

WACHUSETT REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

HOLDEN ♦ PAXTON ♦ PRINCETON ♦ RUTLAND ♦ STERLING

Minutes

Emergency Meeting

Thursday, May 17, 2012
7:00 PM

Media Center
Wachusett Regional High School

Committee Members Present:

Duncan Leith, Chair	Julianne Kelley
Joseph Sova, Vice-chair	James Mason (7:06 PM)
Cynthia Bazinet (7:57 PM)	Robert Pelczarski
Colleen Cipro	Norman Plourde
William Clute	Robert Remillard
Steven Hammond	Erik Scheinfeldt
Lance Harris	Michelle Sciabarrasi
Robert Imber	Athas Tsongalis
Stacey Jackson (7:06 PM)	Margaret Watson

Committee Members Absent:

Carmelo Bazzano	Deidre Kosky
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Administration Present:

Thomas G. Pandiscio, Superintendent of Schools
Peter Brennan, Business Manager
Kelley Gangi, Director of Curriculum
Darryll McCall, Director of Operations
Rebecca Petersen, Executive Secretary to the Superintendent

Others present, who desired to be recorded as present (see attached Attendance Sheet – attachment 1).

I. Call to Order

Chair Leith called the Emergency Meeting to order at 7:00 PM, thanked members for making the effort to attend the meeting, and turned the meeting over to Superintendent Pandiscio. Members were provided with the Proposed FY13 Assessments 05.17.12 (attachment 2). Superintendent Pandiscio explained how Wachusett Regional School District came to benefit from additional Chapter 70 funds from the state. He called members' attention to the Proposed FY13 Assessments spreadsheet, pointing out how this \$455,566 would reduce the Member Towns' assessments. It was explained that the School Committee would need to take action to reduce Member Town

assessments. Members asked questions, and the FY13 budget was discussed. It was recognized that Rutland Selectboard Member Sheila Dibb was in the audience and she was invited to address the School Committee on behalf of the Town of Rutland. Ms. Dibb spoke about Rutland's financial situation and asked for reconsideration of the school budget in light of the town's situation. More questions were asked, answered, discussed, and debated.

7:56 PM Member Bazinet joined the meeting.

Motion: To reduce FY13 assessments to Member Towns by \$455,566, for a total appropriation of \$79, 284,670, with assessments to the towns as follow:

Holden:	\$21,917,223
Paxton:	\$ 5,291,021
Princeton:	\$ 4,953,974
Rutland:	\$ 8,899,118
Sterling:	\$ 9,977,347
Total Assessment to Member Towns:	\$51,038,683

(J. Sova)
(S. Hammond)

Roll call vote:

In favor:

Duncan Leith
Joseph Sova
Cynthia Bazinet
Colleen Cipro
William Clute
Steven Hammond
Lance Harris
Robert Imber
Stacey Jackson
Julianne Kelley
James Mason
Robert Pelczarski
Norman Plourde
Robert Remillard
Erik Scheinfeldt
Michelle Sciabarrasi
Athas Tsongalis
Margaret Watson

Opposed:

None

Motion passed unanimously.

7:59 PM Member Bazinet left the table.

Superintendent Pandiscio next asked the Committee to take the time to carefully review the sheets showing the class size impact if 30 teachers have to be reduced, and the list of potential savings if programs/services needed to be reduced or eliminated (attachment 3). Superintendent Pandiscio explained he needs the School Committee to become familiar with these numbers and this information, in the event four of the five Member Towns do not approve the budget before them and the School Committee is forced to re-look at the FY13 budget. If that is the case, the Superintendent is going to need to know what the School Committee will not consider reducing/eliminating in order for the administration to know how to proceed if, in fact, budget planning continues beyond the May Annual Town Meetings.

8:05 PM Member Bazinet returned to the table.

Discussion ensued.

8:08 PM Member Cipro left the meeting.

Discussion continued.

III. Adjournment

Motion: To adjourn.

(R. Imber)
(S. Hammond)

Roll call vote:

In favor:

Duncan Leith
Joseph Sova
Cynthia Bazinet
Colleen Cipro
William Clute
Steven Hammond
Lance Harris
Robert Imber
Stacey Jackson
Julianne Kelley
James Mason
Robert Pelczarski
Norman Plourde
Robert Remillard
Erik Scheinfeldt
Michelle Sciabarrasi
Athas Tsongalis
Margaret Watson

Opposed:
None

The motion passed unanimously.

The Emergency Meeting adjourned at 8:36 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas G. Pandiscio, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

TGP/rlp