



North River Collaborative Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Monday, November 25, 2019-2:00PM

Present: Alan Cron, Peter Schafer, Patty Oakley, John Marcus, Matt Ferron, Stephen Donovan, Clarice Doliber, Mike Laliberte, Jeffrey Szymaniak, Liz Legault, Kimberly Beck, Geoffrey Wermuth, Robert Lynch

Absent: Chris Godino, Derek Swenson, Julie Hamilton

I. Call to Order

II. Approval of Minutes and Executive Session Minutes (Executive Session minutes are not to be released until all matters are resolved) of September 27, 2019

Motion: Peter Schafer made a motion to approve the minutes and executive session minutes for September 27, 2019. The executive session minutes are not to be released until all matters are settled. Patty Oakley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously with one abstention from Matt Ferron.

III. Approval of Warrants

Motion: John Marcus made a motion to approve the warrants. Matt Ferron seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously

IV. Discussion/Action Items

A. **October Financials -Enc. A**

1. **FY20 General Fund Revenue and Expense Projection:** Mike Laliberte reviewed the FY20 General Fund and Revenue Expense Projection which shows an increase in revenue from \$145,383 to \$198,378. Mike offered that the changes in the revenue are due to an increase in enrollment at North River School and an adjustment in expenses.

Motion: John Marcus made a motion to approve the FY20 General Fund Revenue and Expense Projection. Matt Ferron seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

- #### B. **Audit Report, Cumulative Surplus of \$1,956,085 at 14.44% cumulative percent, and Acceptance by Board- Enc. B:**
- Steve welcomed Robert Lynch, CPA, a partner with LynchMarini & Associates Inc. to speak to the FY19 audit. Mr. Lynch presented and reviewed the completed audit of the Collaborative which is conducted with government auditing standards to the Board. For FY19, Mr. Lynch advised that the financial statements are fairly stated. There were no internal weaknesses or compliance issues identified and once again no management letter issued.

Motion: John Marcus made a motion to approve and accept the NRC Audit Report and Cumulative Surplus of \$1,956,085 at 14.44 cumulative percent. Patty Oakley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

- #### C. **Independence Academy Legislative Update-Enc. C:**
- Steve reviewed the legislative amendments in the House of Representatives. The SPED stabilization revolving account can be used for Recovery High School expenses. A study to be completed by the beginning of March will look at the true cost of funding a recovery high school.
- #### D. **MOEC and SCRO Update:**
- Steve discussed the MOU of the SCRO, and the readiness centers regions of MOEC.
- #### E. **Transportation Update:**
- Steve discussed the reduction of cost in transportation and the shortage of drivers. He informed the Board that Plymouth Public Schools has approached NRC with taking over their in-district transportation beginning July 1, 2020. MASBO had recommended NRC. Plymouth currently has Van Pool and is not happy with their current service. Mike

reviewed his meetings with Plymouth with regards to the possibility of transporting 248 in-district students with 23 new vehicles.

- F. **NRC Action Plan 2019-2020 Final-Enc. D:** Steve reviewed the action plan changes The changes made were due to some professional development programming that was not conducive to collaboratives.

Motion: Matt Ferron made a motion to accept the NRC Action Plan 2019-2020.Liz Legault seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

- G. **Safe and Supportive Schools Grant-Enc. E:** Clarice reviewed the Fund Code 335 for Safe and Supportive Schools Grant awarded to North River Collaborative and the three-year process of the grant. Clarice offered that it will fit well with the program evaluation process.

Motion: Jeffrey Szymaniak made a motion to accept the Safe and Supportive Schools Grant. Patty Oakley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

H. NRC Transportation Policies and Procedures Handbook-Enc. F

Motion: Liz Legault made a motion to accept the NRC Transportation Policies and Procedures Handbook. Matt Ferron seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

I. Executive Director's Educator Plan-Enc. G

Motion: Liz Legault made a motion to accept the Executive Director's Educator Plan. Jeffrey Szymaniak seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

J. Acceptance of Staff Resignations, Terminations, and New Hires-Enc. H

Motion: Liz Legault made a motion to accept the staff resignations, terminations, changes and new hires. Patty Oakley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

K. Other Matters of Interest to the Superintendents

V. Informational

A. Executive Director's Quarterly Report- Enc. I

B. Professional Development Offerings: Dr. Donovan introduced Kim Beck as NRC's new Professional Development Coordinator. Kim spoke to the Board about her plans for professional development and upcoming offerings.

Motion: Alan Cron made a motion to go into executive session to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining (drivers/monitors) as an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the public body and ...

To discuss strategy with respect to litigation as an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares; and to reconvene in open session. Patty Oakley seconded the motion. Motion by Roll Call Vote: Peter Schafer, John Marcus, Matt Ferron, Jeffrey Szymaniak, Liz Legault, Alan Cron, Patty Oakley

VI. Executive Session

1. To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining (drivers/monitors) as an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the public body and ...
Steve advised the Board we were just issued an unfair labor practice charge proceed leverage by Union Geoff said it will go away if contract ratified at this meeting. Steve reviewed the negotiated settlement.
 1. NRC trying to be competitive with wages year two and three will be a raise of 2.2% or average rate of teacher contracts in districts whichever is higher. eliminated 5B.
 2. Wheelchair differential
 3. Custodial work for after hours for those who do that

4. Time and a half for holidays worked
5. Field trips incentive.
6. Ability to use 3 (5 if perfect attendance) of their sick days to get paid during school vacation

Geoff advised the Board that he tried to improve the monetary aspects of the especially getting the monitors up to minimum wage. He also offered that attendance is still an issue.

2. To discuss strategy with respect to litigation as an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares; and to reconvene in open session.

Steve reviewed the tort filed against NRC in which we have 6 months to respond. If no response, then they can go to court and file. Maximum is \$100,000 per plaintiff. If the insurance company doesn't file it can move to federal court. Geoff advised that the father of plaintiff is a sophisticated plaintiff with regards to a sexual assault that happened at NRS and Council on Aging in Rockland as well as on the bus (Canton) and her home.

Motion: Liz Legault made a motion to authorize the Executive Director to work with the NRC Board of Directors chairman and the (NRC) insurance company's attorney to negotiate an end to this lawsuit. Patty Oakley seconded the motion. Motion carries unanimously by roll call vote: Peter Schafer, John Marcus, Matt Ferron, Jeffrey Szymaniak, Liz Legault, Alan Cron, Patty Oakley

Motion: Peter Schafer made a motion to reconvene into open session. Matt Ferron seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote: Peter Schafer, Alan Cron, John Marcus, Matt Ferron, Jeffrey Szymaniak, Liz Legault, Patty Oakley.

Motion: Peter Schafer made a motion to ratify the contract and the memorandum of understanding between the Teamsters Union and North River Collaborative Transportation. Patty Oakley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion: Peter Schafer made a motion to adjourn. John Marcus seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 3:07 PM.

Respectfully submitted by:

Derek Swenson, Board Secretary