

Approval of Minutes:
Date: _____
Board Signature:
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Draft

North Hero School Board  
 Meeting Wednesday, April 07, 2010  
 at North Hero School  
 7:00 P.M.

In Attendance

School Board: Andrew Julow, Jennifer Gariety, Seth Chastenay  
 Principal: Joey Bennink  
 Business Manager: Karen Groseclose  
 Board Clerk: Jo-Ann Tier  
 Auditor: Bart Wilcox  
 Guest: Corinn Julow and Carol Paquette  
 Note: Richard Taylor, Superintendent – absent  
 Bridget Campbell and Eileen Mitchell – did not sign Guest List  
 Form

**CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

Meeting was called to order by Chair Andrew Julow at 7:00 P.M.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chair Andrew Julow.

**ADJUSTMENT OF AGENDA**

The following will be moved up in the Agenda this evening:  
 Board Action: Approval of Bills for Payment  
 Contracts for Signature

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES ... for March 24, 2010**

Jennifer Gariety made a motion for the approval of the minutes for March 24, 2010.  
 This motion was seconded by Andrew Julow... hearing no further discussion.. this motion  
 was carried 3-0.

**BOARD ACTION**

**Approval of Bills for Payment**

Warrant with invoices in the amount of \$14,601.67 were circulated for Board  
 review.

Jennifer Gariety made a motion that the approval of bills for payment in the amount of  
 \$14,601.67 be paid. This motion was seconded by Seth Chastenay.. hearing no further  
 discussion.. this motion was carried 3-0.

**Contracts for Signature**

Contracts were given to the Board for their signatures.

**Jennifer Gariety made a motion that the North Hero School Board signed contracts for the employees that were previously discussed with Karen Groseclose, Business Manager. This motion was seconded by Seth Chastenay.. hearing no further discussion This motion was carried 3-0...**

**The following contracts were signed by the North Hero School Board:**

Rebecca Ashline	William Perras
Nancy Barrett	Joseph Resteghini
Joanna Bennink	Judith Robinson
Lynn Burr	Linda Rudin
Kathy Daniels	Dorothy Theriault
Karin Demczuk	Jo-Ann Tier
Sarah Groff	Terrance Tuck
Mary Ann Fisher	Julia Wayne
Jan Little	Saunie Williams
Darrell Parker	

## **COMMENTS & QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC REGARDING ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA**

### **Town Auditor's Comments on School Financial Reporting ... Bart Wilcox**

**Bart gave a copy of his comments to the Board and the Board Clerk for the minutes. Said comments are as follows:**

- 1. Glad to see distribution of interim reports at March meeting.**
- 2. Note that reports provided did not include an income statement or a balance sheet and did not adhere to school policy E-3.**
- 3. Also no report on Revenues – this should be very useful for the Revenue Committee. ( see also questions in revenues)**
- 4. Propose that the board consider the engagement of new auditors and/or the elimination of the audit for the permitted two of three years.**
- 5. Curious to know if last audit has been read by you and if you found it useful.**
- 6. Re: Expense**
  - a. What's the difference between Encumbrances and Anticipated?**
  - b. Report says in YTD Actuals column that it is for period ending 3/31/10 but date of report is 3/18/10.**
  - c. How can we be spending four times budget for interest expense and almost two times budget on principal payment? Total unfavorable variance 10K. (Here's a perfect example of value of having prior year actuals shown.) I see note on lack of cash for debt service in June but shouldn't this have been accrued for in FY 2009?**
  - d. Special Ed Excess costs shows a favorable variance of almost 20K. Has an unfavorable variance in revenues for this been booked?**
  - e. Has shortfall on bus revenue been included?**
  - f. What is the Abbey subsidy all about?**

**Bart briefly reviewed the content of this comment sheet on the school financial reporting.**

**Chair thanked Bart for this information given to the Board.**

## PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

### General Information

Principal Bennink shared the following upcoming activities for North Hero School:

- April 14<sup>th</sup> County Music Festival – at North Hero (grade 4 and older)  
5:00 P.M.
- April 15<sup>th</sup>.. late start day ( 2 hour delay) we will meet with Alburgh data teams.
- April 16<sup>th</sup>.. King Arthur Assembly.. Grades 3-6 with Folsom (at North Hero)
- April 20<sup>th</sup>.. K-2 (Marionette Performance) at Grand Isle School
- April 23<sup>rd</sup>. Packets for “Jump Rope For Heart” will be sent home
- May 7<sup>th</sup> Kindergarten Registration
- May 13/14 Grade 6.. Class Trip to Boston, Massachusetts
- Last few months we lost four (4) students

Question was asked – what will the grade levels be next year? Ans, this is being worked on.

## BOARD DISCUSSION

### School Consolidation Discussions

A lengthy discussion took place with Andrew Julow doing a power point presentation..

Note: Pages 1 – 7.. attached from the presentation by Andrew.

Andrew also went on to say that he is in hopes that the North Hero School Board could have a vision and/or goals over the next three (3) months which would address > “where we are headed”.

Mention was made that the Executive Committee will be meeting on April 13<sup>th</sup> at Hero’s Welcome (upstairs). The time was in question. A question also surfaced... why is this meeting not set for a time when the public would be more free to attend?

Chapter 11 – Title 16... page 71 § 706C and § 706d was read by Seth Chastenay.

Note: a copy being attached to the minutes for reference.

Andrew Julow made a motion that the North Hero School reverse their February 15, 2010 decision for a North Hero – South Hero Consolidation Study. This motion was seconded by Jennifer Gariety....

Seth Chastenay stated he would abstain for voting... hearing no further discussion... this motion was carried 2-0.

### Designation of Grand Isle School As An Elementary Bus Stop

Discussion took place.... North Hero students who have permission from their parents to ride the North Hero Elementary bus at the end of the day from North Hero to Grand Isle School. Reference was made that this would only be for the remainder of this year as this service will not take place next year. Also, was referenced that we have students who participate in sports at that school and that the request, by a parent, for this to happen rarely takes place.

Jennifer Gariety made a motion to designate as a stop on the North Hero Elementary afternoon route for a student from North Hero School to ride from North Hero to Grand Isle School. This would have to be with the permission of the student's parent (s) and awareness of the school office.  
This motion was seconded by Seth Chastenay.. hearing no further discussion.. this motion was carried 3-0.

#### **OTHER BOARD BUSINESS**

##### **Mass Distribution Site**

A copy of the paperwork submitted to the State of Vermont – Department of Health was given to Board Clerk, Jo-Ann Tier, to have on file at the school office and to see that a copy is given to the North Hero Town Clerk.

Note: paperwork given to Town Clerk, April 08, 2010.

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Andrew Julow made a motion for the Board to go into Executive Session for a personnel matter. This motion was seconded by Jennifer Gariety... hearing no further discussion.. this motion was carried 3-0.

Seth Chastenay made a motion to come out of Executive Session and to reconvene the meeting.. this motion was seconded by Jennifer Gariety.. hearing no further discussion.. this motion was carried 3—0.

#### **AGENDA BUILDING**

#### **ADJOURN**

Seth Chastenay made a motion that the meeting be adjourned at 9:12 P.M. This motion was seconded by Jennifer Gariety.. hearing no further discussion.. This motion was carried 3-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jo-Ann Tier

C: Board: Seth/Jennifer/Andrew  
Superintendent  
Business Manager  
Principal  
Town Web Page  
File