

SAULT STE. MARIE AREA PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
SAULT STE. MARIE, MICHIGAN 49783  
SPECIAL MEETING, BOARD OF EDUCATION  
Phone 906/635-6609

**Minutes – Monday, February 27, 2023**

180. **I. CALL TO ORDER**

President Curtis called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. in the Sault Area Middle School, 684 Marquette Avenue.

181. **A. ROLL CALL OF BOARD**

Board Members Present: William E. Odbert, Melissa S. Pingatore, Christine M. Curtis, Michelle M. Ribant, Caitlin L. Galer

Absent: Kenneth D. Dunton

182. **B. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

It was moved by Member Pingatore, supported by Member Galer, to adopt the agenda.

Yeas: Odbert, Pingatore, Curtis, Ribant, Galer

Nays: None

Absent: Dunton

Motion Carried.

183. **II. COMMUNICATIONS AND BOARD REPORTS**

**A. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**

There was none.

184. **III. BOARD ACTIONS**

**A. INTERVIEW AND APPOINT NEW BOARD MEMBER**

1. Owen Bell

President Curtis provided an opening statement and explained how the interview process was scheduled.

Superintendent Scott-Kronemeyer presented eight questions in the areas of understanding the role of the board, commitment to public education, and a vision for the future.

Mr. Bell who was attending virtually, provided a response to the questions.

Mr. Bell followed up by thanking the Board, hoping they would continue to do a good job in supporting everyone and in helping to move forward.

President Curtis thanked Mr. Bell for his time, interest, and wished the Girls Varsity Basketball Team good luck in Alpena.

## 2. Amelia Lindsay

President Curtis gave a brief introduction and explained how the interview process was scheduled.

Superintendent Scott-Kronemeyer presented the eight questions in the areas of understanding the role of the board, commitment to public education, and a vision for the future.

Mrs. Lindsay provided a response to the questions, and followed up by thanking the Board for their time and consideration.

President Curtis indicated the Board had excellent candidates and sought Board Secretary Missy Pingatore to tally up the Board's rubrics on the candidates.

Secretary Pingatore sought assistance from Vice President Galer in tallying up the individual points to the questions as they were very close.

It was moved by Member Pingatore, supported by Member Ribant, that based on the tally of the Board's rankings, Amelia Lindsey be appointed to fill the recently vacated seat on the Board of Education.

Yeas: Odbert, Pingatore, Curtis, Ribant, Galer

Nays: None

Absent: Dunton

Motion Carried.

## ***B. CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT***

Superintendent Scott-Kronemeyer announced Moore Trosper, RC Hendricks, Spence Brothers, and Clark were reviewed for consideration of a construction management agreement.

President Curtis suggested the Board present questions for the Superintendent or Buildings and Grounds Committee or perhaps they were ready to move forward.

Member Ribant reported the presentation format was excellent as well as the presentations.

President Curtis stated the companies knew their business, what they could do for us, and provided good information, but the whole fee schedule was a little difficult to work out across the board.

Superintendent Scott-Kronemeyer reported she sought additional information from the companies based on their differences in scope of work, staffing levels, and completion timeframe.

Superintendent Scott-Kronemeyer referenced her final cost sheet and indicated the final numbers were based on a completion timeline of 18 to 24 months with a total project cost of twenty million.

Member Galer reported there was a ton of information, the presentations were amazing, and there were a lot of pros and cons, but the management pricing aspect made the final grade for her. She indicated several of the companies have worked in the area and have a great reputation of done amazing work.

President Curtis thanked the companies for keeping their scope of work within budget.

Superintendent Scott-Kronemeyer reported several of the school references call back with positive results, some mentioned challenges such as narrowing the scope of work and delays due to COVID. She noted only one school put out an RFP and many did not look into cost comparisons.

Upon inquiry from President Curtis, there were no questions or comments.

It was moved by Member Galer, supported by Member Odbert, that the Board of Education approve the Construction Management agreement with Spence Brothers.

Yeas: Odbert, Pingatore, Curtis, Ribant, Galer

Nays: None

Absent: Dunton

Motion Carried.

**C. ARCHITECTURAL AND ENGINEERING**

Superintendent Scott-Kronemeyer announced IDI, Cornerstone Architects, and C2AE were reviewed for consideration of the Architectural and Engineering Agreement.

Upon inquiry from President Curtis, Member Galer noted her excitement for what A and E can offer students.

Member Odbert reported his interest in the very green initiatives presented by Cornerstone Architects.

Member Ribant reported the experience of Cornerstone Architects was very prominent, they have been involved with schools initiatives, and their presentation was very good.

Superintendent Scott-Kronemeyer reported the price structure and range for a new versus remodeled build was higher for a remodel and there was a huge range in staffing from when they allocate.

Superintendent Scott-Kronemeyer reported Cornerstone Architects is not a full service company, they partner with Nealis Engineering, Inc. and their previous partnership with Spence Brothers keeps reality and innovation optimistic.

It was moved by Member Odbert, supported by member Galer, that the Board of Education approve the Architectural and Engineering agreement with Cornerstone Architects.

Yeas: Odbert, Pingatore, Curtis, Ribant, Galer

Nays: None

Absent: Dunton

Motion Carried.

President Curtis thanked the Building and Grounds Committee for their commitment and time to this project.

185. **IV. BOARD GOVERNANCE AND BOARD POLICY ISSUES**

President Curtis reported there was a lot of events going on and she appreciated the calendar to keep everyone organized.

Member Pingatore noted her excitement for the innovative ideas/rain gardens Cornerstone Architects propose for students. She stated it was a nice to think about.

186. **V. *FUTURE PLANNING***

March 9, 2023 – Building & Grounds Committee – Admin Building – 4:00 p.m.

March 15, 2023 – Finance Committee – Admin Building – 5:00 p.m.

March 20, 2023 – School Board Meeting – Middle School – 7:00 p.m.

April 10, 2023 – School Board Meeting – Middle School – 7:00 p.m.

187. **VI. *ADJOURNMENT***

There being no further business to come before the Board at 6:17 p.m., it was moved by Member Galer, supported by Member Ribant, that the meeting be adjourned.

Yeas: Odbert, Pingatore, Curtis, Ribant, Galer

Nays: None

Absent: Dunton

Motion Carried.

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Christine M. Curtis, Board President

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Melissa S. Pingatore, Board Secretary

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Judy L. Sirk, Recording Secretary