## LOWER PIONEER VALLEY EDUCATIONAL CORPORATION

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## **MINUTES**

## **Board of Directors' Meeting**

## November 15, 2023

1. The meeting was called to order by the President of the Corporation, Ms. Kerri O'Connor. The meeting began at 6:05 p.m. The following were present:

Board of Directors:

Ms. Kerri O'Connor, Agawam

Ms. Kathleen Leydon, East Longmeadow

Ms. Sherrill Caruana, Hampden-Wilbraham Regional

Ms. Sarah Bowler, Ludlow

Collaborative:

Mr. Alvin W. Morton, I

Ms. Anna Bishop

Guests:

Ms. Rene Davis, Powers & Sullivan Ms. Laura Stone, Powers & Sullivan

- 2. A public forum was offered. There were no comments.
- 3. Ms. Bowler moved to approve the minutes of the June 21, 2023 Board of Director's meeting as presented. Ms. Leydon seconded. Approved unanimously.
- 4. Information on the upcoming Brush Hill Open House was enclosed. Ms. O'Connor was pleased that a criminal justice program is being considered as a course option.
- 5. Ms. Bishop noted that the new parking lot project in Agawam is moving forward as the architect has solicited bids for a contractor to manage the project. Based on their recommendation, Ms. Bowler moved to award the bid entitled "New Employee Parking Lot Project, PAR A Shoemaker Lane, Agawam, MA, to J. L. Construction Inc. on the basis of being the lowest responsive and responsible bidder as indicated on the attached spreadsheet. Ms. Leydon seconded. Approved unanimously.
- 6. As Ms. O'Connor will no longer represent Agawam on the Corporation Board, a new president needs to be elected to take over her role. Ms. O'Connor turned the meeting over to Mr. Morton for the purpose of opening the floor for nominations for President of the Corporation Board of Directors. Ms. O'Connor nominated Sarah Bowler as President. As there were no other nominations, Ms. Caruana seconded. Approved unanimously. Ms. Bowler accepted the position. The meeting was turned over to Ms. O'Connor.

Ms. Bowler's position of Vice President is now vacant. Ms. O'Connor nominated Sherrill Caruana as Vice President. Hearing no other nominations, Ms. Leydon seconded the nomination. Approved unanimously. Ms. Caruana accepted the position of Vice President.

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- 7. Mr. Morton reviewed the 2023 annual report which will be filed along with the audit to DESE.
- 8. Ms. Davis and Ms. Stone of Powers and Sullivan reviewed this year's financial statements along with their opinion in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. Ms. Davis discussed refinancing the bond debt before the balloon payment becomes due in 2026. Also reviewed was the activity between the Corporation and the Collaborative with the audit focusing on transparency between the two entities. Ms. Bowler moved to approve the Financial Statements for the year ended June 30, 2023 as presented. Ms. Caruana seconded. Approved unanimously.

Ms. Bowler moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Caruana seconded. Approved unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

7/8/24 (Date)

(Signature) , Clerk