

1 **Lake Region Union High School Board Meeting**
2 **Lake Region Union High School - Orleans, Vermont**
3 **July 20, 2017**
4

5 **Board Members Present:** David Blodgett, Tammy Wiggett, Pat Davis, Toni Eubanks, Jason
6 Racine, Gerry Cahill, and Jennifer McKenzie

7 **Administrators Present:** Andre Messier- Principal, Sharon Gonyaw- Assistant Principal

8 **Community Members Present:** Elizabeth Trail- *The Chronicle*, Ed Barber- *Newport Daily*
9 *Express*, and Kyle Ingalls- Orleans County Sheriff's Department

10 **Call to Order:** Dave Blodgett, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:18. He welcomed
11 new board member from Barton, Gerry Cahill, who was appointed to fill the remainder of Trish
12 Bermon's term.

13 **Additions/ Deletions:** Item 6b under New Business was deleted.

14 **Privilege of the floor:** None

15 **Approval of Consent Agenda Items:** Jason Racine moved to approve the following items: the
16 minutes of the June 19, 2017 Board meeting, written reports, updated FY '17 financial reports,
17 and payment of the bills. The motion was seconded by Pat Davis and approved.

18 **Old Business**

19 **Reorganization of the Board:** Jason Racine nominated David Blodgett for board chair. It was
20 seconded by Toni Eubanks. Jennifer McKenzie acted as temporary board chair for this business
21 item. Pat Davis moved that nominations cease and the clerk cast one ballot for David Blodgett. It
22 was seconded by Jason Racine and approved. David Blodgett resumed as board chair.

23 Toni Eubanks nominated Jennifer McKenzie for board vice-chair. It was seconded by Tammy
24 Wiggett. Jason Racine moved that nominations cease and the clerk cast one ballot for Jennifer
25 McKenzie. It was seconded by Pat Davis and approved.

26 Jason Racine nominated Tammy Wiggett for board clerk. It was seconded by Toni Eubanks.
27 Jason moved that nominations cease and the clerk cast one ballot for Tammy Wiggett. It was
28 seconded by Pat Davis and approved.

29 **Net-metering Credit Proposal:** Mr. Messier reported that the attorney who was consulted does
30 not recommend accepting the current proposal from the Green Lantern Group for purchasing net-
31 metering credits. He recommends suspending negotiations until Certificate of Public Good
32 hearings are complete and permitting issues have been resolved. Pat Davis moved not to sign the
33 contract proposed by the Green Lantern Group. The motion not to sign was seconded by Toni
34 Eubanks and approved.

35 **LED Light Replacement Update:** Mr. Messier provided and updated report that replacing the
36 light fixtures with LED lights would have an upfront cost of approximately \$42,000. The school
37 could expect to receive incentives that would cover approximately \$14,400 of the cost, making
38 the net cost approximately \$27,600. The project would have an estimated payback period of 4
39 years. Capital reserve funds would be used to pay for the project. Jason moved to go ahead with
40 the LED Light Replacement Project as proposed. It was seconded by Jennifer McKenzie and
41 approved.

42 **Stipends for Bridges Counselors:** Jason Racine moved to approve stipends in the amount of
43 \$1300 for each of the following Bridges counselors: Andre Messier, Kimberly Messier, Lee
44 Penniman, and Steven Tatum. It was seconded by Pat Davis and approved.

45 **Update on Roof Replacement Project:** Mr. Messier reported that the roof replacement project
46 was going well and should be finished by the following week.

47 New Business

48 **Member-to-member Agreement:** Pat Davis moved to approve the following students to play
49 football for NCUHS for the fall 2017 season as part of the member-to-member agreement:
50 Garrett Gile, Konner Vezina, Jacob Young, and Glenn Nutting. It was seconded by Jason Racine
51 and approved.

52 **Discussion of Hiring a School Resource Officer/ SAP for the 2017-2018 School Year:** Mr.
53 Messier reported that as the administrative team examined the current needs of the school and
54 consulted with other schools, it became apparent that a school resource officer (SRO) would be
55 the best way to meet the school's needs. When the budget for the coming year was built, funds
56 were included to support a position to help with some of the increased student needs. Mr.
57 Messier has been working with his team to determine what that position should look like. He
58 mentioned that the school could use both a SAP and a SRO, but since there are only funds for
59 one position, he recommends going with a school resource officer, noting that there are several
60 counseling resources in place and that this would provide something different. Sharon Gonyaw
61 mentioned that as she reached out to administrators at other schools, many told her that their
62 school initially hired a school resource officer with some reservations and now would not think
63 of going without the position. They reported to her that the mentoring done by the SRO has been
64 more impactful than they imagined. After asking several questions of Mr. Messier, Mrs.
65 Gonyaw, and Kyle Ingalls, who is currently the SRO at North Country Union High School, the
66 board agreed to seek input from the community and to discuss this further at the next board
67 meeting. Dave Blodgett agreed to work with Mr. Messier to plan a community meeting.

68 **Agenda Items Tabled:** Due to the time, and due to the fact that some board members were
69 needed to form a quorum at the scheduled OCSU meeting, Pat Davis moved to table the
70 remaining agenda items until the next board meeting. It was seconded by Jason Racine and
71 approved.

72 **Upcoming Meetings**

- 73 • Full Board- Monday, August 14, 2017 at 6:15 PM
- 74 • Full Board- Thursday, September 7, 2017 at 6:15 PM
- 75 • Full Board- Thursday, September 21, 2017 at 6:15 PM

76 **Adjournment:** David Blodgett adjourned the meeting at 7:51.

77 Respectfully submitted,

78 Tammy Wiggett