

GRAND LEDGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Board of Education

Special Meeting – March 23, 2023

MINUTES

President Smith called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. He led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Roll Call by Superintendent Bill Barnes indicated the presence of **Board Members**: Jarrod Smith, Toni Glasscoe, Nicole Shannon and Ben Cwayna. **Board Members Absent**: Jon Shiflett, Denise DuFort and Ashley Kuykendoll. **Central Office Administrators**: Bill Barnes, Julie Waterbury and John Ellsworth. **Others in Attendance**: John Piper and Kim Manning

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

ACTION ITEM

A. APPROVAL OF BID AWARDS – DELTA CENTER LIFE SAFETY ISSUES

Motion by Mr. Cwayna, seconded by Ms. Shannon for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the Bid Awards for the Delta Center Life Safety Issues, as presented.

Superintendent Barnes provided the board with background information noting the current project at Delta Center needed to be changed, based on requirements from the Bureau of Fire Safety (BFS). This piece of the project is preventing us from using the classrooms noting we were supposed to be able to move in after spring break, but until these sprinklers are added and doors are moved, we cannot occupy the new spaces. GMB Architects and Engineers created the design, and it went out for bid. Multiple companies took a look at the bid and did site visits, but in the end, only one bidder was able to meet the scope of work in the required timeframe. GMB asked for time to explore alternative options, including a reduced scope of work, so we delayed this approval to give them the opportunity to communicate those options with us. GMB came back to us with a design that reduced the area of the sprinklers, but required the addition of new doors in some rooms. We planned on bringing that version to you, but found out last evening that this new version of the plan would actually probably end up being more expensive than what we are recommending today. That is why the board packet came out so late last night. GMB also advised they may have a company that could do the work for less money, but they would need to do a site visit to confirm, and then we would have to reopen bids. That would push the project back three to four weeks, which significantly reduces the chance that this would be done before school starts. We cannot complete this project with kids in the classrooms, so if we do not get it done over the summer, it would have to wait until probably next summer, meaning our new classrooms would not be useable for another year. In addition, the updated plan has not received formal BFS approval. The reason we are seeking approval in a special meeting is because if we wait until our April meeting, we are concerned that the work will not be completed in time to open school. The current plan we have in front of you has received formal approval from BFS, and the current bidder can complete the work before school starts. The sprinkler system is

being completed by the bidder, and the other pieces of the project are being completed as change orders with our current contractors.

President Smith noted this is a complicated matter with ongoing discussions, but the BFS approval and the ability to get the work completed before the next school year are priority.

The motion carried unanimously.

COMMENTS FROM STAFF AND BOARD

Mr. Cwayna told everyone to have a great Spring Break.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:36 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Attest:

Nicole Shannon, Secretary

Jarrod Smith, President