

**GREAT MEADOWS REGIONAL BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES OF WEDNESDAY JULY 22, 2020
SPECIAL MEETING**

The special meeting of the Great Meadows Regional Board of Education was held on Wednesday July 22, 2020 via the virtual platform – Google Meets, Independence Township. The meeting was called to order at 7:02 PM by President Douglas Smith. The following statement was read that adequate notice of the meeting had been given in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act. The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law was enacted to ensure the right of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meetings of public bodies at which any business affecting their interest is discussed or acted upon.

In accordance with the State’s Sunshine Law, adequate notice of this **Special Meeting** was provided by sending a notice of the time, date, location and to the extent known, the agenda of this meeting to the “Express Times”, “Star Ledger” and the “Warren Reporter/Gazette”, on **July17, 2020**. Copies of the notice have also been posted in each of our schools, the Board Office located at 281 Route 46, Great Meadows and filed with the municipal clerks of each respective district.

Flag Salute was led by President Smith.

ROLL CALL:

Present:

Daria Hill, Tim Koeller, Giles Stuber, Courtney Wenthen, William VonderHaar, Heather Wulf and Douglas Smith.

Absent: Susan Cullen (arrived at 7:10), Alison DeMarco.

Administration / Other: Michael Mai-Central Principal, Mark Toscano-Board Attorney and Kathy Helewa, NJSBA. Public : meeting was streamed live.

Public Comment (via pcagenda@gmrtd.com) None

PERSONNEL

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS/DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL SERVICES

Motion moved by William Vonder Haar, seconded by Heather Wulf

WHEREAS, Great Meadows Regional School District Board of Education (“Board”) desires to hire Michael S. Mai to serve in the position of Superintendent;

WHEREAS, the Board and Mr. Mai engaged in good faith negotiations for an employment contract for Mr. Mai in the position of Superintendent, and that would be effective August 1, 2020 through June 30, 2024;

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WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:7-8(j) and N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-3.1(a), the Board forwarded the proposed Employment Contract for Mr. Mai to the Executive County Superintendent for Warren County for approval, and has received written approval and notice from the Executive County Superintendent for Warren County that it has been determined that the proposed Employment Contract for Mr. Mai is in compliance with the Fiscal Accountability, Efficiency and Budgeting Regulations;

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, that, that the Board approves and adopts the Employment Contract for Mr. Mai as Superintendent, consistent with the terms and conditions set forth therein, and as approved by the Interim Executive County Superintendent for Warren County, per N.J.S.A. 18A:7-8(j) and N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-3.1(a) the period of August 1, 2020 through June 30, 2024; and

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED, the approved Employment Contract for Mr. Mai replaces and supersedes all prior Employment Contracts, both expressed and implied, between the parties hereto, and by approving and signing the approved new Employment Contract both the Board and Mr. Mai assent to a rescission of any and all prior contracts, as well as agreement to the terms herein, except as noted and provided for in the approved new Employment Contract for Mr. Mai.

Susan Cullen arrived during this topic at 7:09 pm.

Roll Call Vote:

Daria Hill – abstention; Tim Koeller-aye; Giles Stuber – abstention; William VonderHaar –aye; Courtney Wenthen-aye; Heather Wulf-aye; Douglas Smith-aye; and Susan Cullen aye.

Motions carried by roll call vote (ayes-6; nays-0; abstentions-2 (Hill & Stuber).

Comments

- President Smith offered comments of congratulation to Mr. Mai. He also acknowledges and expressed appreciation to the members of the Board for their hard work and dedication during this process.
- Mr. Mai expressed his appreciation for the support of the Board and looks forward to leading the district and foresees a bright future for Great Meadows.
- Ms. Helewa expressed appreciation for the members' hard work and wished Mr. Mai every success as the Superintendent of GMR.
- Mr. Toscano acknowledged the Executive County Superintendent, Dr. Lamonte, and Executive Business Official, William Poch, for their quick and thorough review and response throughout the Superintendent search and contract approval. The educational communities of Warren County have a great ally in that office.
- Tim Koller requested that the reopening plan for the district be comprehensive in the areas of transportation and building sanitization in addition to the educational/instructional program. A brief discussion ensued noting the Townhall meeting on 7/27 and Board meeting on 7/28.
- Susan Cullen offered comments of congratulations and support to Mr. Mai on his Superintendence. Looking forward to the vision he holds for the GMR school district.

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Executive Session

Motion moved by Courtney Wenthen; seconded by Heather Wulf.

Whereas, the Open Public Meetings Act authorize Boards of Education to meet in executive session under certain circumstances:

Whereas, the Open Public Meetings Act requires the Board to adopt a resolution at a public meeting to go into private session 7:20 pm;

Now Therefore Be It Resolved that the Great Meadows Regional School District Board of Education states that it is necessary to meet in executive session to discuss certain items involving:

Personnel Matter Specifically : Superintendent Annual Evaluation

Be It Further Resolved that the discussion held by the Board which need not remain confidential will be made public as soon as feasible. The minutes of executive session will not be disclosed until the need for confidentiality no longer exists.

Be It Further Resolved the Board will return to open session in approximately 45 minutes and does not expect to conduct business at the conclusion of the executive session.

Voice Vote: Ayes -7 ; nays-0; abstentions-0. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Members left the meeting at 7:21 pm : Giles Stuber and Daria Hill.
During closed session, President Smith left the meeting 7:29 pm.

Return to Public Session

Motion moved by Susan Cullen; seconded by Tim Koeller
Reconvene the meeting in public session at 8:10 pm.
Daria Hill and Giles Stuber rejoined the meeting at 8:10 pm.
Ayes -7 ; nays-0; abstentions-0. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Adjournment

Motion moved by Susan Cullen; seconded by William VonderHaar
To adjourn the meeting at 8:11 pm.
Ayes -7 ; nays-0; abstentions-0. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Angela J. Moyer
Board Secretary

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