

**Financial Oversight Panel  
For North Chicago District 187  
MINUTES OF MEETING**

**Wednesday, August 8, 2012,  
1717 17<sup>th</sup> Street, North Chicago, Illinois  
2:00 p.m.**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Mr. Agazzi called the meeting to order at 2:03 p.m.

**ROLL CALL:**

**Members Present:** Ms. Cheryl Crates, Mr. Hornsby Kneeland, Ms. Adriane Riley, and Chair David Agazzi and Navy representative Master Chief Walter Evans.

**Member Present as of 2:40 p.m.:** Ms. Teamer

**Navy Representative Present as of 2:12 p.m.:** Senior Chief Ryan Curylo

**COMMENTS FROM PUBLIC:**

One person requested to address the panel. Ms. Michelle Jones representing GCA introduced herself and discussed the lack of payment of a monthly invoice by the district during negotiations to reduce services and costs. Her comments were noted and the Chair indicated that the administration will be instructed to contact, address, and resolve the issue.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION [In accordance with 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1)]:**

Mr. Kneeland moved to convene executive session at 2:09 p.m. The motion was seconded by Ms. Crates. The motion carried 4-0 with no nays.

**CALL TO RESUME OPEN SESSION:**

Ms. Crates moved to reconvene open session at 2:40 p.m. Mr. Kneeland seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0 with no nays.

**NEW BUSINESS DISCUSSION / ACTION:**

#### **A. Posting and Hiring Procedures**

The procedures presented would give the administration the flexibility to post current positions that are vacant that need to be filled. Hiring a person to fill a vacant position would still be contingent upon FOP approval. The administration was asked when school starts and how many vacancies still need to be filled. It was indicated that school starts in twelve days and that 22 teaching positions, almost 10% of teaching staff, still need to be filled. Ms. Crates moved to approve the posting and hiring procedures. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kneeland. The motion carried 5-0 with no nays.

#### **B. 2.25% Salary Increase for Non-represented employees**

The Financial Oversight Panel expressed concern regarding the finances facing the district. Ms. Crates moved to exclude the central office administrators from the list of 2.25% increases to be approved for the non-represented employees. Ms. Teamer seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0 with no nays.

#### **C. Administrators' Contracts**

The administrators' contracts listed are for the current 2012-2013 school year. Ms. Crates moved to approve the contracts and Mr. Kneeland seconded. It was noted that the motion passed for item B will change the dollar amounts for the central office administrators' contracts. Ms. Crates amended the motion to reflect the corrected dollar amounts resulting from action taken on item B. Mr. Kneeland seconded the motion. The amended motion to approve carried 5-0 with no nays.

#### **D. Instructional Coach Job Description and Title**

The action taken by the Independent Authority on item D will not impact district finances and therefore this item does not require FOP action.

#### **E. Contract Extension of Bill Delp for month of August**

The extension of this contract is for the purpose of transition as new Special Education staff have recently been hired to perform the activities related to this contract. The ability of the new staff to assume the activities specific to this contract was discussed. A progress report will be generated by staff upon completion of the contract. Ms. Crates moved to approve the contract. Mr. Kneeland seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0 with no nays.

#### **F. Hiring DoDEA Evaluator**

It was indicated that this position is both funded and required by the grant. Mr. Kneeland moved to approve and Ms. Crates seconded. The motion carried 5-0 with no nays.

#### **G. Title I & II Grants spending proposals: Contract with Solutions Tree and PLC Contract**

The Independent Authority approved a contract with Solutions Tree and PLC in the amount of \$13,400 to provide two days of professional development scheduled for the beginning of the school year, to be funded with local professional development funds. The process of grant expenditure approval and how start dates for grants are determined was discussed. Since the Title grant has not yet started those funds are not available and the contract will need to be funded from the educational fund. It was shared that this professional development two day activity is part of a continuation of a two year plan to provide contractual professional development services for the district. The contract for the remaining 2<sup>nd</sup> year of development will be brought back once the Title II grant is in place. Ms Crates moved to approve a contract for \$13,400 to be paid out of the education fund. Mr. Kneeland seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0 with no nays.

#### **H. Purchase of Text Book Acquisition for grades 6-12**

The Independent Authority modified the administration's recommendation and approved the purchase of text books for grades 6-12 up to but not to exceed \$450,000. The IA instructed the administration to research the availability of a newer edition of the current curriculum series of Social Studies text books. The dollar amount approved for the acquisition of text books for grades 6-12 was increased to allow for purchasing the latest edition of Social Studies text books if they are available. The cycle of text book acquisition or the lack thereof in the past was discussed. It was noted that the district has an inadequate supply of text books and this recommendation is to address that situation. Ms. Teamer moved to approve the action taken by the IA. It was seconded by Mr. Kneeland. The motion carried 5-0, with no nays.

#### **I. Technology Coaching and Consulting Contract for Power School Support**

It was noted that the Independent Authority tabled this item. No action was taken.

#### **J. Lunch Point of Sale System**

It was noted that the Independent Authority tabled this item. No action was taken.

**K. Speaker for Opening of School Professional Development – Title II Fund**

The Chair called for a motion to approve the speaker for the opening of school professional development using Title II funds. Ms. Crates moved and Mr. Kneeland seconded the motion. The administration indicated that carryover Title II funds are available to fund this item. The FY12 Title II budget was reviewed. It was determined that Title II funds cannot be used to pay for this item. The district’s obligation to the speaker was reviewed. It was indicated that if any pre-paid non-refundable travel expense exists then that cost may be a district obligation. The district is not obligated for the speaker fee which is dependent upon FOP approval. The Chair called for a vote on the motion to approve.

The Financial Oversight Panel members voted as follows:

Mr. Agazzi:	Nay
Ms. Crates:	Nay
Mr. Kneeland:	Nay
Ms. Riley:	Nay
Ms. Teamer:	Nay

The Navy ex-officio members voted as follows:

Master Chief Evans:	Nay
Senior Chief Curylo:	Aye

The motion failed 0-5.

**New Business Discussion**

**A. Update 2011 E-Rate Funding**

It was reported that a \$ 300,000 plus wiring project that was believed could be funded using E-Rate funding was completed. However it was recently determined that the criteria for E-rate funding has changed. Consequently, the costs of the project will need to be funded using local funds. It was noted that the work had to be done regardless of funding source but by not receiving the E-rate funding it will constrict the funding available for future projects.

## **B. Future Agenda Format**

Modifying the format of the agenda was discussed. Going forward new business items will be primarily discussion items. Items needing action will primarily be old business items. The process for asking questions of administrative staff was reviewed.

## **C. Future Meeting Dates**

It was indicated that the IA is looking to schedule future meetings on the third Monday of the month at 6:30 p.m. Scheduling regular FOP meetings was discussed. A tentative Regular Meeting schedule using the fourth Thursday of the month at 6:30 p.m. will be developed.

## **D. PMA**

It was shared that the administration had its first meeting with PMA representatives. The severity of the structural imbalance of the district was discussed with PMA. A proposal from PMA to provide services will be received. PMA will come and present the finances of the district to the FOP and assist in developing long range projections.

Before adjourning the Chair asked the administration to update the FOP on the upcoming opening of the school year and the communication that was authorized to go out to the parents. It was noted that the registration process was well received but the authorized communication did not get out to the parents as quickly as the administration would have liked.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Kneeland moved to adjourn and Ms. Crates seconded at 4:09 p.m. The motion carried.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Mark Anderson