



SPECIAL EDUCATION DISTRICT OF MCHENRY COUNTY

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES

March 17, 2021

The meeting was called to order at 8:02 a.m.

Present: Ms. Lea Damisch, Dr. Debbie Ehlenburg, Dr. Linda Dujmovich, Ms. Cathy Neiss, Mr. Bryan Millard, Dr. Ryan McTague (R), Ms. Karen Parks, Dr. Tim Burns, and Ms. Kim Egerstaffer.

Approval of Minutes: Ms. Niess moved to approve and, Dr. Dujmovich seconded to approve the minutes from the February 21, 2021 meeting. Motion carried.

Old Business:

2021/22 Needs Assessment Update: Dr. Burns updated the Board regarding the 2021/22 Needs Assessment. The results were very much as expected. A request for a Goal Writing Seminar in the fall was suggested. CPI will continue to happen. In-Person training was discussed for showing holds and what that would look like now with COVID.

Update on R.S.S.P. Program: Dr. Burns gave the Board an update on the R.S.S.P. Program. Concerns regarding who are supposed to be doing evaluations and who would be reporting the data were discussed. SEDOM currently is strictly the fiscal agent for the program and should only be liable for keeping the books. Dr. Burns suggested that SEDOM could take more of a role in the operations of the R.S.S.P. Program. Doing that would allow SEDOM to handle the evaluations and possibly allow tenure status to the teachers through SEDOM. Ms. Damisch suggested that we meet with Ms. Schermerhorn to discuss SEDOM's future role in the R.S.S.P. Program.

C.P.I. In Person Requirement: Dr. Burns discussed with the Board the in-person requirements for C.P.I. training. Currently SEDOM is doing a 3-part training process. SEDOM does live virtual trainings for the foundations, restorative practices etc., then do live virtual for the holds training, and finally they come in for a short in-person physical intervention check. The in-person physical intervention involves less than 15 minutes total of close contact and extra PPE.

New Business:

Governing Board of Directors Meeting Re-Cap: Dr. Burns updated the Board on the March 3rd Governing Board Meeting. Articles of Joint Agreement were updated and adopted. New Board Members were appointed. The meeting went very well and there was good attendance by the districts.

Framework for rental discussion: Dr. Burns spoke with the Board regarding the current lease with the School of Expressive Arts and Learning. Dr. Burns suggested to wait for the Construction to be over and then recommends looking at the terms of the lease.

S.B. 0517: Dr. Burns informed the Board that the S.B. 0517 bill was making its way to the General Assembly. The Bill Amends the Children with Disabilities Article of the School Code. Includes public therapeutics programs in the definition of "special educational facilities and services". In a provision requiring a school district to pay the cost of tuition for special education and related services if a child attends a non-public school or special education facility, a public out-of-state school, or a special education facility owned and operated by a county government unit, provides that the special education and related services includes public therapeutics programs.

County Wide Student Placement Issues: Dr. Burns discussed with the Board concerns regarding student placements. There are potential concerns over placement options within the County. Availability of Services are another concern. Certain programs are limiting placements. Placements can also be complicated and Dr. McTauge complimented Dr. Burns for help in making decisions for certain situations. Parent relationships are essential and there seems to be a disconnect between Special Ed Directors and Superintendents. Transition Planning is also an issue as well.

Finance:

February Financial Reports: Financial statements for February were reviewed noting the percentages of revenue and expenses compared to the budget for each fund as of February 28, 2021, 67% of the FY 2021 budget is complete. Revenues are received at 62.60% and expenditures are received at 58.41%. Total Outstanding Receivables were \$26,665.37 for all funds. Revenues for the Education Fund are received at 63.92% while expenditures are at 64.09%. Outstanding Receivables as of February 28, 2021 were at \$18,768.15. Operations & Maintenance revenues are received at 56.17% of budget while expenditures are at 28.77%. Outstanding Receivables as of February 28th were at \$7,897.22. Cash as of February 28, 2021 total \$4,237,327.34 for all funds.

March Bill List: The March bills totaled \$ 17,340.15 Of this total, 0.00% of the total bills were payments back to member districts. IDEA reimbursements claimed by member districts total \$0.00. Administration is recommending the approval of the March Bills and reasonable and customary bills through March 31, 2021.

ISBE Inquiry into the 2020 SEFA Report: Dr. Burns reported to the Board on an inquiry made by ISBE into the SEFA Report. The State Auditor was concerned because the expenditures did not match the FRIS report. This matter was turned over to SEDOM's Auditors and they explained to the State Auditor the process of how the expenditures were filed created a lapse. The SEDOM Auditors explained the process and tied out to the spreadsheet that the State Auditor had sent with his questions.

Facilities Item:

School Maintenance Project Grant: Dr. Burns reviewed the upcoming construction schedule with the Board including the timeline of the Asbestos Removal. Further discussion will take place at the next meeting regarding timelines for the Summer Construction, impact of students and classrooms. SEDOM and SEAL will work together to find the best solution for ESY scheduling.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:36 a.m.

The Next meeting of the Committee of the Whole will be held on Wednesday, April 21, 2021 at 8:00 a.m. in the SEDOM Board Room.