Meeting Minutes

Erie County Technical School
AVTS Operating Committee

Monday September 15, 2003

5:00 PM –Special Meeting

Call to Order

Mr. Bucksbee, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.

- Pledge of Allegiance
- Natalie Fatica introduced Mr. Jerry Baker, Information and Technology Manager

Roll Call

Mr. Fritz, Secretary, called the roll:

Mrs. Suzie Rosendahl	Fairview	absent
Mr. Lewis Dove	Fort LeBoeuf	present
Mr. James Bucksbee	General McLane	present
Mrs. Marilyn Vargulich	Girard	present
Mr. James Sonney	Harbor Creek	present
Mr. Thomas Loftus	Iroquois	absent
Dr. Joseph Cuzzola	Millcreek	absent
Mr. Thomas Kelley	North East	present
Mr. James Mitchell	Northwestern	present
Mr. Jon Barnes	Union City	present
Mrs. Charlotte Kolesar (left the meeting at 5:40 pm)	Wattsburg	present

Administrators Present

Dr. David Smith, Superintendent of Record, present
Dr. Aldo Jackson, Director, present
Mrs. Jennifer Gornall-Rouch, Solicitor, present
Mr. Neil Donovan, Principal, present
Mr. Paul Fritz, Business Manager and Board Secretary, present
Ms. Natalie Fatica, Coordinator of Human and Quality Resources, present
Mrs. Mary Ellen Camp, RCTC Manager, absent
Mr. Steve Sceiford, Facilities Manager, present
Mr. Jerry Baker, Information and Technology Manager, present

Guests and Comments

No guests or public visitors present

Correspondence

No correspondence

Lease agreement-motion failed

Motion to approve the lease agreement between Erie County Technical School and Northwest Tri-County Intermediate Unit, as presented.
Moved by Mrs. Vargulich, with second by Mr. Sonney.

Mr. Timothy Sennett, Solicitor, prepared a lease agreement with Northwest Tri-County Intermediate Unit #5 to use a portion of the Skill Center Building as a regional special education transition center for students with disabilities. The PA Department of Labor, Office of Vocational Rehabilitation has approved funding for the project including building renovations and upgrades. The Intermediate Unit is seeking approval for a long-term lease to occupy the Skill Center Building beginning in 2003-04. (Description of the center is included in the official minutes of the JOC meeting of July 28, 2003).

During two hours of debate, committee members discussed several concerns including:

- A long-term lease that would affect the flexibility and availability of classroom space for RCI programs,
- A long-term lease that would affect the flexibility and availability of instructional space for current and future technical school programs,
- Potential facility expenses, maintenance and repairs that are not being underwritten by lessees and a budget proposal that would project those costs over the length of the lease,
- A transition center proposal/document omitted one participating school district, but included one non-participating district and one non-public school,
- Revenue generated by the IU for "non-participating" students would not come back to the technical school,
- The arrangement to payback renovation costs to the IU and the value of those renovations after five years.

Motion failed by roll call vote: Voting “no”: Dove, Bucksbee, Vargulich, Sonney, Kelley, Mitchell, Barnes, and Kolesar. Voting ‘yea” : none, Absent: Rosendahl, Loftus, and Cuzzola.

Dr. David Smith asked the JOC about their perceived need for a transitions center and their willingness to house such a program on the ECTS program. The ensuing discussion led to the formulation of an alternative agreement that would meet some of the concerns of the Committee.

Alternative lease agreement-motion failed

Motion to approve an alternative lease including the following conditions and provisions:

- The term of the lease will only extend to June 30, 2004,
- The IU will not invest any funds into renovations. Instead, the technical school will renovate, at its own cost, the restrooms and water fountains if the lease is approved (estimated at $8,000). No renovations will be done on the elevator.
- Clarifications on the utilities and the calculation of their costs.
  (A revised lease agreement document will be prepared by the school’s solicitors)

Moved by Mr. Kelley, with second by Mr. Sonney
Motion failed by roll call vote: Voting “no”: Dove, Barnes. Voting ‘yea” : Bucksbee, Vargulich, Sonney, Kelley, Mitchell. Absent: Rosendahl, Loftus, and Cuzzola, and Kolesar.
(Note: Motion requires 6 “yea” votes to pass-majority of the whole Committee)

Motion to reconsider alternative lease

Motion to reconsider the alternative lease as described in previous motion.
Moved by Mr. Barnes, with second by Mr. Sonney
Motion approved by roll call vote: Voting ‘yea”: Bucksbee, Vargulich, Sonney, Kelley, Mitchell, Barnes. Voting ‘no”: Dove. Absent: Rosendahl, Loftus, and Cuzzola, and Kolesar.

Alternative lease agreement-reconsidered

Motion to approve an alternative lease including the conditions and provisions described in the original motion.
Moved by Mr. Sonney, with second by Mr. Mitchell.
Motion approved by roll call vote: Voting ‘yea”: Bucksbee, Vargulich, Sonney, Kelley, Mitchell, Barnes. Voting ‘no”: Dove. Absent: Rosendahl, Loftus, and Cuzzola, and Kolesar.

Adjournment

Moved by Mr. Barnes, with second by Mr. Sonney
Mr. Bucksbee adjourned the meeting at 6:45 pm.

Minutes prepared by,

Paul D. Fritz, Secretary
Erie County Technical School Operating Committee