

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AT A MEETING OF THE
CORK EDUCATION AND TRAINING BOARD
CORK TRAINING CENTRE, ROSSA AVENUE
25TH SEPTEMBER 2014

ATTENDANCE

<i>Cllr. Des O'Grady</i>	<i>Mr. Paudie Palmer</i>
<i>Cllr. Mary Hegarty</i>	<i>Ms. Maura Fitzgibbon</i>
<i>Cllr. Patrick Gerard Murphy</i>	<i>Ms. Una O'Donnell</i>
<i>Cllr. Christopher O'Sullivan</i>	<i>Mr. Sean O'Sullivan</i>
<i>Cllr. Claire Cullinane</i>	<i>Ms. Gillian Keating</i>
<i>Cllr. Padraig O'Sullivan</i>	<i>Ms. Biddy McDonagh</i>
<i>Cllr. Margaret Murphy-O'Mahony</i>	<i>Rev. Dr. Tom Deenihan</i>
<i>Cllr. Tim Brosnan</i>	<i>Mr. Declan O'Leary</i>
<i>Cllr. Mary Shields (Lord Mayor)</i>	<i>Ms. Mary O'Grady</i>
<i>Cllr. Chris O'Leary</i>	

EXECUTIVE & ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

<i>Mr. Ted Owens, CEO</i>	<i>Mr. John Fitzgibbons, EO</i>
<i>Mr. Martin Hallahan, PO</i>	<i>Ms. Clare Creedon (Minute Taker)</i>

WELCOME

The CE welcomed members to the first full meeting of CETB. He paid a particular welcome to the newest 5 members to CETB that were appointed at the meeting held on 4th September 2014.

APOLOGIES

Apologies for inability to attend the meeting were received from Board Member, Cllr. Michael Hegarty.

CONDOLENCES

- ✠ To Rita Uí Ceallacháin, Secretary, Coláiste Ghobnatan, on the death of her mother.
- ✠ To the family of Aaron Laide-Higgins, student in Maria Immaculata Community College, on his death.
- ✠ To Ger Gibbons, teacher in Coláiste an Chraoibhin and former City of Cork member, on the death of his father.
- ✠ To Susan Brennan O'Mahony, teacher in St. Brogan's College, and family, on the death of her husband.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Ciara Judge, Emer Hickey and Sophie Healy-Thow, students in Kinsale Community School, who won the overall prize at the Google Science Fair Competition in California. Congratulations were also expressed to the school and in particular, to Mr.

Shaun Holly, Young Scientist Co-ordinator.

ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON

On the proposition of Cllr. Des O'Grady, seconded by Ms. Maura Fitzgibbons, Cllr. Chris O'Leary was nominated.

On the proposition of Cllr. Mary Shields, seconded by Cllr. Margaret Murphy-O'Mahony, Cllr. Patrick Gerard Murphy was nominated.

It was decided that a vote, by secret ballot, would take place. Mr. Paudie Palmer nominated Mr. Martin Hallahan as teller. The results of the vote were as follows:

Cllr. Chris O'Leary – 4 votes

Cllr. Patrick Gerard Murphy – 12 votes

Cllr. Patrick Gerard Murphy thanked all who voted for him and stated that this would be an exciting and challenging time for members and stated that if the Board worked together good things can be achieved.

ELECTION OF DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON

On the proposition of Cllr. Margaret Murphy-O'Mahony, seconded by Cllr. Claire Cullinane, Cllr. Pdraig O'Sullivan was appointed as Deputy Chairperson.

MINUTES

The Board, on the proposition of Cllr. Mary Hegarty, seconded by Cllr. Chris O'Leary, adopted the minutes of the June, July and September ETB meetings (**copies herewith**).

The CE referred to the minutes of the June meeting and the issue raised regarding members travel expenses. The CE proposed that going forward, members expenses will be made available. This was agreed by all members.

CORRESPONDENCE

ETBI Correspondence

The CE referred to the Annual General Meeting and Extraordinary Congress of the Association and advised members that the nomination of names to same is a Reserved Function.

General Correspondence

- **07.07.2014** – The CE advised that Gaelscoil Uí Rí ordáin, Ballincollig and the parents association are seeking an independent Gaelcholáiste in Ballincollig. The parents association have written to the Minister. They are seeking to have the Gaelcholáiste removed from Coláiste Choilm and set up as an independent school.

The BOM and the school are opposed to this idea. This is the beginning of a very active campaign and wide-scale canvassing is on-going. The CE advised that the DES will undertake a study to determine the needs of the area. He did state however that he would be very slow to change what has been a very successful model in Coláiste Choilm. He stated that the college recently had an exceptional report following a Whole School Evaluation by the DES where in a college of approx. 1,400 students there were no recommendations for improvement. The CE stated that to his knowledge this was unprecedented.

- **28.07.2014** – The Board agreed to the appointment of the CE to the BOM of Cork Sports Partnership Ltd.
- **03.09.2014** – The Board agreed, on the proposition of Cllr. Chris O’Leary, to defer a decision regarding a contribution towards a statue of Sonia O’Sullivan in Cobh, to the next ETB meeting.

CEO’S REPORT

The CE advised that as this was the first full meeting of CETB, he wanted to present an overview of the organisation to members so they can familiarise themselves with the services offered.

Education Report

Mr. Paudie Palmer referred to PLC and the smaller of the FE colleges from the former County, Mallow FEC and Kinsale FEC and asked what the situation regarding same is. The CE advised that SOLAS is the new FET authority and they will plan, fund and co-ordinate FET at national level. SOLAS will devise and plan national strategy and co-ordinate provision but CETB will be the provider. CETB are currently trying to develop a plan for PLC and for FET in general for Cork. This plan would seek to ensure a comprehensive quality provision which would provide access to learners and avoid duplication. CETB wants to be a model for the nation.

Rev. Dr. Tom Deenihan referred to the contractual implications highlighted by the ACCS in relation to the possibility of Contracts of Indefinite Duration being granted to temporary teachers after two years. The CE advised that up to now teachers were entitled to a CID after four years on a Fixed Term Contract. This changed to three years under the Haddington Road Agreement and the most recent report published offers the possibility of this being changed to two years. This may restrict the scope for schools to offer a wider curriculum. John Fitzgibbons stated that the terms of the report have not been accepted but in all likelihood the recommendations will be accepted. He advised that the impact on

schools will be less noticeable when they are in a growth phase. Ms. Maura Fitzgibbon stressed the need for proper conditions of service for teaching staff.

Finance Report

- The Board, on the proposition of Cllr. Chris O’Leary, seconded by Cllr. Des O’Grady, approved the update to signatories on the ETB HQ bank accounts.
- CL 0066/2014 – Procedures for borrowing by ETB’s – The CE outlined the background into the budget cuts by the DES since 2012. He informed members that the above Circular Letter gives ETB’s the power to borrow money and seek overdraft facilities should the need arise. He advised that this is a three step procedure, the first of which is to submit a proposal to the Board, that the Board would seek the consent of the Minister for Education & Skills to borrow. Once the consent of the Minister has been obtained, the CE would then need the further sanction of the Board, at a subsequent meeting, to borrow. After a lengthy discussion, where numerous Board members expressed their concerns regarding giving their approval, the Board, on the proposition of Cllr. Chris O’Leary, seconded by Cllr. Des O’Grady, agreed to the CE undertaking the first step in the procedures outlined above. The Board noted that they are not giving permission for the CE to borrow, just to seek consent of the Minister, should the need arise. The Board also outlined that the CE would need to present detailed reasons and figures as to why borrowing would be necessary.

RESERVED ITEMS

Sealing of Documents

The Board, on the proposition of Cllr. Chris O’Leary, seconded by Cllr. Mary Hegarty, approved the following Sealing of Documents:

- Licence Agreement to CETB for the use of Inniscarra Reservoir for training purposes
- Service Level Agreement between CETB and YMCA Ireland/STEP Programme
- Service Level Agreement between CETB and Matt Talbot Adolescent Service
- Agreement between CETB and the Briain Ó Tuama Fund

ETBI AGM & Extraordinary Congress 2014

The Board agreed the following would attend the ETBI AGM and Extraordinary Congress:

- **Delegates**
 - Mr. Ted Owens, CE

- Cllr. Patrick Gerard Murphy (Chairperson)
- Cllr. Claire Cullinane
- Cllr. Mary Hegarty
- Ms. Maura Fitzgibbon
- Cllr. Mary Shields

DATE & VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

The CE referred to Schedule 3, Section 9 2 (2) of the ETB Act 2013 and correspondence received from the DES advising that the number of statutory meetings of the Board should be restricted to the minimum required in the legislation which is at least one in every two months other than the months of July, August and September, where an ETB shall hold at least one meeting during the period commencing on the 1st July and ending on 30th September.

It was agreed that the next meeting would take place on Thursday 20th November 2014 at 4.00pm in the Training Centre, Rossa Avenue.

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING

SIGNED: _____
Chairman

DATE: _____