

**UP-ISLAND REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE
OF MARTHA'S VINEYARD
6:30PM, Wednesday, August 22, 2023
By Zoom Cloud Conference**

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Present: Chair – Jim Newman, Roxanne Ackerman, Robert Lionette,
Skipper Manter, Alex Salop,
Others: CHA/Daedalus – Michael Owen, Recorder – Marni Lipke
Supt.'s Shared Services Office: Richard Smith, John Stevens,
Mark Friedman,
Principals: Donna Lowell-Bettencourt, Mary Boyd, Susan Stevens,
Towns: WT FinCom – Greg Orcutt,
Chilmark Energy Com. – Rob Hannemann
Press – Louisa Hufstader – Vineyard Gazette, MVTV,
*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.

Topics Not Reasonably Anticipated by the Chair

Chilmark Energy Committee Chair Rob Hannemann reported that new Eversource rules required all Electric Vehicle (EV) charger installations to be for additional parking spaces. Consequently the Chilmark Select Board (CSB) shifted the Town EV charger from the School lot to the new Emergency Building lot. The Town would collect revenue from the service. Mr. Hannemann thanked the UIRSC for their support (see Minutes: 3/2/21 p.2 #B, 9/19/22 p.3-4 #VI A) and for hearing his report on short notice.

Chilmark School Projects – Updates (Agenda II)

- CHA/Daedalus Owners Project Manager (OPM) Mike Owen reported on the two UIRSD summer projects.
- The Chilmark Heating/Ventilation/Air Conditioning (HVAC) (see 6/20/23 Minutes p.3 # B1) was installing the new ductwork and making good progress in other areas. The nationwide electrical switch gear/breaker system shortage would delay full system operation until February 2024, but current work would be completed in time for teachers to start the school year on time.
- There was a small leak in the 2nd/3rd grade classroom.
- After some challenges, phase III of the window replacement was complete (see 12/19/22 Minutes p.4 #IV B & below p.2 #IV). Door procurement was also completed and work was about to start on the entrance doors.

West Tisbury School (WTS) Projects – Updates

(See Minutes: 6/21/22 p. 1 #III A, & 5/15/23 p.3 #V B, & 6/20/23 p.1 #III A1)

- WTS Head Custodian Jamie Labbe was again cited for his excellent work, this time overcoming challenges for the kitchen renovation. The new cafeteria/kitchen would open in time for the first school day breakfast and lunch.

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- The renovation was partially funded by a \$300,000 competitive State grant for new equipment. Gov. Healey and Legislators extended the free lunch/breakfast funding—a great help to families.

On Call Owners Project Manager (OPM) Bid – Award Contract (Agenda Item #III)

Last spring's Request for Qualification (RFQ) received 5 responses of which 3 were interviewed. The Bid Award Committee included Jamie Labbe and Martha's Vineyard Regional High School (MVRHS) personnel—who were working on a simultaneous bid award. There was a protest that the UIRSC should have been included.

• *ALEX SALOP MOVED TO ACCEPT CHA AS THE ON CALL UP ISLAND REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT OWNERS PROJECT MANAGER; ROBERT LIONETTE SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 5 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS: JIM NEWMAN—AYE, ALEX SALOP—AYE, ROBERT LIONETTE—AYE, SKIPPER MANTER—AYE, ROXANNE ACKERMAN—AYE.*

On Call Architects Bid – Award Contract

The RFQ closed at the end of June with 3 bids and the Bid Committee recommended Tappé Architects out of Boston (now working on the Tisbury School renovation/addition). The need for on call architect services became evident when regulation questions caused recent project delays.

• Both the OPM and architect contracts were for 1 year with renewals up to 3 years. Fees would be negotiated according to project.

• *SKIPPER MANTER MOVED TO ACCEPT TAPPÉ ARCHITECTS AS THE ON CALL UP ISLAND REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT ARCHITECT DESIGNERS; ALEX SALOP SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 5 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS: ALEX SALOP—AYE, SKIPPER MANTER—AYE, ROBERT LIONETTE—AYE, ROXANNE ACKERMAN—AYE, JIM NEWMAN—AYE.*

Chilmark School Windows Project Phase II – Surplus Funds (Agenda IV)

• There was a \$56,690.49 residual from the phase II warrant article voted during the height of the pandemic (see 1/19/23 Minutes p. 2)—phase III was from a separate article (see 1/25/23 Minutes p.1 #III A). The UIRSC could return the residual to the Towns or ask the funds be used for related expenses discovered during the window project: rot, gutters, downspouts, and other building envelope issues. Martha's Vineyard Public Schools (MVPS) Business Administrator Mark Friedman advised informing the Select Boards and taking the matter under consideration while work could be assessed and Town wishes determined, but:

• *SKIPPER MANTER MOVED TO RETURN THE FUNDS TO THE TOWNS IN THE SAME PROPORTIONS AS COLLECTED; ALEX SALOP SECONDED; MOTION PASSED: 4 AYES, 1 NAY, 0 ABSTENTIONS: JIM NEWMAN—AYE, ROBERT LIONETTE—NAY, ROXANNE ACKERMAN—AYE, ALEX SALOP—AYE, SKIPPER MANTER—AYE.*

Synergy Security Services – Funding (Agenda V)

Superintendent Richard Smith and Assistant Superintendent John Stevens recommended all MVPS hire Synergy (owned by 2 active Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) team police

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officers) for emergency situation trainings—Islandwide cost: \$56,190, UIRSD portion \$11,895 (Montessori and Charter schools would pay separately). The service had 3 components;

1) 3 hour table-top exercises with school leaders, police, fire, emergency medical services (EMS), etc. covering emergency response verbal walk throughs: chemical spills, severe weather, product tampering, active shootings;

2) 3 hour whole staff (custodians, secretaries, administrators, teachers, assistants, kitchen crew) trainings on: historical perspectives, police and fire vocabulary definitions, how to react, what to do, who has responsibility for what, exits, reunifications areas, procedures/protocols, etc.;

3) impact emergency response kits – hard copy binders of the trainings and responses, thumb drives, foot charts, control boxes, maps...

- Synergy performed similar trainings 6 years ago, since which time company ownership changed, there was MVPS staff turnover, and techniques for critical large scale incidents were updated. The trainings would result in consistent Islandwide language, response, coordination, etc. The police chiefs and Sheriff favored the trainings.

- The UIRSC raised the following issues.

- To keep procedures current, Administration was advised to refer to and update the kits at every drill (fire, lockdown, etc.) and trainings were expected to be repeated at intervals.

- Cost was determined for each MVPS district by the size of the population, number of buildings, etc. UIRSD cost was similar to MVRHS cost, possibly because it involved 2 school buildings.

- Trainings could not be centralized as they were building/school/population specific.

- There was a protest that this need had not been anticipated and budgeted, however funds were available from the Contingency line or in the site budgets possibly from new hire savings/ Teachers Increment lines.

- Administration urged approval so trainings could be instituted in a timely manner.

- *ROBERT LIONETTE MOVED TO APPROVE HIRING SYNERGY SECURITY SERVICES WITH FUNDS FOR EACH SITE TO BE DESIGNATED BY THE UP ISLAND REGIONAL SCHOOL PRINCIPALS; ROXANNE ACKERMAN SECONDED; MOTION PASSED: 3 AYES, 2 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS: JIM NEWMAN—AYE, ROXANNE ACKERMAN—AYE, ROBERT LIONETTE—AYE, ALEX SALOP—NAY, SKIPPER MANTER—NAY.*

- Nay votes were solely about funding and billing issues.

Adjournment

- *ROBERT LIONETTE MOVED TO ADJOURN AT 7:32PM; SKIPPER MANTER SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 5 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS: JIM NEWMAN—AYE, ROBERT LIONETTE—AYE, ALEX SALOP—AYE, SKIPPER MANTER—AYE, ROXANNE ACKERMAN—AYE.*

Meetings/Events

- **UIRSC Meeting – TBD – Monday, September 24, 2023**

Documents on File:

- Agenda 8/22/23

Minutes approved 9/18/23