**Minutes**

**RSU 13 Finance & Facilities Committee Meeting
Thursday – March 17th 2016**

**Central Office – Conference Room**

**5:00pm**

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| **Committee** | **Committee & Admin. Liaison**  | **Committee or Visitors** |
| [x]  Nancy Jeffers, Chair | [x]  Steve Roberts (arrived 5:30) | [x]  Carol Bachofner |
| [x]  Christine Curtis | [x]  Pete Orne, Admin Liaison | [x]  Jesse Butler |
| [x]  Ron Gamage | [x]  John McDonald | [ ]   |
| [x]  Noreen Mullaney | [ ]   | [ ]   |
| **Time IN: 5:00 PM** | **Time OUT: 5:50 PM** |  |
| **Discussion** | **Results / Follow Up** |
| 1. Sign Warrants
 | **Warrants were reviewed and signed.** |
| 1. Review Financials – General Fund
 | **At the end of February, with 9 pay periods and 4 months left in the fiscal year, there should be between 33 and 35% remaining. There is currently 34.5% remaining. Revenue is on track as well. Ron Gamage asked for update on heating savings, whether any have been realized or not due to the mild winter. Peter Orne said he would check. Snow removal contract was approximately. $20,000 less than last year.** **Food service after 6 months has 40% remaining in expense budget and 40% remaining in revenue. At this point in the year, it looks like the proper amount was budgeted to cover the shortfall.** **More detailed financial statements are available online.**  |
| 1. Local Entitlement Fiscal Compliance Audit
 | **On March 31st, there will be an audit of Local Entitlement funds. These are federal funds received by RSU 13 for Special Education students.**  |
| 1. Update on ‘Futures’
 | **The district is applying for a QZAB bond that could be up to 2.8 million dollars. This could allow for a 0% (or very low) interest rate, and a portion of the money could be forgiven, depending on Free/Reduced lunch participation. QZAB stands for Qualified Zone Academy Bond, and the money is to be used for school improvements. The application due 5/26/16.** **Our Schools of the Future Project is a good candidate for not only a 17 year but maybe 20 year financing at 3% interest. Financing plan will be brought to full board by the May business meeting.**  |
| 1. Possible Budget Items
 | **Addressing the most cost effective way of providing technology to Kindergarten through 4th grade due to current equipment failing. A recommendation from the Curriculum and Technology Committee is forthcoming.**  |
| 1. Building & Ground Reconfiguration
 | **Reconfiguring the custodial and maintenance department. There is a need to hire more workers that have skill sets that can help to avoid outside costs. The pay scale is being redesigned, and there is a possibility of uniforms for this department.**  |
| 1. Gilford Butler
 | **Lead was found in the water at Gilford Butler again. The district was just notified, and the situation is being addressed appropriately.**  |
| 1. Owls Head – So. Thomaston Capital Campaign
 | **Addressing a capital campaign for the Owls Head/So. Thomaston project. This would allow for private donors to contribute.**  |
| 1. Discuss FY17 Additional Budget Articles
 | **This year, the district can go to the public and ask if they want to continue budget validation process. Currently it’s a two-step system: a budget meeting in May and then a referendum in June to validate. If voters agreed, the budget could be adopted at the May meeting, without the June vote.**  |
| 1. Review Any Possible Board Recommendations
 | **None** |
| 1. Other
 | **Regarding technology:****There were questions regarding the money for technology updates. Superintendent McDonald stated that everything was being done already to make do with what there is this year.** **Nancy Jeffers read the Mission Statement by the Educational Committee’s Chair, Will Clayton:****To find the most responsible model that serves the educational needs of our children and community while adhering to financial responsibility.** **We will collectively advocate engagement to review a full range of models and make a recommendation(s).**  |
| 1. Adjourn
 | **5:50PM** |