



North River Collaborative Board of Directors
Friday, June 9, 2023, 9:00 AM
Minutes

On March 29, 2023, Governor Healey signed into law an extension of the temporary provisions pertaining to the Open Meeting Law to March 31, 2025. Specifically, this further extension allows public bodies to continue holding meetings remotely without a quorum of the public body physically present at a meeting location, and to provide "adequate, alternative" access to remote meetings.

The Meeting ID # 89208030499 provided through ZOOM and a Passcode of #873511 will be used for this purpose.

Present: Peter Schafer, Alan Cron, Jeff Szymaniak, Liz Legault, Chris Godino, Julie Hamilton, Mark Bodwell, Matt Ferron, Paul Tzovolos, Jr., Mike Laliberte and Clarice Doliber

Absent: Ryan Powers and Tom Raab

I. Executive Session

Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(7) "to comply with, or act under the authority of, any general or special law or federal grant-in-aid requirements."

- 1. Approval of Executive Session Minutes of December 16, March 10, 2023, April 14, 2023, and April 25, 2023**

Open Session

Call to Order: Peter Schafer called the meeting to order at 9:10 AM

II. Approval of minutes of March 10, 2023, and April 14, 2023

Motion: Alan Cron made a motion to approve the minutes of March 10, 2023, and April 14, 2023. Jeff Szymaniak seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

III. Approval of warrants

Motion: Jeff Szymaniak made a motion to approve the warrants. Alan Cron Seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

IV. Discussion/Action Items

- A. FY23-May financials-** Mike Laliberte reviewed the May financials for the Board and advised the Board the current actual year to date total is \$1,127,576.57.

Motion: Alan Cron made a motion to approve the FY23 May financials. Jeff Szymaniak seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

- B. FY23 Budget Update:** Clarice Doliber updated the Board on changes in the budget with regards to District Services.

- C. Treasurer evaluation for FY23-** Clarice reviewed the annual evaluation of NRC Treasurer Art Sullivan. The Board expressed their approval of the job Art has performed for the Collaborative and acting as the trustee for the Health Insurance Retirees OPEB Trust.

Motion: Jeff Szymaniak made a motion to accept the Treasurer evaluation. Alan Cron seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

- D. Reorganization of the Board and Sub-Committees**

Chair: Alan Cron

Motion: Peter Schafer made a motion to nominate Alan Cron as the new Chair for the NRC Board of Directors. Jeff Szymaniak seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Vice-Chair: Joseph Baeta

Motion: Alan Cron made a motion to nominate Joe Baeta as Vice-Chair for the NRC Board of Directors. Liz Legault seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Secretary/Clerk: Julie Hamilton

Motion: Liz Legault made a motion to nominate Julie Hamilton as the Secretary/Clerk for the NRC Board of Directors. Jeff Szymaniak seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Sub-Committee for Personnel and Evaluation:

Peter Schafer, Jeff Szymaniak and Matt Ferron agreed to continue as the sub-committee for Personnel and Evaluation.

E. Approval to transfer \$175,000 into the Health Insurance Retirees Trust

Motion: Alan Cron made a motion to approve the transfer of \$175,000 into the Health Insurance Retirees Trust. Matt Ferron seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

F. Approval to transfer from OPEB to NRC for reimbursement for cost of health Insurance not to exceed \$50,000.

Motion: Jeff Szymaniak made a motion to approve the transfer, not to exceed \$50,000, from the OPEB Trust to NRC for reimbursement for the cost of health insurance. Liz Legault seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

G. Approval to prepay BCI van loan of approximately \$98,000.

Motion: Alan Cron made a motion to approve the prepayment of the BCI Van loan for \$98,000. Jeff Szymaniak seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

H. Approval to encumber up to \$226,000 for the purchase of 3 vehicles for Transportation.

Motion: Jeff Szymaniak made a motion to approve the purchase of 3 vehicles for Transportation at a cost of \$226,000. Alan Cron seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

I. Approval of up to \$300,000 to capital reserve which includes \$50,000 replenishment of monies used for North River School septic repairs.

Motion: Jeff Szymaniak made a motion to approve \$300,000 to the capital reserve which includes a \$50,000 replenishment of monies used for North River School septic repairs. Alan Cron seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

J. Approval of Job Descriptions: Clarice explained the change to the job descriptions to better serve the departments they apply to.

1. Routing and Dispatch Supervisor

2. Transportation Dispatcher

3. Senior Accounting Assistant-

Motion: Alan Cron made a motion to approve the new job descriptions for Routing and Dispatch Supervisor, Transportation Dispatcher, and Senior Accounting Assistant. Matt Ferron seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

K. Approval of Transportation MOU regarding recruitment bonus-Clarice presented the MOU with the new offering of a \$1,500 sign on bonus for drivers. The current transportation rates and the possibility of a retention bonus offered in the future was also discussed.

Motion: Alan Cron made a motion to approve the Transportation MOU regarding a recruitment bonus for new drivers. Jeff Szymaniak seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

L. Changes to NRC Policies and Procedures Handbook: Clarice reviewed the minor changes made to the NRC Policies and Procedure Handbook.

Motion: Alan Cron made a motion to approve the changes to the NRC Policies and Procedure Handbook. Jeff Szymaniak seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

M. Board Meeting Calendar-2023-2024

Motion: Jeff Szymaniak made a motion to approve the Board Meeting Calendar for 2023-2024. Alan Cron seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

N. OPEB-Health Insurance Retirees Trust 2022 tax return

Motion: Alan Cron made a motion to accept the OPEB Health Insurance Retirees Trust 2022 tax return. Jeff Szymaniak seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

O. Acceptance of staff resignations, hires, terminations, and changes in contract

Motion: Matt Ferron made a motion to accept the staff resignations, hires, transportation and changes in contract. Jeff Szymaniak seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

P. NRC 2022-2023 Action Plan Summary- Clarice reviewed the 2022-2023 Action Plan Summary.

Q. Title III Grant Consortia Members (7 districts)- Clarice explained the new GEMS system for districts to register for the Title III Consortium Grant for the 2023-2024 school year.

R. Other Matters of Interest to Board Members

V. **Informational**

Professional Development Offerings

Motion: Jeff Szymaniak made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Alan Cron seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 9:38 AM

**Respectfully submitted by:
Thomas Raab, Board Secretary**