

DRAFT
District Building Committee

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December 8, 2008

Members present: Chet Raczka, Ed Morettini, Bill Currilin, Betsy Gara
Also present: Susan Viccaro, Rob Francis, Ron Melnik, Ted Lombardo

Bill Currilin thanked those present for returning to meet as a committee.

Ron explained that the final paperwork was filed with the State and an audit of the projects took place. For the Brewster and Korn projects the State just did a paper audit but for the Strong, CRHS and Central Office projects a physical audit was conducted. The only area where we lost significant money was because of the additional square footage the State added to the high school for the portable classrooms. After the audit was completed the State released the remaining money from the projects and the balance that the District now has is \$1,118,022. This money can either be spent on projects that were named in the original educational specifications (Ed Specs) that were not completed or can be used to pay down the bonding debt.

Ron, Rob Francis and Hugh Pearson met to review the original Ed Specs and made a list of projects that they feel the money could be spent on. They prioritized the list and identified safety and energy conservation items. The list is priced by industry standard estimates. By the State guidelines, any items that cost over \$5,000 would have to go out to bid. (A copy of the list is attached to these minutes.)

Ron pointed out that the phone system for Brewster is on this list but is also in the Homeland Security grant. If the grant money is received it will be taken off of this list.

Rob said the fire alarm system at Brewster is by 1990 code and needs to be upgraded. More horns would be added and the system would be expanded.

Rob said the hallway floor repairs at the high school are a safety item that continues to be a problem. There are problems with the adhesion of the new floor surface any where that a trench existed in the hallway during construction.

Sue Viccaro would like to see the overhead projectors (#32 on the list) be given more priority because they are an instructional item.

The paving of the parking lot and driveway and the utilities under the CRHS parking lot both are important items that need to be done but Ron does not want to complete these items until after the athletic field work is completed. Money should be set aside to complete this work at a later date.

The fencing along Pickett Lane was also discussed but it was decided that this was not the best time to add the fencing.

Sue Viccaro is concerned about the school budget for the coming year and suggested that the Committee consider leaving some money to reduce the bonding.

Chet suggested that all of the safety items listed should get taken care of.

Rob explained that the frequency drives for the air handling units at Strong, Korn and Brewster are needed to make the units more efficient. They should have really been considered energy conservation items. The HVAC for the lower level classrooms at Strong is to increase the number of diffusers in the classrooms so that the noise level from the system is lessened. The upper floor has already been addressed.

Ed said that the Committee could find reasons to support everything on the list but he feels that current economic conditions demand that some of the money be returned to pay down the bond.

Chet feels that it will be a good time to go out to bid for the work, the bids may come in low.

Ron suggested that all of the items listed #1-17 and #32 (overhead projectors) be put out to bid. After the numbers come in, the committee can decide on how to proceed.

On a motion by Chet Raczka, second Ed Morettini the Committee unanimously approved to go to bid on Items #1-17 and Item #32 of the School Construction Project List, suggested priority items.

Reading Rooms

The District is now ready to act on the donations for the reading rooms at Coginchaug and Korn Schools. A \$50,000 donation was given for the room at Coginchaug and over \$37,000 was raised for the room at Korn. Rob has received two quotes for the rooms and wants the approval to go forward with the projects. Both of the quotes are below the funds available. The District does not have to go out to bid for these projects because no District funds are being spent.

On a motion by Betsy Gara, second Chet Raczka, the Committee unanimously gave Rob Francis permission to purchase the best quality product within the allocated dollar amounts, at no cost to the District, for the reading rooms at Coginchaug High School and Korn Elementary School.

Susan Viccaro will contact the group that collected the donation for Korn School and the family who donated to Coginchaug to let them know that the projects are now proceeding.

The Committee will meet again sometime in January after the bids have been received to make decisions on which items to proceed with.

The meeting adjourned at 6:55pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Gaudreau