The State of New Hampshire Hillsboro-Deering Cooperative School District Deliberative Session Minutes February 3, 2015 (snow date)

Moderator Russell Galpin opened the meeting at 7:02pm with the Pledge of Allegiance and introduction of the HD School Board (Steven Hahn, Ginks Leiby, Nancy Denu, Chairman Rich Pelletier, and Paul Plater), School Attorney Chris Pyles of Sulloway and Hollis, Superintendent Robert Hassett, Assistant Superintendent Patricia Parenteau and Joyce Bosse, Clerk. He then explained the rules of the Session: Each person would have a change to speak once and before being allowed to speak again all others would be allowed to speak once; all remarks should be directed to the Moderator. All motions to amend must be in writing and given to the Clerk.

ARTICLE 1. Election of Officers: To choose by nonpartisan ballot on March 10, 2015.

The following School District officials:

Two School Board Members At Large for 3 year terms

One Moderator for a 1-year term

ARTICLE 2. Shall the Hillsboro-Deering School District set the salaries of the School Board and compensation of any other officers or agents of the District as printed in the 2015-2016 Budget? To be voted on by nonpartisan ballot on March 10, 2015

School Board Chair \$1,800 School Board Members \$1,000 each School Treasurer \$3,400

District Clerk \$100 per meeting

Moderator \$90 per year

Ballot Clerks \$10 each per voting session

Recommended by School Board.

School Board member Ginks Leiby spoke in favor of raising the Chair's compensation as the Chair puts in much more time. John Segedy spoke against the article and presented a motion to amend the chair's compensation back to \$1200.00. Mary Plater 2nd. Motion defeated.

ARTICLE 3. Shall the voters of the Hillsboro-Deering School District vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$700,000 (seven hundred thousand) for the construction and original equipping of a new modular classroom building, and to vote to authorize the issuance of a bond or note not to exceed \$700,000 in accordance with the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33.8) and to authorize school officials to issue and negotiate such bond or note and determine the rate of interest thereon; and to further raise and appropriate an additional sum of \$75,000 for the first year's principal and interest payment on the bond or note . The School Board recommends this appropriation. (3/5 ballot vote required)

School Board member Rich Pelletier stated that this would be a cost over 10 years; \$75,000 is added to the budget (Article 4) for the first year. The School Board is looking at either bonding or leasing to own, whichever is better for the District. He then went over a Power Point presentation. Carmyn Young had questions about the Director, insurance, the building having a flat roof, opportunities for students to be able to snowshoe, bicycle, etc. during the day. Heidi Welch inquired if "regular" teachers would receive training in Special Education. Superintendent Hassett replied that they would. Arlene Johns asked about the lease to own and questioned how we would save money in utilities. John Segedy presented a motion to decrease the amount to \$500,000 by using used modular. No 2nd. Motion died. Cathy Otten hopes the Board will use the savings in this program to consider other populations in the District. Ms Iadonisi asked when the new building will be ready if this passes, and the answer is after Christmas break of 2015. William White stated that the Board should look more closely at "stick built" buildings. Carl Bearor, identified himself as a long time contractor, said that he feels the estimates are accurate and well founded. James Fedoli questioned why we can't

use the existing facilities. Brianna Merrill thanked the School Board for the many times this issue has been discussed. School Board member Paul Plater said that the school population has decreased from 1471 to 1218 and he believes that there is room on the 3rd floor where the SAU offices are currently and further explained his reasons. He also believes that there is room in the Middle School building. Leigh Bosse asked how many bids had been solicited and returned. Superintendent Hassett said that if the money is approved, the School District will send out RFP's, Heidi Welch stated that the High School has done a great job of changing its culture and the Alternative School students would be better able to become part of it. Carmyn Young wanted to clarify that if the cost of the project is less than the money raised in this Article that the balance would be returned to the taxpayer and not used for something else. Rich stated that it would be. Steve Hahn spoke in favor of the project.

ARTICLE 4. Shall the Hillsboro-Deering School District raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth in the budget posted with the warrant or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling \$20,401,803 (twenty million four hundred one thousand and eight hundred three dollars)? Should this article be defeated, the operating budget shall be \$20,466,840 (twenty million four hundred sixty six thousand and eight hundred forty dollars) which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the school district or by law; or the School District may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only? (Funds the operating budget for 2015-2016 but does not include appropriations in any other warrant articles, except Article #2.) Recommended by the School Board

School Board member Steve Hahn presented a Power Point presentation. No discussion.

ARTICLE 5. Shall the Hillsboro-Deering School District raise and appropriate \$1,777,500 for the support of school projects as follows: \$668,000 (six hundred and sixty eight thousand) for Food Service and, \$1,109,500 (one million one hundred nine thousand five hundred dollars) for Federal and State projects? Such sum to be offset by school lunch sales and State and Federal grants. Majority vote required. *Recommended by School Board*

School Board member Nancy Denu spoke in favor of the Article. No discussion

ARTICLE 6. Shall the voters of the Hillsboro-Deering School District adopt a school administrative unit budget of \$1,052,320 (one million fifty two thousand and three hundred twenty dollars) for the forthcoming fiscal year in which \$822,191 (eight hundred twenty two thousand one hundred and ninety one dollars) is assigned to the school budget of this school district? This year's alternative budget of \$1,036,017 (one million thirty six thousand seventeen dollars) for the forthcoming fiscal year in which \$825,317 (eight hundred twenty five thousand three hundred seventeen dollars) is assigned to the school budget of this school district, will be adopted if the article does not receive a majority vote of all the school district voters voting in this school administrative unit. *Recommended by School Board*

School Board member Steve Hahn spoke in favor of the Article. John Segedy questioned the amount of the default budget for Hillsboro-Deering. Discussion was tabled until after discussion of Article 7. After discussion of Article 7, 8 and 9 a motion was presented by School board chair Rich Pelletier, 2nd by Steve Hahn to amend the default budget amount from \$825,317 as printed to \$808,405. Motion passed.

ARTICLE 7. Shall the Hillsboro-Deering School District vote to raise and appropriate \$250,000 for the purpose of purchasing and installing a replacement heating system for the Middle School. *Recommended by the School Board*

School Board member Rich Pelletier spoke in favor of the Article stating that after much discussion with heating experts the Board wants to replace the current oil burner with 3 smaller propane burners and explained

the advantages of having 3 burners instead of one. James Fedolfi questioned the safety of propane tanks for the students and staff. Leigh Bosse commended the School Board on their thoroughness.

ARTICLE 8. Shall the voters of the Hillsboro-Deering School District vote to establish an expendable Trust Fund for the purpose of maintaining and improving the operations and facilities of the School District and to raise and appropriate \$100,000 (one hundred thousand dollars) to deposit in this fund; further to name the School Board as agents to expend from this fund in accordance with RSA 198:20-c.? Recommended by the School Board

School Board member Rich Pelletier stated that this Article would help in maintaining and improving Capital Improvements. Carmyn Young questioned the word "operations". John Segedy presented a motion to amend this Article to a sum of \$1.00. Paul Plater 2nd. Motion was defeated.

ARTICLE 9. Shall the Hillsboro-Deering School District vote to discontinue the School Building Maintenance Expendable Trust created in March 2004. This would be contingent upon Article 7 and Article 8 being accepted. Said funds, with accumulated interest to the date of withdrawal are to be transferred to the Districts' general fund. *Recommended by the School Board*

School Board member Rich Pelletier said that this Article would disband the current Trust, which has about \$250,000 and the money would be used for Articles 7 and 8, if they both pass, making the money to be raised by taxation \$0. After discussion John Segedy presented an motion to amend the Article to read ..."to be returned to the taxpayers." Mary Plater 2nd. Motion defeated. Paul Plater urged voters to vote against the Article to preserve the integrity of the vote in 2004. Currently the money can be used in case of an emergency situation.

ARTICLE 10. Shall the Hillsboro-Deering School District vote to raise and appropriate up to \$100,000 (one hundred thousand) to be added to the Special Education Expendable Trust Fund previously established? This sum to come from the June 30, 2015 unassigned fund balance available for transfer after July 1, 2015. *Recommended by the School Board*

School Board member Paul Plater spoke in favor of the Article stating that due to unanticipated expenses this year the amount in the Trust will be nearly depleted by the end of the year.

ARTICLE 11. Shall the Hillsboro-Deering School District vote to raise and appropriate \$30,000 (thirty thousand) to fund the replacement of the 1994 Maintenance truck with a suitable truck. *Recommended by the School Board*

School Board member Ginks Leiby spoke in favor of the Article.

ARTICLE 12. Shall the Hillsboro-Deering School District accept the reports of agents, committees and officers chosen as printed in the Annual Report? *Recommended by School Board*

No discussion.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce S. Bosse, HD School District Clerk