****

**Minutes of the RSU Withdrawal Exploratory Committee**

**April 10, 2015**

**6:30 PM Meeting held at the Embden Town Office**

**In attendance was:** No Record was made.

1. Robert Dunphy called the meeting to order at (unknown time).
2. **Pledge of Allegiance.**
3. **Review of Minutes of the first RSU Withdrawal Exploratory Committee Meeting on March 31, 2015**.

This agenda item was skipped.

1. **Structuring of RSU Withdrawal Exploratory Committee continued.** 
   1. Choose Committee Secretary

R. Dunphy stated they would be using a recorder instead of having a secretary, and someone would then transcribe the minutes. Elizabeth Pratt agreed that would be best, because nothing would be left out.

1. **Discussion regarding Embden’s RSU Board members meeting with RSU #74’s Superintendent.**
   1. Discussion of the course of action regarding the cost sharing formula.

Dwight Barron advised he had spoken with the Superintendent. A meeting has been set up with the school board members and this committee for Tuesday, April 14th at 6pm at Carrabec HS to discuss the cost sharing formula. An ad hoc committee will be set up to look into changing the formula, provided enough votes can be attained from the committee members that night. The board is comprised of 15 members. 8 affirmative votes are required to form the committee, which would be chosen from the board members.

1. **Discussion regarding the petition to withdraw (22 step process).**
   1. Open to committee discussion.

R. Dunphy remarked, “I think that’s a little presumptuous of doing that until we find out from them, isn’t it?” Larry Witham pointed out that the group needs to know what the next step will be once they know the outcome of the meeting with the school board. R. Dunphy argued, “That’s why we really needed a public hearing because the people that come to the public hearing, they will tell us which way they want us to go.”

Paul Fortin stressed that one of the biggest bargaining chips will be the fact that this committee is moving forward with this process. He cautioned that if the school board sees a willingness to back down they will know the group is not serious.

The following information was requested for the next meeting:

* How many residents each town has
* Number of students from each town
* Cost per student with and without the subsidies (contributions)
* Town’s portion of debt service *Dwight Barron will get*
* Number of Special Education students from Embden
* How long once vote is taken before State can provide numbers *Tim & Torry Wahler will call*

Torry Wahler explained some of the research they had done. She said once the town does the first vote to pursue the withdrawal process, there is a woman at the state who can get the group all the numbers, including tuition rates.

1. **Next Meeting Announcement & Adjournment.** 
   1. School Board Meeting to Discuss Amending Cost Sharing Formula – Tuesday, April 14, 2015 @ 6pm at CHS.
   2. RSU Withdrawal Exploratory Committee Meeting – Tuesday, April 14, 2015 @ 7:30pm at Embden Town Office.
   3. Meeting adjourned at 7:35pm.