

**SMITH VOCATIONAL AND AGRICULTURAL HIGH SCHOOL
NORTHAMPTON, MA**

**MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
Tuesday February 14, 2017
LIBRARY - 5:00 PM**

PRESENT: Michael T. Cahillane, Thomas M. FitzGerald, John E. Cotton, Mayor David Narkewicz, and John Provost, NPS Superintendent

ADMINISTRATION: Interim Superintendent, Kevin Farr, Principal Andrew Linkenhoker, and Business Manager Crystal Fairman

1) Chair Michael T. Cahillane called the meeting to order at 5:00pm.

A. Participation by the Public: none

B. Participation by the Trustees:

Michael T. Cahillane briefly reported a scheduled appointment with Conway would be rescheduled due to inclement weather.

C. Participation and possible Action:

1. Student Spotlight - Animal Science – Ashley Holden gave a PowerPoint presentation to the Board highlighting the following upcoming field trip activities. (see attached)
2. Out of State Field Trip – Animal Science - April 25, 2017 grade 11 students to a custom fiber mill in Eastford CT
3. Out of State Field Trip – Forestry - March 31, 2017 to Cerosimo Lumber Mill in Brattleboro VT
4. Out of State Overnight Field Trip – Forestry April 14-15, 2017 to Paul Smith's College in Upstate NY
5. Out of State Overnight Field Trip – Forestry May 19-21, 2017 to Northeast Forest Products & Logger's Expo in Bangor ME

A **MOTION** was made by Thomas M. FitzGerald and seconded by John E. Cotton to approve the out of state and overnight field trips.

APPROVED 5-0

Dr. Provost inquired where supervisory skills in the curriculum are this taught?

Ms Holden replied employability skills are in the CVTE framework competencies.

2) A **MOTION** was made by John E. Cotton and seconded by Thomas M. FitzGerald to approve the Minutes of the January 24, 2017 Board of Trustees meeting.

APPROVED 5-0

3) Information and Proposals:

Superintendent's Report – Kevin announced Michael Brooks is the recipient of this year's pioneer valley excellence in teaching award. (see attached)

Principal's Report

Enrollment update – Dr. Linkenhoker reported as of today there have been 171 applications received with 73 accepted and 12 registered. There are 22 students from Amherst, 5 from Hadley, 6 from Easthampton. The Guidance department is scheduling Saturday interviews, and have been looking at different advertising options for our school. There have been 5 new ads on facebook, which have reached 15,000 people since Jan 24. Another option are lawn signs displaying an "Apply Now" advertisement. Mayor Narkewicz asked

about the number of Northampton applications, Dr. Linkenhoker replied he doesn't have the number with him but it is a healthy number.

Business and Finance Report

Ms Fairman gave a brief update on the finances. Reached out to Melissa King at DESE for 2017 tuition, Ms King requested she check back this week. Ms King did say that for budgeting purposes the current amount of \$17,000 should be used.

Ms Fairman gave a brief explanation of unemployment requests by seasonal coaches, there is a form that needs to be signed and submitted to unemployment that seasonal positions aren't eligible for unemployment benefits. A brief update was given on the cafeteria deficit and tuition billing, as well as sped invoicing. Mr. Farr thanked Ms Fairman for the work put in to this report.

A **MOTION** was made by Thomas M. FitzGerald and seconded by John E. Cotton to approve an amendment to SYSCO contract for \$9000

APPROVED 5-0

4) New Business:

Massachusetts Capital Skills Grant Program Award \$401,000 (reimbursable).

A **MOTION** was made by John E. Cotton and seconded by Thomas M. FitzGerald to approve the Massachusetts Capital Skills Grant Program Award in the amount of \$401,000. This is a reimbursable grant program.

DISCUSSION; Mr. Farr thanked Assistant Principal, Joe Bianca and Vocational Director, Melanie Chartier along with Liz Tiley, Director of Adult Education and department heads Matt Niedzielski, Manufacturing and Chris Kelly, Electrical. This team collaborated to write the grant.

APPROVED 5-0

Equipment requests from tuition revolving funds.

A **MOTION** was made by Thomas M. FitzGerald and seconded by John E. Cotton to approve the Equipment requests as presented in the amount of \$130,564 from tuition revolving funds.

DISCUSSION; Mr. Farr added last month's list had items listed in the event the grant wasn't received; the list has since been amended. Dr. Linkenhoker thanked Business Manager Crystal Fairman for the tuition revolving account balance at the end of her report. As principal it is his duty to have the equipment the students need to learn to the best of their ability on state of the art equipment. Dr. Linkenhoker went through the list of equipment requests.

Mayor Narkewicz stated this is a new way to utilize the tuition money, generally this has only been used for shortfalls at the end of the year, and asked if this is money that has been built up from the last number of years, Mr. Farr replied yes.

APPROVED 5-0

Honor Roll Live – March 25th, 2017 early release request.

Dr. Linkenhoker stated the original date was postponed due to weather; the new date is March 24th with the lock in date as 23rd and is requesting to change the calendar.

2017-18 Draft School Calendar – Dr. Linkenhoker gave a brief explanation of the calendar with the additional 25 minutes per day. Dr. Provost noted that the trustees only need to approve the start and end date of the school year and asked if this has been shared with the association? Dr. Linkenhoker replied yes.

A **MOTION** was made by Thomas M. FitzGerald seconded by John E. Cotton to approve the 2017 – 2018 school year calendar.

APPROVED 5-0

A **MOTION** was made by Thomas M. FitzGerald and seconded by Mayor Narkewicz to approve the following Manufacturing Technology Surplus items for resale:

- 1-Delta Drill Press
- 2-Bridgeport Milling machines
- 4-Victor lathes
- 3-Supermax Milling machines

1-Miyano CNC Lathe

Mr. Farr noted the items for surplus are a direct result of receiving the grant.

APPROVED 5-0

A **MOTION** was made by Thomas M. FitzGerald and seconded by John E. Cotton to approve the following Manufacturing Technology Surplus for Scrap:

Old CAM parts

APPROVED 5-0

A **MOTION** was made by Thomas M. FitzGerald and seconded by John E. Cotton to approve the following Automotive Technology surplus items for resale:

Specialty tools for Ford vehicles

Heyer System Battery Charger

Sunen Wet Honing Machine

Sioux Valve Grinder

Various Repair Manuals - outdated

Mr. Farr added this is per NATEF recommendation.

APPROVED 5-0

5) Old Business:

Building "A" Office and HVAC renovations

A **MOTION** was made by John E. Cotton and seconded by Thomas M. FitzGerald to approve the plan and budget as presented to renovate the current business office area into guidance offices and to also retrofit "A" building with air conditioning and ventilation per the plan as presented.

DISCUSSION; Mayor Narkewicz asked if there was any changes since last presentation, Mr. Farr replied no changes and we are hoping to come in way under budget.

APPROVED 5-0

6) Future Business:

March 21, 2017 Regular Board of Trustees meeting 5:00pm

March 29, 2017 Annual Program Advisory Dinner and Meeting 6:00pm

April 11, 2017 Regular Board of Trustees meeting 5:00pm

7) Adjourn:

A **MOTION** was made by Dr. Provost and seconded by Mayor Narkewicz to adjourn.

5-0

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Carver, Trustees Secretary

Animal Science Shop

At SVAHS

Student Spotlight
February 14, 2017

February 23, 2017
Centennial of the Smith-Hughes Act of 1917,
providing federal aid and direction in creating
secondary vocational agricultural schools.



**In aggie, our goal is
provide students with
the education and
support needed to
make a dignified post
secondary choice;
college or career.**

Animal Science blends hands-on
training with academically
rigorous content to best prepare
students for the next step.

Animal Science Shop

50 students currently enrolled, grades 9-12

Livestock Competency currently offered

Additional competencies that *could be offered* include:

Equine, Veterinary Science, Companion Animal, Research Animal Tech

Hands-on, every day

Oliver Smith Farm

Collaboration between teachers, farm manager, farm techs and Administration.

Animal Husbandry
is the *art* and
science of *caring* for
farm animals.



Hands-on, Everyday

Cleaning the barn, maintaining fences

Daily care of animals

Observing animal behavior

Assisting in veterinary procedures

Administering medications

Assessing ailments in livestock

Grooming large and small animals

Following the production calendar to provide care when needed



Hands-On, Special Projects

9th Grade

Assigned a bucket calf to raise

Alpaca Agility, Alpaca Shearing

Rabbit breeding program

10th Grade

Continue with calf

The Chicken Project

Begin skid steer operation

Assist processing newborn stock





Hands-On, Special projects

11th Grade

Sells dairy heifer

Assigned a beef calf to train

Participates in AI training course

CID-R, Synchronize breeding herd

Trained in caring for wool

12th Grade

Continue with beef calf

Trains younger students on husbandry tasks

Collects and evaluates fecal samples to determine deworming protocol

More involvement in wool production

College and Career time**







2017 Dairy Heifers For Sale


Oliver Smith Farm
Smith Vocational and Agricultural High School
Northampton MA
Offering 10 dairy heifers

Where:
353 Long Plain Rd, Whately MA

When:
February 21, 2017

Time:
After 2:00pm

Cattle will sell between 5-6 pm



#27 Heart the Holstein
DOB 02/28/2015
Bred to Myln on 1-2-2017



She's a big bodied female with a feminine front end. She has sound feet and legs and is long and square from hooks to pins. Heart would be a great addition to any dairy farm as a grade holstein.

#25 Sunny
Bred: Holstein
DOB: March 6th, 2015



Bred on August 18th, 2015 to Farnham-Kennel Lanes F 1
Due to calve May 2nd, 2017
Average Daily Gain (ADG): 1.4 lbs. per day



1. Good feet and legs
2. Good top line
3. Good udder

#29 Luna
Holstein, DOB: 2-25-15



1. Good feet and legs
2. Good top line
3. Good udder

#28 Boo
Holstein DOB: 3/3/15



1. Good feet and legs
2. Good top line
3. Good udder


#503 "Laura"
Shelburne Farm 12 Farm Rd Shelburne VT 05487
Registered Brown Swiss
DOB: 1-29-15



Bred on November 3, 2016 to Warranty
Caving date 8-11-17

Laura is a beautiful registered Brown Swiss with a wonderful temperament. She is a well made female with moderate volume. She has independent ribs, she has a good range of motion, good feet and leg positioning.

#506 "Barbara"
Shelburne Farm 12 Farm Rd Shelburne VT 05487
DOB: 2/13/15
Bred: Brown Swiss
Bred 6/15/16



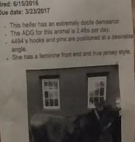
#506 is a sturdy built heifer with a even distribution in the front and back with good feet positioning. Has a fairly feminine backside. She is strong in her front and has good udder ability and evenly spaced teats.

#4491 "Crown"
Mapleline Hazelton Twinee
Registered Jersey
DOB: 2/24/15
Due to calve: 3/23/17




Twinee is a gorgeous well proportioned female Jersey. She is a well made female with a good range of motion. She has a good udder and evenly spaced teats.

#4494 "Bambi"
Mapleline Hazelton Twinee
DOB: 2/24/15
Bred: 6/15/16



1. This heifer has an extremely double dominant
2. The AGG for this animal is 2.00 per day
3. udder's teats are evenly positioned at a dominant angle
4. She has a feminine front and true primary style

#31 Starbuck
Holstein
DOB: March 13, 2015



Starbuck is a beautiful female Holstein with a good range of motion. She has a good udder and evenly spaced teats.

#30 "Belle"
Holstein, DOB 3-23-15



Bred: 6-15-16
Due: 3-21-17
Sire: Lanes, Safe

Belle is a well-proportioned and sweet-spirited heifer. She gains quickly and has a good range of motion. She has a good udder and evenly spaced teats.

There's nothing so
good for the inside
of a kid, as the
outside of a calf.





The Smith Aggie 4-H Club

An extra-curricular extension of our work in the animal science shop.

4-H youth are

**1.9
times**

more likely
to get better
grades in
school

and

**2.1
times**

more likely to
report high
school
engagement.



Animal Science: Raising the “steaks”

So far, we have:

- Started the beef calf/4-H program
 - Adding the competition component (accountability!)
- Begun increasing herd and flock quality,
 - registered herefords, improved wool production
 - Purebred rabbit breeding program
- Added projects and activities to show students the ENTIRE production process





Animal Science: Raising the “steaks”

Looking forward, we want to:

- Add another competency, either companion animal or vet. science
 - Appeal to a greater student audience
- Expand our education model to include the Supervised Ag Experience component
 - Work-based learning outside of the classroom
- Build it, and they will come...





Smith Vocational & Agricultural High School 2017 Out-of-State Field Trip Presentation

**SVAHS Agriculture Department
Board of Trustees Meeting
February 14, 2017**

Student choice: College or Career

...Smith Aggie is dedicated to exposing students to all post-secondary options.

We are committed to providing students the opportunity to develop the leadership skills required to pursue higher education or a career in their chosen field.



Still River Fiber Mill - April 25, 2017 (Out of State)

Eastford, CT

1. Expose students to careers in production agriculture
 - a. Opportunities in animal science are limited without a college degree
 - b. Diversifying livestock operations ensures success
2. See livestock production from start to finish
 - a. Students see the processing stage of agricultural products
 - b. Reaching beyond just raising sheep
 - c. Sheep industry is dwindling in the US - niche markets great opportunity for new farmers
3. Real-life connections
 - a. We had our own cotswold fleece processed into roving and yarn, picking it up this day
 - b. Roving and yarn will be used in co-curricular units, creating fundraising opportunities

Cerosimo Lumber Mill - March 31 (Rain date March 30)

Brattleboro, VT

1. Students will be exposed to the current industry methods of sawing, drying, sorting, grading and packaging lumber for the world market.
2. Students will be exposed to the current industry standards for drying and marking lumber for invasive insect control and management in the world market.
3. Students will be exposed to an alternative energy resource that this mill utilizes to create it's power.
4. Students will meet the mill log graders and will be consulted on how well our students did on selecting and preparing Smith school logs for the industry by reviewing with the students the logs we have sent to Cerosimo from this year's harvest.

Paul Smith College - April 14 & 15 2017 (Overnight, out-of-state)

Lake Placid, NY

1. Low cost Trip

Students pay \$25 for overnight stay, no additional fee for attending; school provides transportation.

2. College is less intimidating

Many Smith seniors find the idea of college overwhelming; events like this make college accessible, and helps familiarize students with the campus

3. Meet professors and college students in Forestry

Smith students have the opportunity to talk to current professors and college students in action studying Forestry

Northeast Loggers Expo, May 19-21, 2017(Overnight, out of state) Bangor, ME

1. Low cost Trip

Students pay \$25 for overnight stay, no additional fee for attending the expo; school provides transportation.

2. Expand student's view of their chosen industry

For most students, this is their first professional exposition. This is an opportunity to look beyond high school and make post-secondary plans

3. See the Forestry industry in action

Networking opportunity for junior and senior students to explore options in the field – speak to businesses, non-profits, government agencies and schools



SMITH VOCATIONAL AND AGRICULTURAL HIGH SCHOOL

Superintendent's Report

February 14, 2017

Kevin C. Farr

Interim Superintendent

WEATHER TAKES IT TOLL!

Feb. 6th-Full day of school

Feb. 7th-No School

Feb. 8th-2 hour delay

Feb. 9th-No School

Feb. 10th-2 hour delay and we postponed the Commissioner of Agriculture's Visit again.....

Previously we had rescheduled the Commissioner's visit due to a cancellation on Jan. 24th

Next week is looking interesting as well!



RECENT ACTIVITIES

- ▶ Jan. 31st Attended the Mayor's Budget address at the JFK Middle School with Chairman Cahillane and Mr. Cotton.
- ▶ Feb. 1st Attended the "Arrive at 5" Northampton Chamber event at Lia Dodge. Many networking opportunities were realized for jobs and partnerships for Adult and Continuing Ed. Also attended by Liz Tiley and Mike Cahillane.
- ▶ Feb. 2nd Attended a debriefing after the two day review of our Automotive Program by local representatives of NATEF. Many good recommendations for upgrades, a verbal recognition that they will give accreditation to the program
- ▶ Feb. 2nd Met with Susan Wright from the City along with Crystal Fairman to go over the indirect costs between the City and Smith. Very helpful. Mike Cahillane also attended.


RECENT ACTIVITIES

- ▶ Feb. 3rd - Attended the Connecticut Valley Superintendent's Roundtable at the Delaney House and heard from the Mass. Taxpayers Foundation on the Governor's Budget proposal and projections for this coming year. CVSR has been promoting bringing school and town officials to these meetings and Mr. Cahillane accompanied me to this event.
- ▶ Feb. 6th - Met with Crystal Fairman and our Food Service director, Heather Bouley to review her current budget and review her proposal for next year. We discussed the current deficit as well.
- ▶ Feb. 8th - Met with Lauro Dintino and Michael Rifanburg from the Gazette regarding the Home Show coming to Smith in March. They offered to do a 60 sec video promo for our school and we are moving forward. We thanked them for our great partnership.

RECENT ACTIVITIES

- ▶ Feb. 9th-Due to the storm the Governor's office cancelled the award ceremony at Mass. Bay Community in Wellesley for the Massachusetts Capital Skills Grant (\$401,000). There is still a press embargo till they reschedule this event.
- ▶ Feb 10th-Phone conference with GCC regarding the renovation of the LPN building on our campus.

LOOKING AHEAD

- ▶ Feb. 13th - Meeting with Pat Correia from MASC regarding the Superintendent Search.
 - ▶ Feb. 13th - 6pm Begin the “Listening tour” with the Selectmen from our sending communities. Conway will be first. Deb Carver is setting a couple each week going forward.
 - ▶ Feb. 14th - Mr. Cahillane and I will meet with Dr. Wes Autio at the Stockbridge School at UMASS from 1:30-2:30pm
 - ▶ Feb. 14th - Happy Valentine’s Day as well as Board of Trustees Meeting at 5.
 - ▶ Feb. 15th – Meeting with Dawn Creighton from Associated Industries of Massachusetts along with the Plant Manager from Coca Cola of Northampton.
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LOOKING AHEAD

- ▶ Feb. 16th – MASC Forum on Foundation Budget at 5pm at the Delaney House with Mr. Cahillane. Any other Trustees are more than welcome to attend as well.
- ▶ Feb. 17th-Feb. 26th - Mr. Farr on vacation. Dr. Linkenhoker will manage the day to day operations. Mr. Farr can be reached by email.
- ▶ Feb. 28th-Lunch meeting with Andy Morehouse of Western Mass Foodbank.
- ▶ March 1st – General Advisory Meeting 7am
- ▶ March 9th – MAVA Board of Directors Meeting followed by General Membership meeting in Marlboro.
- ▶ March 14th – “Friends of the Farm” 501c3 Meeting at 6pm in Conf. Rm.
- ▶ March 14th – Skills USA District Competition at McCann Tech in North Adams.

QUESTIONS, COMMENTS, CONCERNS?

► Contact:

- Kevin C. Farr, Interim Superintendent
- kfarr@smithtec.org 413-587-1414 x3406
- Follow me on Twitter at @SmithSuper16
- Facebook page “Interim Superintendent at Smith Vocational and Agricultural High School”
- School Facebook page “Smith Vocational and Agricultural High School”