

**Monadnock Regional School District (MRSD)**  
**School Board Meeting Minutes**  
**Special Meeting MESSA Contract**  
**(Approved Minutes – corrected 2/3/15)**  
**January 12, 2015**  
**Monadnock MS/HS, Swanzey, NH**

**Members Present:** Pat Bauries, Betty Tatro, Richard Thackston, Barry Faulkner, Winston Wright, Phyllis Peterson, Lisa Steadman, Eric Stanley, Mike Blair and James Carnie

**Absent:** Robert Smith, Ed Jacod and unassigned seat from Roxbury.

**Administration present:** K. Pfeifer, Interim Superintendent, K. Craig, Assistant Superintendent and J. Fortson, Business Manager.

B. Faulkner opened the meeting at 6:00 PM.

1. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** N. Moriarty commented on the short notice for such a large contract. No one had a chance to read the contract. M. Alexander told the School Board there would be no contract. He has not seen the contract. J. Carnie called for a point of order. He is challenging the Board Chair for the agenda stating an allotted amount of time for Public Comments. He stated Policy BEDH requires the first 15 minutes set aside for Public Comments. The Board is in violation of the policy. B. Faulkner will extend the Public Comment section to 15 minutes.

J. Carnie wished the cameras were here tonight to see what had been done with the allotted time for Public Comments. The contract is a gross misuse of public funds. The negotiations continued even after we were told they had ceased. He stated the RSA for an emergency meeting and a contract is not an emergency. He does not believe this is an emergency. RSA 273 needs to be followed and if it had been followed you could have had it. The purpose of the law is not to get to this point. Policy BDE states the quorum requirements. At the last negotiations meeting they did not have a quorum. We do not have a contract. It is illegal. On December 16, 2015 we asked R. Thackston and L. Steadman where we sat with the contract. J. Carnie said the Board gave the Negotiation Committee a directive and they did not follow it. We should not be here. This is a violation of policy and the law. J. Carnie has read the contract and it is a lousy contract.

P. Bauries of Swanzey is disappointed even by the Emergency Meeting in which only 8 members out of 13 are present, maybe because this is an illegal contract. We did declare an impasse. The Board instructed the members not to continue with the negotiations. One member of the negotiations continued even after the Board was told they are at an impasse.

**MOTION:** L. Steadman **MOVED** to pass the MESSA Contract as proposed. **SECOND:** E. Stanley. **DISCUSSION:** It was stated L. Steadman and the attorney were present at the last

negotiations meeting and the meeting before that R. Thackston and L. Steadman were present. It was commented it is a violation the Budget Committee and the Board has not had time to look at the contract. They did not file for impasse as asked by the Board. M. Blair explained the policies are guidelines and goals they are not the law. They give guidance to the Board. E. Stanley asked if there was a vote for impasse. L. Steadman commented we have to negotiate in good faith. We tried to come to an agreement. We never declared an impasse. The contract is less expensive. The guidelines by the Board were not reasonable. This contract is much better than the 2012 contract. P. Peterson has not had time to read the contract. She has never heard of paid lunches. K. Pfeifer would suggest going into non-public session. P. Bauries commented this Board has had no time to discuss strategy.

**B. Faulkner will recess to allow a non-meeting for strategy.**

**The meeting is called back to order. M. Blair leaves the meeting. MOTION:** P. Bauries called for the question. **SECOND:** P. Peterson. **M. Blair arrives back to meeting. DISCUSSION:** J. Carnie would ask P. Bauries to withdraw her motion. L. Steadman commented J. Carnie saw M. Blair walk back into this meeting. She commented that is dirty. **P. Bauries and P. Peterson withdraw their motion.**

P. Bauries asked what the Board can discuss. **R. Thackston arrives and M. Blair leaves.**

**B. Faulkner declares a one minute recess.**

J. Fortson summarized the amount differences in the contract. She provided a chart to the Board.

PB spoke to the \$191,000 for the paid lunches not including the wage related benefits. She further spoke about the insurance cost and that it does not correctly reflect the cost of the insurance being \$1,956,000. She would like to see the total costs of the salaries to be included in the warrant.

JC referenced the prior year's contract and the per person costs.

**BT arrives at 7:07 pm. M. Blair returns back to the meeting.**

RT asked if there was a motion on the floor. BF stated that yes the motion to approve the contract as presented was on the floor.

JC said we are starting off with more than what we started with last time. He debated the insurance, saying there are 145 employees stated in the contract but there are only 120 employees in this one, and therefore should be based on that number.

**MOTION:** R. Thackston **MOVED** to call the question. **SECOND:** B. Tatro. **VOTE:** 6.458/4.426/0/2.092. **Motion passes.**

**Jim Carnie, Pat Bauries and Phyllis Peterson left the meeting at 7:15 pm.**

**Motion on the floor: VOTE: 6.482/1.115/0/5.403. Motion passes.**

- 2. Public Comments:** R. Thackston read two articles that he would be putting forth as petitioned articles. One is to keep the Gilsum School open the other to close the Gilsum School.

**MOTION:** L. Steadman **MOVED** to support Article Eight and the wording as presented to be placed on the ballot. **SECOND:** B. Tatro. **VOTE:** 6.482/1.115/0/5.403. **Motion passes.**

- 3. Motion to adjourn: MOTION:** R. Thackston **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting at 7:23 PM. **SECOND:** E. Stanley **VOTE:** 7.597/0/0/5.403. **Motion passes.**

Respectfully submitted,

Laura L. Aivaliotis  
Recording secretary