTION: MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 4 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.

Personnel (Agenda Item # IV.)

A. Leave of Absence Request

80% guidance counselor Molly Cabral requested a leave to settle off-Island and possibly start to commute. She understood there would be no extension of the leave.

SKIP MANTER MOVED TO AUHORIZE A ONE YEAR LEAVE OF ABSENCE FOR MOLLY CABRAL; DAN CABOT SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 4 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.

B. Staffing for FY09 (See documents on file.)

Prin.'s Michael Halt and Diane Gandy reviewed the vacant positions, hiring pools and status. Only 11 kindergarten students had enrolled for the coming year. The UIRSC considered:

- sharing staff and/or kindergartens both inter- and intra- districts,
- the difficulties of finding world language teachers and the importance of the cultural component in the language curriculum in the lower grades.
- reconfiguration of existing staff and curriculum including multi-age and the middle school,
- class size as determined by enrollment and student levels,
- staff and administrative flexibility versus reduction.

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

A. Report on MASC Day on the Hill – Marshall Segall

Chair Marshall Segall enjoyed the Day and found it enlightening and inspiring. Major issues included transportation/fuel costs, pot hole funding, shifting approval of School Improvement Plans (SIP) back to the school committees and charter school student identification.

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- A UIRSD home schooled student has paid the High School to be part of the horseback riding program.
- As a member of community Victoria Phillips thanked the UIRSC for its hard work and long hours to keep the classes small and the education individualized.

Next meeting was later rescheduled for 7:00PM, June 23, 2008 at the West Tisbury School.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:36PM.

Documents on File:

Agenda 5/19/08

UIRSD Expenditures July 1, 2007 to May 19, 2008

MVPS Supt. Memo re: Management and Non-Union Salary Adjustments 5/5/08

Carolyn Dorfman Dance Company flyer

W. Tisb. School Principal's Report 5/12/08

W. Tisb. School Buildings & Grounds Report 5/19/08

Chilmark School Principal's Report 5/19/08

Bell Tower Monthly Notes (2 p.)

Draft 2007-2008 / 2008-2009 *enrollment chart*

Pencil flyer.

**UP-ISLAND REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
OF MARTHA'S VINEYARD
Wednesday, May 28, 2008
West Tisbury School, 5:00 PM**

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Present: Chair – Marshall Segall,
Dan Cabot, Susan Parker,
Others: Superintendent's Office: James Weiss, Laurie Halt, Amy Tierney
Principals: Michael Halt, Bob Lane,
Recorder: Marni Lipke

*Late arrivals or early departures

The meeting was called to order 5:04PM.

West Tisbury Roof (Agenda item # I.)

Five Star General Contractor continued to be concerned about the still leaking roof and had now offered to strip and redo it. The Up Island Regional School Committee (UIRSC) discussed: the good faith efforts of the contractor, the difficulties of the roof versus the quality of the work, timing, various roof experts, legal advice, the previous motion to hire a roofing engineer (see 5/19/08 Minutes), testing the new roof, and the release of the final payment to the contractor.

- *DAN CABOT MOVED TO ACCEPT AND AUTHORIZE THE FIVE STAR PROPOSAL TO STRIP AND REDO THE WEST TISBURY SCHOOL ROOF SECTION PROVIDED THAT THE ADMINISTRATION ENGAGE AN APPROPRIATE TECHNICAL ROOFING CONSULTANT AS CLERK OF THE WORKS TO BE PRESENT DURING THE PROJECT TO BE PAID FROM THE RESIDUAL OF THE FY08 WEST TISBURY SCHOOL BUDGET WITH THE UNDERSTANDING THAT ANY OVERAGE OR REIMBURSEMENT BE TAKEN FROM EXCESS AND DEFICIENCY; SUSAN PARKER SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.*
- There was no clear consensus on whether the payment should be released before or after a good testing rain, however, it was agreed that the Contractor had shown good faith and would be asked to re-pitch parts of the roof as was felt necessary.
- Consultation on the entire roof with a roofing engineer would follow as scheduling allowed.

The burners had not been included in the boiler bid as they were in good condition in the Fall of 2007 when the spec's were written, and were only a third into their normal life span. However over the winter, work on the system had changed the situation. The UIRSC discussed: price, methods of work, the need for better technical knowledge (a facilities manager), and energy efficiency.

- *DAN CABOT MOVED TO AUTHORIZE THE UIRSD ADMINISTRATION TO MAKE A DECISION NOT TO EXCEED \$50,000 TO REPLACE ANY OR ALL OF THE THREE WEST TISBURY SCHOOL BOILER BURNERS AS NECESSARY TO BE PAID FROM THE RESIDUAL OF THE FY08 WEST TISBURY SCHOOL BUDGET WITH THE UNDERSTANDING THAT ANY OVERAGE OR REIMBURSEMENT BE TAKEN FROM EXCESS AND DEFICIENCY ; SUSAN PARKER SECONDED: MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.*

The UIRSC commended Asst. Prin. Bob Lane for his excellent research on pesticides and

conservation and considered the timing and coordination of spraying, roof work, and the central courtyard project.

SUSAN PARKER MOVED TO ADJOURN AT 5:43PM; DAN CABOT SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.