

# **BIG SPRING SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**Newville, Pennsylvania**

## **BUILDINGS AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

**MONDAY, JUNE 7, 2010**

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### **I. CALL TO ORDER**

The Buildings and Property Committee of the Board of School Directors for the Big Spring School District met in the Large Group Room, Room 140, of the Big Spring High School at 6:32 P.M. with Robert Barrick, Chairperson, presiding. Seven (7) directors present: Robert Lee Barrick, Committee Chairperson; William Piper, Committee Member; William Swanson, Committee Member; Richard Roush, Committee Member; Wilbur Wolf, Jr., ex-officio Committee Member; Terry Lopp, Board Member; Richard Norris, Board Member.

Others in attendance: Richard Fry, Superintendent; Jeanne Temple, Assistant Superintendent; Kevin Roberts, Director of Curriculum/Instruction and Educational Technology; Richard E. Kerr, Jr., Business Manager; Rick Sample, Director of Buildings and Grounds; Rob Sellers, McKissick Associates; and Brenda Line, Board Minutes.

### **II. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

Mr. Sample provided the members of the Board of School Directors with copies of a memorandum to Mr. Barrick, Buildings and Property Committee Chairman, from Richard Sample, Director of Buildings and Grounds, regarding District Update on Questions dated June 7, 2010. Please refer to the attached document for the discussion Items A through J.

#### **A. Newville Asbestos Abatement and Project Update**

Refer to Page 1, Item 1, on the attachment.

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### **II. DISCUSSION ITEMS (Continued)**

#### **A. Newville Asbestos Abatement and Project Update (Continued)**

Mr. Sample offered a PowerPoint presentation and outlined the work to date on the Newville project, including photographs. The following items were reviewed:

1. Two townships and River Rock expressed an interest in the old playground equipment bases.
2. Mr. Sample described how smoothly the asbestos abatement project is going.
3. Five geothermal wells have been completed. The vault arrived May 26, 2010. Work continues in the process of tying the wells into the vault.
4. Summer crews provided demolition work for the speech and health room divider on June 3, 2010.
5. Construction crews are awaiting the delivery of steel.
6. The brick work has been completed.

Mr. Rob Sellers, McKissick Associates, provided the members of the Board of School Directors with copies of a three-page document entitled "Project Status Report to the Big Spring School District: Newville Elementary School Addition & Renovations." Please refer to the attached document, including a project overview, other project milestones, project schedule, costs to date, change orders, requests for information, and a project summary.

Mr. Sellers reviewed the document and answered questions. Please refer to the attached document.

Mr. Sellers indicated that the construction contract would be amended to reflect the construction change directive for the two additional classrooms when the necessary information is clarified.

The original project is on schedule for completion by August 15, 2010, with the construction change directive on track for completion by November 1, 2010, with a hope that this date could be pared by two weeks, possibly more.

In response to a question from Director Piper, Mr. Sample indicated that the asbestos abatement includes the removal of 3,000 square feet of floor tile in the entire office area, one classroom, areas around the downstairs bathroom, two rooms in the area where the copier was located, the special education area, and a custodial closet.

In response to a question from Director Piper, Mr. Sellers indicated that the geothermal vault system required no change with the addition of the two rooms because it was sized for eight classrooms, not six.

In response to a question from Chairperson Barrick, Mr. Sellers indicated that the parking area is not ready for paving just yet; however, it should be prepared within the next two weeks.

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**II. DISCUSSION ITEMS (Continued)**

**A. Newville Asbestos Abatement and Project Update (Continued)**

On an educational note, Mr. Fry indicated that the Newville Elementary School would open for the 2010-2011 school year with the same programs that were in place this year (one kindergarten class of Newville Elementary School students transported to Mount Rock Elementary School). The administration will make a decision midyear whether to transfer those students back to Newville Elementary School or continue their classes at Mount Rock Elementary School.

President Wolf thanked Mr. Sellers for his report.

**B. Energy Update**

Please refer to Page 1, Item 2, on the attached document.

Mr. Sample indicated that the calculations on the attached document do not include energy usage for the high school for May 2010.

**C. PP&L Demand Response Test**

Please refer to Page 1, Item 3, on the attached document.

Mr. Sample indicated that all staff and individuals involved in any school-related projects would be notified of the demand response test.

**D. Summer Hire**

Please refer to Page 1, Item 4, on the attached document.

Mr. Sample indicated that the reason for the additional summer hire recommendation is because one HVAC school employee would be out for surgery for six weeks during the summer. A vo-tech HVAC student is being recommended to assist in that employee's absence.

**E. PEMA Snow Recovery**

Please refer to Page 1, Item 5, on the attached document.

Mr. Swanson encouraged Mr. Sample to investigate Pittsburgh Paints primer for the District's sealing needs. Mr. Swanson indicated that this product performs very well.

**F. Mount Rock Elementary School Restroom Renovations**

Please refer to Page 1, Item 5, on the attached document.

Mr. Sample indicated that the goal is to have the Mount Rock Elementary School public bathroom completed by September 2010.

Please refer to this evening's regular Board minutes, Item XIII., P., for information regarding the mandate waiver application related to this work.

**G. Board Approval to Dispose of Vehicles Via Sealed Bid**

Please refer to Page 2, Item 7, on the attached document.

Mr. Sample indicated that Chief Finkey has been in several times to get equipment off the vehicles for use on the police department vehicles.

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**II. DISCUSSION ITEMS (Continued)**

**H. Department Spending Reductions**

Please refer to Page 2, Item 8, on the attached document.

Mr. Fry indicated that all three items outlined in Item 8a of the attachment are action items on this evening's regular Board meeting agenda.

Mr. Sample indicated that the recommended staff cuts are an attempt to reduce expenditures.

In response to a question from President Wolf, Mr. Sample indicated that the District does not own a bush hog; an individual is hired to perform work requiring a bush hog.

In response to a question from Chairperson Barrick, Mr. Sample indicated that air quality would not be affected with the new plan for replacing HVAC filters. Mr. Sample indicated that the filters would be inspected three to five times a year and replaced only when necessary. Mr. Sample indicated that when Analytical Labs tested the indoor air quality at Big Spring, the quality was far superior to the outside air.

HVAC belt replacement will be on a different schedule from the air filters; however, when the belts are checked, the air filters would be checked as well.

Mr. Sample indicated that he recently found a lower bulk-purchase cost from a belt and filter supplier, resulting in a decrease in the filter costs by \$4,000.00 and a decrease in the belt costs of \$2,000.00.

Mr. Sample indicated that he is attempting to cut costs in every area of his budget.

Mr. Fry added that in order to attach a true cost to programs, the administration must know all the costs associated with those programs. If maintenance is a part of that program, then detailed maintenance costs must be determined. Mr. Fry indicated that software is available to calculate the costs; however, the administration has not yet calculated to that level of specificity.

**I. DAO Boiler Project Change Order (Impeller)**

Please refer to Page 2, Item 9, on the attached document.

**J. Bush Hog Needs**

In response to a question from President Wolf, Mr. Sample indicated that a bush hog is necessary for mowing the area of the cross country course, a thistle-filled non-District field adjacent to school property, an area off the road past Soccer Field #1, and the retention pond area. The District's mowing equipment is not sufficient to mow these areas adequately.

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**II. DISCUSSION ITEMS (Continued)**

**J. Bush Hog Needs (Continued)**

In response to a question from President Wolf, Mr. Sample indicated that, although he does use chemical weed control, he tries to use as little chemicals as possible on District property.

Mr. Wolf indicated that there are contractors in the agriculture community who have effective chemicals to eliminate Canada thistle and other invasive weeds.

Mr. Fry indicated that, although the District cannot maintain the grounds as well as a golf course, the grounds are "phenomenal" compared to their condition just three years ago.

**III. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:04 P.M.



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Robert Lee Barrick, Chairperson