

BUCKSPORT, ORLAND, MSAD 18
REORGANIZATION PLANNING COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
6 pm Monday, October 22, 2007
Orland Consolidated School Room 40

0. The meeting was called to order by Facilitator Ann Bridge at 6 pm.

Members present: Wayne Ames, Laurie Boardman, Millard Clement, Tom Foster, Guy Haney, Rob Howard, Roxanne Mushrall, Jeff Robinson (Bucksport Council alternate), and Jennifer Riefler.

Members absent: Roger Raymond

Facilitator: Ann Bridge

Superintendent: Judy Lucarelli

Others present: Ralph Gonzales (Orland Selectman alternate), Nick Gosling (Ellsworth American), Don Houghton (The Enterprise), Tom Taylor-Lash (Orland Board alternate), Ivan Braun (Bucksport), Diane Brann (Orland), Steve Brann (Orland), Joni Wardell (Orland), and Boo Upton (Orland)

1. Moved by Ames, seconded by Clement, to approve the minutes of 10/15/07 meeting as corrected. Motion carried unanimously.
2. Report on data requested at previous meeting:
 - Whether a Facilities Oversight Committee can be created in the RPC Plan: The Superintendent requested this information from Jim Rier. She did not receive a response but Ann Bridge was able to learn that while this is not required, there is no definitive answer as to whether it is forbidden.
 - The impact on state and local share of debt service if Bucksport's valuation dropped substantially: The Superintendent requested this information from Suzan Beaudoin and did not receive an answer. However, based on the debt service funding formula, this should result in a greater share of debt being paid by the state.
 - The state share of state/local debt service for the remainder of Bucksport debt payments: The Superintendent requested this information from Suzan Beaudoin. Because the payments are based on state assessed valuation of Bucksport and the debt mill rate set by the legislature, this cannot be projected. However, the Superintendent provided a history of state and local share for Bucksport debt for the three state/local projects currently being paid. Since EPS (LD 1) was enacted, the local share is 2.29%. If conditions remain the same, this means the total local share for the remaining \$8.6 million in debt service after 7/1/09 will be less than \$200,000 for the 14 years remaining to pay.
3. Further Discussion on Plan Items 5: Disposition of Real and Personal Property

The necessary conversations have not yet taken place between the Superintendent/Board and Town Manager/Council about Bucksport facilities.

The future need for the Luman Warren School and for the Jewett School will be considered by the Bucksport School Board.

The future use and ownership of outbuildings will be negotiated.

State assessed valuation of the 4 towns is: Bucksport \$552,450,000; Orland \$186,450,000; Verona \$42,300,000; and Prospect \$38,950,000.

Deeds, surveys, and shared service agreements for facilities will be required, and may not be completed before the final plan is submitted. This can be budgeted for the 08-09 fiscal year, since there is no amount for this in current school budgets.

Property turned over to the RSU should include the stipulation that the citizens have the same access to the building as in the past, including a policy for facilities use.

The Superintendent was asked to draft language about a Facilities Oversight Committee for RPC consideration.

4. Further Discussion on Plan Item 6: Disposition of Existing Indebtedness

The Superintendent was asked to draft language for RPC consideration at future meetings: language for local-only debt and language for state/local debt.

Data for next time: Identify share of local only debt when allocated by town based on state-assessed valuation.

Develop a phrase for all RPC votes such as “subject to legislative action on this matter.”

5. Discussion of Plan Item 7: Assignment of Contractual Obligations

The Superintendent was asked to draft language on this for next meeting.

6. Discussion of Plan Item 8 if time permits: Disposition of Funds

This item will wait until 06-07 audits are complete.

7. Schedule Two Meetings:

- The meeting scheduled for 7 pm Tuesday, October 30 at Jewett School was confirmed.
- One additional meeting was scheduled for 6 pm Tuesday 11/19 at Bucksport High School

8. Develop Agenda for Next Meeting

- Review draft language on items requested
- Discuss Plan Item 7: Assignment of Contractual Obligations
- Discuss Plan Item 9: Transition Plan

9. Identify additional data to be provided at the next meeting

- Check on the status of Senator Rosen’s bill on collective bargaining agreements having the 7/1/09 anniversary date.

10. Adjourn

Moved by Foster, seconded by Howard to adjourn for a tour of the building. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 7:35 pm.