

## **Mountainville Academy Board Meeting Summary**

**Date & Time:** Mar 27, 2025 - called to order by Tanya at 7:03pm

### **Present Board Members:**

- Tanya
- Chandler
- Wayne
- Mikelle
- Kevin
- Dan (joined by phone)

### **Agenda Overview:**

The meeting focused primarily on discussing the school board's decision regarding a contract with an architecture firm for a building project. The board reviewed issues with the initial contractor (JZW) and decided to move forward with a new proposal from Babcock Engineering.

### **Key Takeaways:**

#### **1. JZW Contract Issues:**

- The school board had issues with the JZW contract, especially with terms that left the school with high liability risks. Specifically, JZW wanted the school to indemnify them for their work, which was seen as unreasonable.
- The contract also had limitations on liability that were concerning, with JZW only offering \$1 million in coverage.
- Attempts to negotiate changes with JZW were unsuccessful, which led the board to consider alternative options.

#### **2. Babcock Engineering Proposal:**

- After unsuccessful negotiations with JZW, the board moved to consider Babcock Engineering, the second-choice firm.
- Babcock offered a \$2 million liability insurance coverage, which was considered more favorable than JZW's \$1 million.
- While Babcock's initial proposal wasn't as polished as JZW's, the board was confident in Babcock's ability to complete the project effectively, with input from

Odyssey (the board's consulting partner), who had a positive history working with Babcock.

**3. Decision to Move Forward:**

- Despite Babcock's proposal not being as impressive as JZW's in terms of presentation, the board felt it was the safer and more reasonable choice due to Babcock's better terms and more reasonable insurance coverage.
- The board approved moving forward with Babcock Engineering and the terms presented, pending final review and electronic signing.

**4. Motion to Approve Contract with Babcock:**

- Chandler motioned to approve the contract with Babcock.
- Kevin seconded the motion.
- The motion passed unanimously with all members in favor.

**5. Authorization for Dan to Sign:**

- The board gave Dan the authority to sign the contract on behalf of the board, as he had previously been designated as the liaison for signing related documents.

**6. Meeting Conclusion:**

- The board agreed to close the meeting after confirming the approval and the next steps regarding the Babcock contract.
- The contract would be finalized via DocuSign.

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**Action Items:**

- **Motion:** Chandler motioned to approve the Babcock contract.
- **Second:** Kevin seconded the motion.
- **Outcome:** Motion passed unanimously to approve Babcock Engineering's contract.

**Final Notes:**

- The board expressed appreciation for Chandler's hard work throughout the negotiation process.
- No opposition to the final decision, and the meeting concluded smoothly after confirming the approval and signing process.