

**THE MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE  
BOARD OF EDUCATION, BOROUGH OF RINGWOOD, NEW JERSEY  
HELD AT MARTIN J. RYERSON ON JULY 19, 2011**

I. The meeting was called to order by President Tassitano at 6:32 P.M.

- A. President Tassitano led everyone in the flag salute.
- B. Board Secretary Mitchell read the Sunshine Law Statement as required under the Open Public Meetings Act.

C. *Roll Call*

|                 |           |                     |           |
|-----------------|-----------|---------------------|-----------|
| Janet Citrango  | - present | Katy McKeever       | - present |
| Gina Donatien   | - absent  | Sam Nastory         | - absent  |
| Melissa Griegel | - present | Richard Schaefer    | - present |
| Lynne Klosowski | - present | President Tassitano | - present |
| Mary Kunert     | - present |                     |           |

Also present:

Warren C. Mitchell, SBA/BS

Hugh E. Beattie, Superintendent

II. President Tassitano introduced Ms. Nicole Fox, Executive Director, Passaic County Improvement Authority, who gave a ***Special Presentation regarding the Passaic County Renewable Energy program***. She introduced the professional team of representatives who work with her on this program. Members of her team spoke on the benefits to local governments, such as ability to “go green” with renewable energy, reduce energy costs, no local unit debt, no development costs to local units, budget certainty and saving dollars. They explained the Procurement process to the Board and answered any questions the Board had at that time. They also explained the maintenance process and how these panels are monitored in order to keep them working efficiently. The developer is responsible for this maintenance. There is no cost to the district, just an opportunity for a reduction in energy costs. They reviewed the different agreements that are involved from the Developer to Passaic County to the Ringwood School District. The State requires very tight guidelines for this program. After extensive discussion, President Tassitano commented on her thoughts as far as the timeframe in making a final decision on this program. Board Secretary Mitchell asked what the final date would be that the Board had to make a decision. Nicole Fox commented that they could wait until August 15<sup>th</sup>, the date of the next Board meeting. President Tassitano thanked everyone for coming and giving their presentation.

Jerry Rubino, our architect of record, reviewed a program with the Board if they were to install solar energy panels on their own. He stated how you come up with a cost analysis and an energy savings plan. He explained how the concept of an ESIP works and how you can initiate this program without going to the taxpayers for a referendum. The energy you are selling is the savings and the electricity. You are not paying your local utility company, you’re producing that at zero cost. You are saving and you are also selling the SREC. Your savings is generated from actual savings off your utility bill and money generated from selling SREC’s. Your savings would pay for the new lighting, boilers, controls. That’s the analysis that you do. Jerry would do the analysis from the audit. He would take the elements here and put an energy savings plan together. That’s the key here, an Energy Savings Plan would have to be developed. If the district were to take on the solar panel project themselves as an ESIP, the district would be responsible for the maintenance of these panels and for overseeing the financial end of it. They would have to go out for contractors on their own. There would be different payback periods for the particular elements. Timelines were mentioned and Board discussion ensued. No matter what choice they decide, the Board should still get an energy audit performed.

**Sheet # 2 – Special Meeting, July 19, 2011**

- III.** Paul Breda, from NJSBA, reviewed the Board Goal Setting. This is the exclusive domain of the Board, either improving your performance as a Board or business that only the Board can do. District goals are owned by an entire district, where the Board thinks the district has the most need for improvement, or the most opportunity for improvement, in terms of instructional programs, personnel and staff professional development, facilities, and equipment. The district goal is to move the district forward as far as student performance in terms of achievement.

The Board is going to decide what needs to be addressed in district goals and the Board is going to charge the Superintendent the powers in order to reach these goals. He then reviewed the district goals from last year and what improvements had been made from last year. They discussed their achievements and how they have affected the district thus far, such as passing the budget and the referendum. They then discussed their goals for the coming year.

**IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION I**

None

Motion was made by **Trustee Citranglo**, seconded by **Trustee Klosowski** to adjourn to Executive Session at 9:35 P.M.

Motion was unanimously approved by voice vote.

**V. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Reconvened in Public Session at 9:36 P.M.

- VI.** Motion was made by **Trustee McKeever**, seconded by **Trustee Klosowski** to adjourn from Public Session at 9:36 P.M.

Motion was unanimously approved by voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

WARREN C. MITCHELL  
Board Secretary