

# **BIG SPRING SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**Newville, Pennsylvania**

## **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OF THE BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2018**

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

The Committee of the Whole of the Board of School Directors for the Big Spring School District met in the Big Spring High School Large Group Room, Room 140, at 7:00 P.M. with President Wilbur Wolf, Jr. presiding. Nine (9) directors present: Wilbur Wolf, Jr, President; William Swanson, Vice-President; William Piper, Secretary; David Gutshall, Treasurer; Kingsley Blasco; Richard Roush; Bob Kanc, Robert Over and Todd Deihl.,

Others in attendance: Richard W. Fry, Superintendent; Kevin Roberts Jr, Assistant Superintendent; Richard Kerr, Business Manager; Rob Krepps Questeq Director of Technology; Robyn Euker, Director of Curriculum & Instruction: and Carol Frace, Board Minutes.

### **II. PRESENTATION**

**A. Construction Bid Updates** – Mr. Richard Kerr Jr., Business Manager provided information to the Board of School Directors on construction bids.

- Update on Middle School and Mt. Rock Asbestos Abatement Subject to review by the School Solicitor and information to be provided to the Board of School Directors before bids can be awarded.
- Mt. Rock Elementary Partial Roof Replacement Project Bids  
Tecta America - \$1,155,000 Awarded the Bid

### Construction Bid Updates - continued

- High School Roof Repair & Restoration  
Detwiler Roofing - \$392,000 Awarded the Bid
- Rebid of Pedestrian Safety Improvement Project (PennDOT Grant)  
Advertise - February 28<sup>th</sup>, March 7<sup>th</sup>, March 14<sup>th</sup>  
Pre-bid meeting – March 21  
Bid Opening – April 5  
District paid to date - \$195,260 from capital projects
- Review of inspection/IAQ service  
Air Quality Testing is already being completely at no cost to the District.
- Bond Rating

MR Roof Replacement  
15 Feb 2018

	Base Bid	Coat Existing Ductwork roof 2&4	Sq/Ft Metal Deck Repair	Sq/Ft Metal Deck Replacement	Additional Drain 3"	Additional Drain 4"	Base + Coat Existing + Addl 4" drain
Houck Services	\$1,128,600.00	\$28,900.00	\$2.90	\$8.60	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$1,159,500.00
Tecta America	\$1,145,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$3.00	\$5.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,156,500.00
D.A. Noh Inc	\$1,198,649.00	\$12,500.00	\$12.00	\$10.00	\$2,350.00	\$2,400.00	\$1,213,549.00
Raintree Serv Inc.	\$1,235,340.00	\$17,500.00	\$3.25	\$4.50	\$1,200.00	\$1,350.00	\$1,254,190.00
Heidler Roofing	\$1,313,600.00	\$22,770.00	\$5.00	\$10.00	\$750.00	\$800.00	\$1,337,170.00
David Maines Roofing	\$1,338,000.00	\$1,900.00	\$5.00	\$4.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,341,400.00
Ream Roofing	\$1,444,800.00	\$22,725.00	\$3.50	\$7.50	\$3,000.00	\$3,300.00	\$1,470,825.00

Specific questions regarding tonight's presentation:

1. Mr. Over inquired about the MS auditorium and the removal of the seating. He questioned the capacity going from 800 to 400 and the options.

Specific questions regarding tonight's presentation: (continued)

2. Dr. Fry informed the Board of School Directors that research was done by the District on what is best for the Middle School auditorium. We talked with the music department and our staff to discuss future usage for that area. The determination was made that we do not need and cannot afford two fully optional auditoriums that are 500 yards apart.
3. Dr. Fry advised the Board of School Directors that if we receive no bids for the abatement project then we can find contractors on our own do complete the scope of work. This would also open us up to the Penn Dot process. This is a Penn Dot process with a school driven bid process.
4. Mr. Wolf inquired if we don't get any bids and have to go out on our own to find contractors is the Penn Dot grant still pliable.
5. Mr. Piper questioned all the alternative items. Can there be multiple contractors to complete the scope of work items for the Penn Dot grant?
6. Dr. Fry reminded the Board that we need a general contractor. After we have a general contractor, we can find individuals who may only want to bid the sidewalks for example.
7. Mr. Wolf asked if we need to get involved with the Indoor Air Quality Company.
8. Mr. Roush advised the Board of School Directors that he will be providing air quality testing throughout the project at no cost to the District.
9. In regard to our bond rating, Dr. Fry informed the Board of School Directors that we have to give rationale for the declining enrollment and also provide projections. Reasons for our declining enrollment are what has happened to dairy farming, the sale of farms, movement of farms, farming families have declined or decreased. The second issue is the complete lack of public sewage and water in most of our townships. This coupled with Ag preservation limits residential development opportunities.
10. Mr. Piper reminded the Board of School Directors that we have more land in the Commonwealth land Preservation than any other school district in Cumberland County.
11. Dr. Fry stated that we have 80 percent of the land in Clean and Green in Cumberland County.

Specific questions regarding tonight's presentation: (continued)

12. Mr. Piper inquired what our bond rating is now.

13. Mr. Kerr advised the Board that our rating is double A plus.

- B. Thoughtexchange Update** – Dr. Kevin Roberts, Assistant Superintendent presented to the Board of School Directors information on Thought Exchange and the profile of a graduate.

Dr. Fry informed the Board of School Directors that we are building a profile of a graduate. Many progressive districts throughout the country have profiles of graduates. A state standardized test is not the way to assess our students in a broad fashion. We want to go beyond the state standardized test. Students will have defined attributes to make them ready for their future. This might be a very unique picture for what they achieve on a keystone test. The days of letting a standardize test define us should be in the past.

[Presentation attached.](#)

Specific questions regarding tonight's presentation:

1. Mr. Wolf asked if any threatening comments were made through this survey.
2. Dr. Roberts advised the Board that comments that would not directly identify a person or were not threatening in any way they remain part of the survey. Part of the transparency process is for all comments to be discussed.

### **III. PREVIEW OF THE AGENDA**

President Wolf requested that the Board address XIII. NEW BUSINESS, PERSONNEL CONCERNS, Items A-1 through A-4 as a single action item.

President Wolf requested that the Board remove XIII. NEW BUSINESS, Item I from the agenda.

Mr. Over inquired about things happening in the world with students and the potential walkouts.

### **III. PREVIEW OF THE AGENDA** (continued)

Dr. Fry advised the Board of School Directors that he is aware of students talking about walk outs. We are starting to talk administratively about these issues. We are looking at a variety of things to assist our students with these issues. Our number one concern is safety for our students and staff.

Mr. Piper inquired about the work in the high school auditorium.

Mr. Krepps advised the Board that we are taking down the old speakers and replacing them with new speakers. When the other work was done in the auditorium, they discovered the speakers had cracks in them. We didn't have budget funds or approval at that time to replace them. It was tabled and at the last board meeting I presented this proposal and that is what is on the agenda tonight to be approved.

### **IV. BUILDING & PROPERTY COMMITTEE**

No discussion.

### **V. FINANCE COMMITTEE**

No discussion.

### **VI. DISTRICT IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE**

No discussion.

### **VII. BOARD POLICY**

No discussion.

## **VIII. ITEMS FROM FLOOR**

Mr. Kanc recommended that an Ad Hoc Committee be created with students, parents, board members, administrators, EMS, Fire and Police to help with these issues in the world and the safety of our staff and students. We need to open the dialogue to address negative behavior.

Dr. Fry led the Board of School Directors in a discussion on worldly issues and the safety of our students. We are having these discussions. We work with MG Tactical to address all possible scenarios. We have action plans in place. To discuss these action plans, we would be defeating the purpose.

## **IX. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Blasco to adjourn, seconded by Kanc to adjourn the meeting.  
Roll call vote: Voting Yes: Wolf, Swanson, Piper, Gutshall, Blasco, Roush, Kanc, Over, and Deihl. Motion carried unanimously 9 – 0.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:07 PM

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William L. Piper, Secretary