

**MARTHA’S VINEYARD REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL (MVRHS)/*Special Meeting***  
**School Committee Meeting**  
**Thursday, July 20, 2023 at 7:00 PM**  
**Library or Zoom**

Present: Chair – Kathryn Shertzer, Vice Chair (VC) – Skipper Manter, Roxanne Ackerman, Jennifer Cutrer, Robert Lionette, Kris O’Brien, Louis Paciello, Michael Watts  
Staff: Finance Director – Suzanne Cioffi,  
Administrator for Special Education – Barbara Bianco  
Supt.’s Office: Superintendent – Richard M. Smith, Ed.D.,  
School Business Administrator – Mark Friedman  
Towns/County: West Tisbury – Clark Rattet  
Press: Vineyard Gazette – Louisa Hufstader  
Recorder: Teresa Kruszewski

**Please note: All business will consist of a discussion and possible *vote* to take action.**

**Call to Order**

The meeting of the Martha’s Vineyard Regional High School Committee (MVRHS SC) was called to order at 7:10 PM by Chair Kathryn Shertzer; all votes would be taken by roll call. Public participation was encouraged, and asked to use the Zoom ‘hand raise’ feature to be recognized. The meeting was recorded; video cameras were asked to be turned off except for MVRHS SC members or Administrators or when actively participating; attendees were asked to identify themselves with first and last names. (*Recorder’s Note: Discussions are summarized and grouped for clarity and brevity.*)

**Welcome - Chair**

(Agenda Item #I)

Chair Shertzer expressed her disappointment on how select members of the public behaved at the July 12, 2023 MVRHS SC meeting. (*please see document on file for details: MVRHS SC Minutes July 12, 2023 Special Meeting.pdf*). She read the sections of the Massachusetts Open Meeting Law that pertained to Public Comment and requested this be followed by the Public, going forward.

**Appeal Finance Update**

(Agenda Item #II)

Superintendent Richard M. Smith summarized the letter received from Peter Sumners of Murphy, Lamere & Murphy, P.C. and said that:

*Attorney Sumners’ recommendation was to not use FY23 money for FY24 services.*

Mark Friedman explained the financial circumstances that pertained to contracts and extensions into the next fiscal year of a Regional School Budget.

*SKIPPER MANTER MOVED TO RELEASE THIS LETTER TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC; ROBERT LIONETTE SECONDED. MOTION FAILED: 4 AYES, 4 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS. MS. ACKERMAN—AYE, MR. LIONETTE—AYE, MR. MANTER—AYE, & MR. WATTS—AYE. MS. CUTRER—NAY, MS. O’BRIEN—NAY, MR. PACIELLO—NAY & MS. SHERTZER—NAY.*

*MICHAEL WATTS MOVED TO FINISH OFF ATTORNEY WINNER’S OBLIGATION TO THE COMMITTEE: TO HEAR FROM THE JUDGE AND CONTACT THE COMMITTEE AS TO WHAT INFORMATION WAS PASSED ON FROM THE JUDGE; SKIPPER MANTER SECONDED. MOTION PASSED: 6 AYES, 2 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS. MS. CUTRER—AYE,*

**MARTHA'S VINEYARD REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL/Special Meeting**  
**Thursday, July 20, 2023 at 7:00 PM**

*MR. MANTER—AYE, MS. O'BRIEN—AYE, MR. PACIELLO—AYE, MS. SHERTZER—AYE & MR. WATTS—AYE. MS. ACKERMAN—NAY & MR. LIONETTE—NAY.*

**Additional ESP's Request Possible Vote**

(Agenda Item #III)

Barbara Bianco presented the needs of the Special Education programs with supporting statistics.

*SKIPPER MANTER MOVED TO APPROPRIATE UP TO \$160,000.00 FOR TWO EDUCATION SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS AND TO EARMARK THE MONEY FROM CONTINGENCY; ROXANNE ACKERMAN SECONDED. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 8 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS. MS. ACKERMAN—AYE, MS. CUTRER—AYE, MR. LIONETTE—AYE, MR. MANTER—AYE, MS. O'BRIEN—AYE, MR. PACIELLO—AYE, MS. SHERTZER—AYE & MR. WATTS—AYE.*

**Extension of original MV Commission approval-**

**MVRHS Track & Field project - discussion and vote**

(Agenda Item #IV)

Superintendent Smith read the [7.3] Developments of Regional Impact (DRI) approval that was filed on August 27, 2021 and was valid for two years; he explained the process to apply for a two year extension.

*MICHAEL WATTS MOVED TO INSTRUCT SUPERINTENDENT RICHARD M. SMITH TO REQUEST A TWO YEAR EXTENSION FOR THE DEVELOPMENTS OF REGIONAL IMPACT; SKIPPER MANTER SECONDED. MOTION PASSED: 6 AYES, 2 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS. MS. CUTRER—AYE, MR. MANTER—AYE, MS. O'BRIEN—AYE, MR. PACIELLO—AYE, MS. SHERTZER—AYE & MR. WATTS—AYE. MS. ACKERMAN—NAY & MR. LIONETTE—NAY.*

**FY24 Budget-**

**Rescind June 1st vote that reduced budget in anticipation of 1/12 budget**

(Agenda Item #V)

*KRIS O'BRIEN MOVED TO RESCIND THE JUNE 1, 2023 VOTE THAT REDUCED THE BUDGET IN ANTICIPATION OF 1/12 BUDGET; LOUIS PACIELLO SECONDED. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 8 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS. MS. ACKERMAN—AYE, MS. CUTRER—AYE, MR. LIONETTE—AYE, MR. MANTER—AYE, MS. O'BRIEN—AYE, MR. PACIELLO—AYE, MS. SHERTZER—AYE & MR. WATTS—AYE.*

**Grants and Donations**

(Agenda Item #VI)

Mr. Friedman said the [FY23] outstanding invoice for Mead, Talerman & Costa, LLC/Attorney Brian Winner, was in the amount of \$1962.50.

*KRIS O'BRIEN MOVED TO ACCEPT THE ANONYMOUS DONATION OF \$2000.00 AND THE DONATION OF \$3000.00 FROM REGIS NEPOMUCENU (\$5000.00 IN TOTAL), FOR USE SPECIFIC TO THE LEGAL FEES OF THE ATHLETIC PROJECT; LOUIS PACIELLO SECONDED. MOTION PASSED: 6 AYES, 1 NAYS, 1 ABSTENTIONS. MS. CUTRER—AYE, MR. MANTER—AYE, MS. O'BRIEN—AYE, MR. PACIELLO—AYE, MS. SHERTZER—AYE & MR. WATTS—AYE. MR. LIONETTE—NAY. MS. ACKERMAN—ABSTAINED.*

*SKIPPER MANTER MOVED TO ACCEPT THE TWO GRANTS [\$647,250.00 IN TOTAL];*

**MARTHA'S VINEYARD REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL/Special Meeting**  
**Thursday, July 20, 2023 at 7:00 PM**

*KRIS O'BRIEN SECONDED. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 8 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS. MS. ACKERMAN—AYE, MS. CUTRER—AYE, MR. LIONETTE—AYE, MR. MANTER—AYE, MS. O'BRIEN—AYE, MR. PACIELLO—AYE, MS. SHERTZER—AYE & MR. WATTS—AYE.*

**Approved regional agreement**

(Agenda Item #VII)

Superintendent Smith said the agreement received final approval from Jeffrey C. Riley, Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education in late June.

Superintendent Smith thanked and commended the Committee (both current and former members) as well as members of staff, for the [positive] hard work and collaboration [among Members] to complete this; he said it was a celebratory note.

**Appointment of secretary and treasurer**

(Agenda Item #VIII)

*SKIPPER MANTER MOVED TO APPOINT MARYLEE SCHROEDER AS MVRSD TREASURER AND TERESA KRUSZEWSKI AS SECRETARY PER THE REGIONAL AGREEMENT; ROBERT LIONETTE SECONDED. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 8 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS. MS. ACKERMAN—AYE, MS. CUTRER—AYE, MR. LIONETTE—AYE, MR. MANTER—AYE, MS. O'BRIEN—AYE, MR. PACIELLO—AYE, MS. SHERTZER—AYE & MR. WATTS—AYE.*

**SubCommittee Updates**

(Agenda Item #IX)

**A. Facilities:**

Michael Watts, chair of the Facilities Sub-Committee, recapped the progress on projects throughout the building.

**B. Transportation - EPA electric bus grant discussion and vote:**

*SKIPPER MANTER MOVED TO AUTHORIZE THE ADMINISTRATION TO APPLY FOR THE SECOND ROUND OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY CLEAN SCHOOL BUS GRANT PROGRAM IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ANDERSON MOTORS; ROBERT LIONETTE SECONDED. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 8 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS. MS. ACKERMAN—AYE, MS. CUTRER—AYE, MR. LIONETTE—AYE, MR. MANTER—AYE, MS. O'BRIEN—AYE, MR. PACIELLO—AYE, MS. SHERTZER—AYE & MR. WATTS—AYE.*

**Public Comment**

(Agenda Item #X)

- Superintendent Smith reminded the Committee that the need was greater than ever for a track and field project. He asked Members to trust each other and to work together and to keep in mind the necessity of moving this project forward was for our children; it was the core reason why this work was being done.

- Sheila ? asked for clarification of the legal donations [which totaled \$5000.00]; she mentioned that three towns had voted not to accept anonymous donations over \$3000.00.

- Brian Patrick Hall thanked the Committee for the [legal] steps taken for the project.

- Kimberly Kirk commended Chair Shertzer on how she conducted this meeting; she said her professionalism was outstanding.

MARTHA'S VINEYARD REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL/*Special Meeting*  
Thursday, July 20, 2023 at 7:00 PM

**Adjournment**

(Agenda Item #XI)

*MICHAEL WATTS MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MVRHS SC MEETING AT 8:47 PM;  
JENNIFER CUTRER SECONDED. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 8 AYES, 0 NAYS,  
0 ABSTENTIONS. MS. ACKERMAN—AYE, MS. CUTRER—AYE, MR. LIONETTE—AYE,  
MR. MANTER—AYE, MS. O'BRIEN—AYE, MR. PACIELLO—AYE, MS. SHERTZER—AYE &  
MR. WATTS—AYE.*

**Appendix A - Meetings/Events**

—TBD

**Appendix B - Documents on File:**

- MVRHS Agenda 07.20-Revised.pdf
- MVRHS amended agreement DESE approved.pdf
- Secretary Job Description MVRHS School Committee.pdf
- Treasurer Job Description MVRHS School Committee.pdf
- DRI Procedures v18 FINAL.pdf

**Respectfully submitted,**



\_\_\_\_\_  
**Teresa Kruszewski – Recorder**

November 6, 2023

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Kathryn Shertzer – MVRHS SC Chair**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Richard M. Smith, Ed.D. – MVRHSD Superintendent**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

*APPROVED NOVEMBER 6, 2023*