



*Respectful, Responsible, Safe & Prepared*

**FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**  
**April 3, 2025 – 5:30 p.m.**  
**Waupaca High School Community Room and [Live Stream](#)**

**Welcome and Call to Order:**

The meeting was called to order by Committee Chairperson Dale Feldt at 5:34 p.m.

**Roll Call:**

All members of the Committee were present (Chairperson Dale Feldt, Steve Klismet, and Molly McDonald). Additionally, Board members Betty Manion and Ron Brooks were present.

**Also Present:**

Present in the WHS Community Room: Craig Gerlach, Austin Moore, Laurie Schmidt, and Sandy Lucas.

**Approval of Agenda:**

A motion was made by Molly McDonald and seconded by Steve Klismet to approve the agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

**Review of Board Meeting Norms:**

The Board reviewed their collective commitments.

**Health Insurance Renewal Premiums:**

Director of Business Services Austin Moore advised that during the health insurance premium negotiations with the District's vendor, M3 Insurance, in March, he was able to negotiate a premium increase of 4% (down from 10% in January). However, following further discussions, UMR agreed to a 0% increase for the 2025-2026 renewal period. He noted that because it is important to not reduce benefits, the quality of the plan will remain the same and there will be no modifications made other than a slight adjustment to the High Deductible Health Plan (HDHP) deductibles, which is required to comply with the federal requirements for HDHP eligibility. Because staff have been good consumers of their health care, the District had a good usage rate and therefore was able to secure the 0% increase.

Mr. Moore also advised that the Administration is exploring an identity theft protection insurance option that would be fully funded by staff, but it is not yet clear if retirees would be included in that option. In addition, an optional benefit (One Pass Select) may be added for staff as well.

M3 Insurance will continue to offer services and communicate with staff and retirees to encourage them to be good consumers of their health insurance. They will have consultants available during open enrollment in May to assist the employees in making their health insurance choices. Mr. Moore noted that a challenge many staff have encountered is a

required upfront deductible payment by some healthcare providers. He advised that staff should say no to that requested payment and tell the provider to bill them for it instead.

A motion was made by Dale Feldt and seconded by Molly McDonald to make a recommendation to the full Board at the next regular Board meeting to approve the 2025-2026 healthcare renewal with Group Health Trust (GHT), with a 0% premium increase and the federally mandated adjustments to the High Deductible Health Plan (HDHP) deductibles as presented. The motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

A motion was made by Dale Feldt and seconded by Molly McDonald to make a recommendation to the full Board at the next regular Board meeting to approve Delta Dental as the District's 2025-2026 self-funded dental insurance provider with no plan design changes and no premium increase as presented. The motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

A motion was made by Dale Feldt and seconded by Molly McDonald to make a recommendation to the full Board at the next regular Board meeting to approve Delta Dental as the District's 2025-2026 vision insurance provider with no plan design changes and no premium increase as presented. The motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

#### **Transportation - Busing Contract:**

Mr. Moore advised that the District has been working with GoRiteway since 2018. The original contract was for five years and it has been extended twice, so it is now up for renewal. The District pays a certain amount for each morning and afternoon bus route. Currently, the District is 12%-15% below average and he provided a breakdown of the contract increases over the years.

The District has built a strong working relationship with GoRiteway and their staff. Because they carry our most important asset and we want to continue our partnership with GoRiteway, Mr. Moore and Mr. Gerlach will continue to negotiate with them to reach acceptable terms for everyone. When a final contract has been negotiated, it will be brought before the full Board for final approval.

Mr. Moore advised that they are looking at improving bus safety by using updated technology such as GPS services and ID badges to be sure those riding the bus are supposed to be on that bus.

A motion was made by Dale Feldt and seconded by Molly McDonald to make a recommendation to the full Board at the next regular Board meeting to approve the Director of Business Services and the District Administrator to finalize the contract negotiations with GoRiteway and continue working with GoRiteway for the 2025-2026 through 2029-2030 school years as presented. The motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

#### **Fund 46 - Steps to Creation:**

Mr. Moore suggested that a Fund 46 Long Term Capital Improvement Trust Fund be established. It allows the District to spend money without spending money. For example, sometimes we need to set money aside, so it would go into Fund 46 and it would then count as spending it and the District would qualify for higher state aid. The challenge is that the funds cannot be used for five years once the account is established. After five years, it can

only be spent on the capital improvements set out in the required 10 year capital improvement plan. So the District will need to create that plan and establish a Fund 46 by June 30th. Mr. Gerlach shared that typically a district over-estimates expenditures and under-estimates revenue, putting those additional monies into Fund 10 which does not allow the district to receive more state aid. Mr. Moore advised that the District does not have to use the money in Fund 46, there is no cap on the maximum amount that can be in the fund, it gains interest at a favorable rate, and is protected by the state.

Items on the capital improvement plan can include technology and other related items; it does not necessarily have to be facilities and equipment. In looking at the District's budget each year, they will determine if the District over or under spent and if any funds can be added into Fund 46.

**Defeasance Update:**

Mr. Moore advised that everything has been completed on the defeasance – the payments have been made and all required documentation is complete. The defeasance will result in a savings to the District of \$287,112. This is something that will be evaluated every year because the District does not have a lot of debt.

**Adjournment:**

A motion was made by Molly McDonald and seconded by Steve Klismet to adjourn the meeting at 6:13 p.m. The motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.