

**UP-ISLAND REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE
OF MARTHA'S VINEYARD
5:00PM, Monday, January 27, 2020
Chilmark School**

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Present: Chair – Kate DeVane, Roxanne Ackerman, Robert Lionette*, Skipper Manter, Alex Salop,
Others: Supt's Shared Services Office: Matt D'Andrea, Richie Smith, Amy Tierney, Nancy Dugan,
Principals: Donna Lowell-Bettencourt, Susan Stevens, Mary Boyd,
Staff – Donna Swift,
Chilmark Energy & FinCom – Rob Hanneman,
Press – Lynn Christoffers – MVTV, Aaron Wilson – Vineyard Gazette,
Recorder: Marni Lipke *Late arrivals or early departures of UIRSC members

Call to Order (Agenda item #I)

The Up-Island Regional School Committee (UIRSC) meeting was called to order.

Executive Session (Agenda item #II)

A. To Conduct Strategy Sessions in Preparation for Negotiations with Non-Union Personnel

- Skipper Manter objected to the Session because there were no ongoing negotiations and that he was in favor of all business being conducted in public. Superintendent Matt D'Andrea informed the UIRSC he would report on his negotiating strategies for administrator contracts. Roxanne Ackerman preferred the common practice of Executive Sessions in these cases.
- *ALEX SALOP MOVED TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 5:07PM TO RETURN TO OPEN SESSION, UNDER MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL LAW CHAPTER 30A SECTION 21 (a) (2) – TO CONDUCT STRATEGY SESSIONS IN PREPARATION FOR NEGOTIATIONS WITH NON-UNION PERSONNEL; AND TO INVITE SUPERINTENDENT MATT D'ANDREA, ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT RICHIE SMITH, AND RECORDER MARNI LIPKE TO BE PRESENT THROUGHOUT; ROXANNE ACKERMAN SECONDED; MOTION PASSED: 4 AYES, 1 NAY, 0 ABSTENTIONS; ROBERT LIONETTE–AYE, KATE DEVANE–AYE, SKIPPER MANTER–NAY, ROXANNE ACKERMAN–AYE, ALEX SALOP–AYE.*
- *SKIPPER MANTER MOVED TO RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION AT 5:33PM; ROBERT LIONETTE SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 5 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS; ROBERT LIONETTE–AYE, ALEX SALOP–AYE, ROXANNE ACKERMAN–AYE, SKIPPER MANTER–AYE, KATE DEVANE–AYE.*

Topics Not Reasonably Anticipated by the Chair (Agenda Item #IX)

(See documents on file.)

The Chilmark School heating/ventilation/air conditioning (HVAC) engineering design Request for Proposal (RFP) garnered three respondents: two large Boston firms and a smaller Westwood firm (see documents on file). In consideration of its qualifications, and other work on the Island, the Working Group chose the smaller firm, TE2 Engineering, despite its high bid (\$11,000).

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Chilmark expected green community status within the month making it eligible for grants that could be spent on the project. The UIRSC noted its own failed attempts and that quality engineering would show returns on the entire project. TE2 would be approached re: negotiating pricing. The UIRSC thanked the Working Group for all their time and work.

• *KATE DEVANE MOVED TO ACCEPT THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE CHILMARK SCHOOL HVAC WORKING GROUP TO HIRE TE2 ENGINEERING, LLC; ROXANNE ACKERMAN AND ROBERT LIONETTE SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 5 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.*

Approval of Minutes (Agenda item #III)

A. 12/5/19, 12/16/19, 1/6/20

There was a discussion on requested amendments.

• *ROXANNE ACKERMAN MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF:*

- *DECEMBER 5, 2019 AS WRITTEN,*

- *DECEMBER 16, 2019 BUDGET AND REGULAR SESSION AS WRITTEN, AND*

- *JANUARY 6, 2020 AS AMENDED;*

KATE DEVANE SECONDED; MOTION PASSED: 4 AYES, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSTENTION—ROBERT LIONETTE as absent from the December meetings.

Principals' Report (Agenda Item #VI)

A. Donna Lowell-Bettencourt – West Tisbury School (WTS) (See documents on file.)

• Congratulations went to the Boys and Girls basketball teams for making the championships and winning first and second place. The UIRSC and Administrators highly praised the inclusive and inspiring coaching.

• The new music teacher's first concert, including seventh grade drummers, was successful.

• A revitalized Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) worked with Off-Shore Alehouse on a Dine-to-Donate fundraiser.

• A Middle School field trip to the Film Center for "Screenagers, The Next Chapter" was followed up with small discussion groups and a parent screening. Thanks went to the MV Film Society and the West Tisbury Library.

• WTS was recently plagued with substantial absenteeism for a variety of reasons but had now turned the corner with growing attendance.

B. Susan Stevens – Chilmark School (See documents on file.)

• Members were again invited to the annual fundraiser at the Chilmark Community Center on February 1st. The Winter Concert would be February 12th.

• Dream Catcher and Martin Luther King activities promoted student thought about what they would do to make dreams come true and what they would stand up for.

• The School had been ice-skating every Thursday in January—with thanks to the Ice Rink and YMCA. The fifth grade ski trip was next week.

• Chilmark Music/Theatre/Arts Teacher Donna Swift gave an enthusiastic demonstration of Arts Integration approach to instruction/learning which was also part of the Science/Technology/Art /

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Math (STEAM) curriculum. Moving through the steps for collaborative lesson planning, co-teaching and co-assessing, to demonstrate and list various examples of learning (mini-musicals on fractions, dance grids, commercials for the Colonies, shadow theme puppets, etc.). Assistant Superintendent Richie Smith praised Ms. Swift for her excellent Professional Development (PD) workshop at the Martha's Vineyard Public Schools (MVPS) PD days.

- Chair Kate DeVane announced the Cape Cod Collaborative Annual Legislative Breakfast this Friday and there was a brief conversation on MVPS representation.

Finance (Agenda item #III)

B. Expenditure and Revenue Reports

The UIRSD was in good shape. MVPS Business Administrator Amy Tierney drafted mid-year budget transfers to clean up some deficits.

C. Fiscal Year 2020 (FY20) Budget Transfers (See documents on file.)

The transfers were reviewed and discussed. These transfers would be funded from the Teachers Increment Line residual. This Line represented unpredictable hiring or vacancy savings, negotiation increase pools, etc. as well as unexpected staffing expenses, (for example Edgartown School had to fund eight maternity leaves). (This year negotiated increases were already distributed to the appropriate salary lines.) Salary-to-salary or intradepartmental transfers were accounting matters, while other transfers required UIRSC approval.

- The FY20 technology increase was spent on entirely on computers instead of reserving a portion for Student Data Management software (see 11/15/18 Minutes p.1 #IV).

- Student Insurance increased as did Building Insurance (\$17,705) —billed by the Town. The UIRSC asked WTS Principal Donna Lowell Bettencourt to request an explanation.

- There was a brief explanation of short and long term bonding.

- *KATE DEVANE MOVED TO APPROVE THE FISCAL YEAR 2020 TRANSFERS AS PROPOSED; ALEX SALOP SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 5 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.*

D. Bill from Prior Fiscal Year

- *SKIPPER MANTER MOVED TO APPROVE A \$47.00 TRANSFER FROM THE CHILMARK TEACHERS INCREMENT LINE TO THE CHILMARK TEXTBOOKS LINE TO PAY A PRIOR YEAR BILL; ROBERT LIONETTE SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 5 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.*

- *KATE DEVANE MOVED TO APPROVE A \$4,866.93 TRANSFER FROM THE WEST TISBURY SCHOOL TEACHERS INCREMENT LINE TO PAY A PRIOR YEAR SALARY SETTLEMENT; ALEX SALOP SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 5 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.*

A. Fiscal Year 2021 (FY21) Budget Certification (See documents on file.)

Draft #5 reflected ~ 2.2% operating increase:

- removal of the Reserve Line and Excess & Deficiency (E & D) offset;
- retiree insurance changes (including savings from three retiree shifts to Medex insurance);
- small Dukes County Retirement System assessment increase.

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- Cape Cod Municipal Health Group (CCMHG) was expected to vote level health insurance rates instead of the 5% projection—although Amy Tierney expressed concern over the action.
- Circuit Breaker funds would cover WTS Special Education supplies reducing the line from \$12,000 to \$0. Spending on such supplies was hard to predict and the UIRSC objected to the changed noting the Line had been overspent for the last two years.
 - Circuit Breaker issues were revisited (see Minutes: 11/18/19 p.3 #IV A & 12/16/19 p.2 #V F):
 - spending parameters and timing;
 - funding the Special Education Stabilization Fund,
 - returning to the Towns to compensate for an initial year of unreimbursed residential tuition;
 - current low E & D balance that would not support an unexpected residential placement;
 - one time large revenue use skewing budget increases.
- *SKIPPER MANTER MOVED TO TAKE CIRCUIT BREAKER MONEY REIMBURSEMENT AND USE IT REDUCE THE UP ISLAND REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT ASSESSMENT IN PART B; ROBERT LIONETTE SECONDED; MOTION FAILED: 1 AYE—SKIPPER MANTER, 4 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.*
- Amy Tierney reviewed revenue concerns (see 10/21/19 Minutes p.4 #V B), mostly regarding negative Charter School and Medicaid revenues, which canceled small increases in interest and State Chapters 70 and 71 reimbursements, resulting in a \$175,000 decrease. It was important to emphasize to Town Leaders and the public that the assessment increase was due to the drop in revenues rather than increased spending.
- IT WAS THE CONSENSUS OF THE UIRSC TO:
 - RESTORE THE \$12,000 TO LINE #315 WTS 766 EXPENSES;
 - INCREASE WTS BUILDING INSURANCE \$18,000
 - UTILIZE ALL HEALTH INSURANCE SAVINGS;
 - RESTORE A 0.20 FULL TIME EQUIVALENT (ONE-DAY/WEEK) CHILMARK SCHOOL CUSTODIAN AND ADJUST THE LINES ACCORDINGLY.
- The UIRSC requested the budge-to-actuals for salaries. Superintendent Shared Services salary actuals were more complex due to the assessment distribution—residuals resulted in reduced town assessments.
- The UIRSC also revisited E & D issues (see Minutes: 1/18/19 p.2 #IV A & 4/8/19 p.2 #V B & 6/24/19 p.3 #D, & 12/5/19 p.1-2 #III & 12/16/19 Budget p.1 #II):
 - implications of the new cumbersome E & D process;
 - returning all E & D to the Towns, and whether that would actually benefit taxpayers;
 - responsible UIRSC use of E & D;
 - E & D function as cash flow balance;
 - importance of gestures and the return of capital spending residuals (see 11/7/19 Minutes p.4);
 - Other Post Employment Benefits (OPEB) commitment complications.
- *SKIPPER MANTER MOVED THAT ONCE CERTIFIED THE UP ISLAND REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE RETURN THE ENTIRE AMOUNT OF EXCESS AND DEFICIENCY DIRECTLY TO THE TOWNS*

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- ROBERT LIONETTE MOVED TO AMEND THE MOTION TO NOTIFY THE TOWNS 45 DAYS BEFORE AND DEDICATE HALF THE CERTIFIED AMOUNT OF EXCESS AND DEFICIENCY TO THE OTHER POST EMPLOYEE BENEFITS TRUST; AMENDMENT WITHDRAWN;

ROBERT LIONETTE SECONDED; MOTION FAILED: 2 AYES—ROBERT LIONETTE, SKIPPER MANTER, 3 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.

• *KATE DEVANE MOVED TO CERTIFY THE UP ISLAND REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT FISCAL YEAR 2021 BUDGET DRAFT #5 FOR AN OPERATING BUDGET AT \$12,592,283.70, ASSESSED AT \$12,644,641,70 WITH THE FOLLOWING CHANGES;*

- *\$12,000 INCREASE TO WEST TISBURY SCHOOL SITE LINE #315,*

- *\$7,000 INCREASE TO CHILMARK CUSTODIAN SALARY LINE #533*

- *\$18,000 INCREASE TO WEST TISBURY SCHOOL BUILDING INSURANCE LINE #391,*

- *REDUCTION OF HEALTH INSURANCE INCREASES TO \$0;*

ALEX SALOP SECONDED; MOTION PASSED: 4 AYES, 1 NAY—SKIPPER MANTER, 0 ABSTENTIONS.

• The UIRSC agreed to a special meeting on Friday, January 31, 2020 in case the CCMHG voted a different health insurance rate.

E. Donations

• *SKIPPER MANTER MOVED TO ACCEPT WITH APPRECIATION AND GRATITUDE:*

- *\$108 FROM MV PLASTIC FREE GROUP, AND*

- *\$920 FROM THE WEST TISBURY POLICE DEPT. TO THE SCHOLARSHIP FUND;*

KATE DEVANE SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 5 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.

• *SKIPPER MANTER MOVED TO ACCEPT WITH APPRECIATION AND GRATITUDE \$3,950 FROM THE SOUND FOUNDATION FOR THE CHILMARK SCHOOL YOGA PROGRAM; ALEX SALOP SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 5 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.*

* Robert Lionette left the meeting at 7:47PM.

F. Chilmark School Windows Warrant Article

(See documents on file & 1/6/20 Minutes p.2.)

G. West Tisbury School Roof Design Warrant Article

(See documents on file & 1/6/20 Minutes p.2.)

H. Stabilization Fund Warrant Article (See documents on file & 1/6/20 Minutes p.2.)

I. West Tisbury School, School Resource Officer (SRO) Warrant Article

(See documents on file & 12/16/19 Budget Minutes p.2.)

The SRO Article required language changes. The issue would generate questions and discussion so it was important to have a clear scope of SRO duties before FinCom/Selectmen meetings and as an information handout at all Annual Town Meetings (ATMs).

- The UIRSC asked Prin. Lowell Bettencourt to: submit a draft SRO Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and a more accurate breakdown of costs.

- UIRSC members were welcome to contact Prin. Lowell Bettencourt with their input.

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Superintendent's Report (Agenda Item #VI)

A. All-Island School Committee (AISC) Meeting (See below: Meetings/Events.)

Personnel (Agenda Item #VII)

B. Leave of Absence

- *SKIPPER MANTER MOVED TO APPROVE LEAVE REQUESTS FOR:*
 - *WEST TISBURY SCHOOL EDUCATION SUPPORT PROFESSIONAL DAN COONEY TO WORK AS A LONG-TERM MIDDLE SCHOOLS SOCIAL STUDIES SUBSTITUTE,*
 - *CHILMARK SCHOOL FOURTH/FIFTH GRADE TEACHER JACKIE GUZALAK FOR MATERNITY LEAVE FROM APRIL 2020 THROUGH THE 2020-21 SCHOOL YEAR;*
 - *WEST TISBURY SCHOOL EDUCATION SUPPORT PROFESSIONAL MILENA LOWE FOR MATERNITY LEAVE FROM AROUND MARCH 24, 2020 THROUGH THE END OF THE 2019-20 SCHOOL YEAR;*
- KATE DEVANE SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 4 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS. (More WTS maternity leaves were projected.)*

A. Resignations

- *SKIPPER MANTER MOVED TO ACKNOWLEDGE WITH THANKS FOR THEIR SERVICE THE RESIGNATIONS OF:*
 - *WEST TISBURY SCHOOL EDUCATION SUPPORT PROFESSIONAL KARL ERICSON. AND*
 - *CHILMARK READING TEACHER ROBIN MORIARTY AS OF JANUARY 9, 2020;*
- ALEX SALOP SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 4 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.*

Up Island Regional School District (UIRSD) (Agenda Item #VIII)

- The UIRSC saluted Amy Tierney at her last UIRSC meeting and congratulated her on her new post—while expressing consternation at the thought of losing her expertise and work.

A. Out-of State Travel

Four to five Plastic Free MV Group students (with chaperones) were invited to Ii, Finland the world's first waste free town. Travel expenses were donated. Students would then do a project on presenting what they learned.

- *SKIPPER MANTER MOVED TO AUTHORIZE OF OUT OF STATE TRAVEL FOR PLASTIC FREE MV GROUP STUDENTS AND CHAPERONES TO II, FINLAND MAY 22 THROUGH JUNE 1, 2020: KATE DEVANE SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 4 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.*

Adjournment

- *SKIPPER MANTER MOVED TO ADJOURN AT 7:56PM; KATE DEVANE SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.*

Meetings/Events

- ~~UIRSC Special Meeting — 5:00PM, Friday, January 31, 2020~~

continued

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Meetings/Events (cont.)

- AISC - 4:00PM, Monday, February 3, 2020 – MVRHS LCR
- MVRHSC - 5:00PM, Monday, February 3, 2020 – MVRHS LCR
- ~~UIRSC Meeting – 5:00PM, Monday, February 10, 2020~~

Documents on File:

- Agenda (Revised) 1/27/20
- Sign In Sheet 1/27/20
- Chilmark School Principal's Report (2 p.) 1/27/20
- Chilmark School Weekly Peak (2 p.) 1/24/20
- West Tisbury School (Principal's report) (2 p.)
- Students from the group, Plastic Free MV...(2 p.)
- TE2 Engineering LLC cover letter & bid re: HVAC Engineering Services for Chilmark School RFP (14 p.) 1/9/20
- SED Associates Corp. cover letter & bid re: HVAC Engineering Services for Chilmark School RFP (10 p.) 12/20/19
- BLW Engineers Fee Proposal Chilmark Elementary School HVAC Engineering Services (52 p.) 1/16/19
- Article – Chilmark School Window Replacement Phase 2
- Article – West Tisbury School OPM/Design for Roofing Project- Article – Establishment of Special Education Stabilization Fund (2 p.)
- UIRSD FY2021 Assessment – Draft #5, January 17, 2020
- Up-Island Regional School District FY21 General Fund Budget–Draft #5, January 27, 2020 (12 p.)
- Section 9 – Member Unit FY2021 Appropriations
- Budget for Retirees Insurance – Draft #5 1/27/2020
- Up-Island Regional School District General Fund Expenditure July 1, 2019 to January 27, 2020
- All Expenditure Report – General Fund Fiscal Year 2019-2020, (11 p.) 1/27/20
- Up Island Regional School District Fund Balances Fiscal Year 2019-2020 (2 p.) 1/27/20
- Revenue Report – General Fund Fiscal Year 2019-2020 1/27/20
- Up-Island Regional School District, District Committee Meeting January 27, 2020, FY19 Budget Transfers to Be Voted
- UIRSD FY2021 Assessment – Certified January 27, 2020
- Up-Island Regional School District FY21 General Fund Budget–Certified, January 27, 2020 (14 p.)
- Article – Chilmark School Window Replacement Phase 2
- Article – West Tisbury School OPM/Design for Roofing Project
- Article – Establishment of Special Education Stabilization Fund (2 p.)
- Article – Establishment of a School Resource Officer at the West Tisbury School

Minutes approved 5/11/20