

**BETHLEHEM AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD FACILITIES COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY, AUGUST 1, 2011**

Mrs. Loretta Leeson, Facilities Chairperson of the Board of School Directors, called the meeting of the Board Facilities Committee to order at 6:02 p.m. on Monday, August 1, 2011, in the Dining Room of the Education Center. Present were School Board members Loretta Leeson, William Burkhardt, Benjamin Tenaglia, Michele Cann, Michael Faccinetto, and Rosario Amato. Also present were Dr. Joseph J. Roy, superintendent of schools; Dr. Jack Silva, assistant superintendent for education; Mark Stein, director of facilities and operations; Arif Fazil, district engineer, D'Huy Engineering, Inc.(DEI); Ann Behers, operations manager; and representatives from the press.

The following items were discussed:

**COURTESY OF THE FLOOR TO VISITORS –**

None.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS –**

Mr. Stein explained item number two on the agenda, BASD Stadium Advertising Sign Discussion. He said that there was an original five year advertising agreement between the district and Viamedia, then known as Target Select, approved in 2005. Since 2008, advertising revenue has not reached projections due to the poor economy, and Viamedia has requested to extend the advertising agreement for another five years. Included in the agenda packet was a draft agreement; Mr. Stein noted that the agreement is being reviewed by the district's solicitor.

Mrs. Cann said that she would like to thank Mr. Todd Donnelly, Viamedia, and all other parties involved in the stadium project for their community partnerships.

Mr. Faccinetto asked if the proposed agreement was similar to the one that was approved in 2005.

Mr. Stein said that the language is new, but the agreement is the same.

Dr. Roy noted that the original agreement was complex in the fact that it included language regarding the construction of the project as well as the advertising agreement. The new agreement is much simpler as its only focus is to continue the partnership with Viamedia to generate advertising to fund the remaining balance of the project.

Mrs. Leeson asked what would happen to any additional income that was generated from the advertising, how it would be used, and if it was the district's decision as to how it was spent.

Mr. Stein answered that if there was additional income, there would be meetings held to review what the best option would be.

Mrs. Cann said that item number thirteen in the advertising agreement states that the revenue will be used to pay any remaining debt on loans and to secure additional capital for future investment at BASD.

Mrs. Leeson said that she wanted to know who would be making the decision as to what the future investments were.

Mr. Todd Donnelly, president and managing partner of Viamedia, explained that extra revenue could be used to replace the turf at the stadium when it needs to be done. All monies generated will still be directed through Lehigh Valley Workforce Investment Board (LVWIB).

Dr. Roy said that within the next five to seven years, the artificial turf will need to be replaced; the district must care for what it has, and also prepare to invest in new projects and items at the stadium. He said that this can be further clarified in the agreement.

Mr. Donnelly noted that he did not want to put any limitations on what would be done with any extra revenue, because within the next five to seven years, it is possible that priorities of the stadium and district may change.

Mrs. Leeson said that she would like to see it specified in the agreement as to who would have the authority to say how the money would be spent.

Mr. Donnelly said that the needs of the stadium will be discussed with the superintendent and the school board like it has been done in the past.

Mr. Amato said that the stadium has needs that must be addressed. There will be areas that will become unsafe if they are not addressed in the near future. The district must prepare now for replacement of various components of the stadium. He asked how much the turf will cost to replace.

Mr. Stein answered that the estimated cost of replacing the artificial turf was approximately \$300,000 to \$400,000.

After a poll of the board, it was decided that this item could appear on the Regular Board Meeting Agenda after it was received back from the solicitor.

Mr. Fazil then explained item number three on the agenda, Energy Update. He said that there were some guests present who have been instrumental in the solar project. Jim Hanna, from DEI, has worked with Tangent Energy Solutions, Inc. (Tangent) to make sure that all solar projects ran smoothly, Dave Turner, Tangent's chief operations officer, and Steve D'Angelo, Tangent's vice president, technology. Mr. Fazil then showed a PowerPoint presentation that gave an overview of solar power and solar basics. He said that PPL Electric Utilities, Inc. (PPL) has also

been a good partner and has been very cooperative. He then reviewed the district's energy portfolio, and the solar panel production saying that to date, 114% of Farmersville Elementary School's use is being generated with the panels, and the overflow is being banked to Miller Heights Elementary School. James Buchanan Elementary School is producing 150% of its power, and that overflow is being banked to Clearview Elementary School. Mr. Fazil then said that the educational aspects of the panels will be integrated into the curriculum, and there have been flat panel monitors installed in the lobbies of the schools so real-time generation of the panels can be viewed.

Mr. Turner said that BASD is at the top for energy performance, leadership and education in the state. He reviewed pictures and details of each of the solar projects, and said that James Buchanan, Farmersville, and East Hills schools are all performing above expectations. To date, Farmersville is the largest array within the district.

Mr. Fazil noted that Tangent has been a good partner to the district as well. He explained that there was a section of ground at Spring Garden Elementary School that they paid over \$10,000 to relocate some catch basins and regrade so there would be a larger usable area for the students.

Mr. D'Angelo explained how the flat screen panel kiosks worked in the schools. He said that students are able to view real time solar output either on the kiosks or on the computers in the classrooms. He said that all panels that have been installed operate slightly differently due to the angle of the panels and if they are roof mount or ground mount; students are able to compare this information and use the data in the classrooms. There is also a public website that Tangent maintains that logs all data. Mr. D'Angelo also said that by logging and monitoring the output data, Tangent is also able to see if the panels are working correctly.

Dr. Silva said that the information and data that Tangent offers goes beyond any expectations that the educators had and will be an essential part of the curriculum.

Mrs. Leeson said that the solar panel project was very exciting as the district was able to produce "green clean energy", and then thanked DEI and Tangent for all their work on these projects.

Mr. Turner explained load versus demand and peak energy, and said that the district must identify areas throughout its buildings where building and lighting control systems can be used to save money and reduce peaks.

Mr. Fazil said that if the district is able to control and reduce the peak demand, it may lead to the ability to purchase electricity at a cheaper price in the future. He said that this can be accomplished by using the solar panels, automatic temperature control systems, and lighting prototypes. Phase II of the energy project will integrate the use of all of these items and investigate other energy saving options. He asked the board for permission to continue to move forward with the project.

Mrs. Leeson asked if the district planned on lowering building temperatures and lights to help reduce the peak demands.

Mr. Fazil answered that primarily, the peaks occur in the summer months, and reductions may come from reducing lighting, reducing the use of some pieces of equipment, and anticipating when the peaks are to manage when the energy will be used most cost effectively.

Mrs. Leeson also asked if it would be possible to beautify the solar panel fences with shrubs.

Mr. Fazil said that he will investigate this further.

After a poll of the board, it was decided that DEI can continue to move forward with the energy projects for Phase II solar as well as active energy demand management.

Mr. Stein explained agenda item four, Information Items. He said that the first item was that the Liberty High School baseball partners have offered \$4,000 to invest in the installation of a water line to the baseball field. They will supply the materials if the district is able to provide the labor to install the water line. He said that there should not be any cost to the district other than two days worth of labor from the maintenance staff as the materials should not cost any more than \$4,000.

Mr. Tenaglia asked where the water connection point was. He was concerned that the water line would disrupt the buildings or the stadium.

Mr. Stein explained that the connection point is down the third base line on the edge of the property. There will not be any buildings disrupted.

After a poll of the board, it was decided that the maintenance department could move forward with this project.

Mr. Stein said that with the recent heavy rains, there was a roof leak at Nitschmann Middle School. He said that there was damage in the band hallway as well as plaster damage. The spaces have been dried and there are still some small repairs to be completed. The maintenance staff will complete the needed repairs before school begins for the year. Mr. Stein said that the damage was caused by clogged roof drains that were not checked as they were supposed to have been. He said that the Nitschmann Middle School boiler replacement project is on schedule and the domestic hot water system should be complete before school starts, as should the Fountain Hill Elementary School water tank replacement and Freemansburg Elementary School HVAC repairs. Last week, there was another sink hole discovered by the East Hills Middle School detention basin, and has since been repaired at an approximate cost of \$15,000. The cellular tower project at the Transportation Department goes to the city planning commission on August 18, 2011.

Mr. Stein then reviewed agenda item B, Quotations for the \$5,800 to \$15,200 Cost Category. He said that first quote was for repairs for various emergency generators, and the second quote was for the annual maintenance and inspections of the sprinklers and fire pumps.

After a poll of the board, it was decided that this item could appear on the regular board meeting agenda.

**AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE AUGUST 15, 2011, REGULAR BOARD MEETING –**

After discussion, the board committee agreed to bring the following agenda items to the August 15, 2011, Regular Board Meeting:

- A. Memorandum of Agreement between the Bethlehem Area School District and Viamedia for Advertising at the Bethlehem Area School District Stadium
- B. Quotations for the \$5,800 - \$15,200 Cost Category

**COURTESY OF THE FLOOR TO VISITORS –**

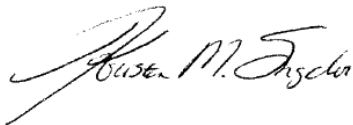
None.

**OPEN FORUM –**

None.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:55 p.m.

Minutes prepared by:



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Kristen M. Snyder, Secretary to the Director of Facilities and Operations



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Mark Stein, Director of Facilities and Operations