



etb

Bord Oideachais agus Oiliúna
Laoise agus Uíbh Fháilí
Laois and Offaly
Education and Training Board

A meeting of Laois and Offaly Education and Training Board was held on Monday 3rd November 2014 at 4.30 pm in Portlaoise Further Education Centre, Tower Hill, Portlaoise, in pursuance of notice.

PRESENT:

Maura Brophy
Molly Buckley
Cllr. John Carroll
Cllr. Eamon Dooley
Cllr. Caroline Dwane-Stanley
Cllr. Catherine Fitzgerald
Cllr. John King
Cllr. Jerry Lodge
Cllr. Sinead Dooley
Cllr. Paschal McEvoy

Vivienne Keenan
Denis Magner
Cllr. Carol Nolan
Cllr. Mary Sweeney
Cllr. Liam Quinn
Declan Costello
Mary Cotter Bracken
Anne Starling
Frank Smith
Joe Thompson

In attendance

Joe Cunningham, Chief Executive
Marie Bracken, Assistant Principal Officer
Sadie Aherne, Assistant Principal Officer
Jean Keating, Clerical Officer

1. WELCOME NEW MEMBERS:

Joe Cunningham, Chief Executive welcomed new Members to the Board: Anne Starling, Maura Brophy, Frank Smith, Joe Thompson and Molly Buckley.

2. ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON:

Joe Cunningham, Chief Executive asked members for their nominations for the position of Chairperson to Laois and Offaly Education and Training Board. Following a general discussion on the process and term of appointment of Chairperson, the following members were nominated:

Chairman
Initials

Nomination: Eamon Dooley
Proposed by: Sinead Dooley
Seconded by: Catherine Fitzgerald

Nomination: Denis Magner
Proposed by: John King
Seconded by: Mary Sweeney

Members requested a five minute recess to discuss the nomination process.

Proposed by: Catherine Fitzgerald
Seconded by: Caroline Dwane-Stanley

The nominations went to a vote count (by secret ballot) resulting in **Denis Magner** being appointed as Chairperson of Laois and Offaly Education and Training Board.

3. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRPERSON:

Denis Magner, Chairperson, asked members to nominate for the position of Vice-Chairperson to Laois and Offaly Education and Training Board.

Nomination: Eamon Dooley
Proposed by: Sinead Dooley
Seconded by: Catherine Fitzgerald

Nomination: Mary Sweeney
Proposed by: John King
Seconded by: Liam Quinn

Mary Sweeney withdrew her nomination resulting in Eamon Dooley being elected as Vice-Chairperson of Laois and Offaly Education and Training Board.

4. APOLOGIES:

Cllr. Eddie Fitzpatrick sent his apologies.

5. MINUTES FROM LAST LOETB MEETING:

The minutes of the following meetings were circulated to members, taken as read and signed by the Chairperson:

14th April 2014 at 4.30pm

Proposed by: Vivienne Keenan

Seconded by: Sinead Dooley

30th July 2014 at 4.30pm

Proposed by: Sinead Dooley

Seconded by: Mary Sweeney

22nd September 2014 at 4.30pm

Proposed by: John Carroll

Seconded by: John King

22nd September 2014 at 4.45pm

Proposed by: Caroline Dwane Stanley

Seconded by: John Carroll

6. MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES:

CLlr Sinead Dooley asked if there was any update on the Bank Overdraft which had been discussed at the last meeting. The Chief Executive confirmed that this will be covered under agenda item 9.

7. PRESENTATION OF ETB PROGRAMMES AND SERVICES:

Joe Cunningham, Chief Executive along with Linda Tynan, Director of Education Services, Marie Bracken, APO, Sadie Aherne, APO and Pdraig Boland, Youth Services Manager, made a presentation to members on all of Laois and Offaly ETBs programmes and Services.

8. CHIEF EXECUTIVES REPORT:

Joe Cunningham, Chief Executive presented a report to members as follows;

Education Services

Inspections

A number of inspections have taken place in our schools since the term began and the reports have been very positive, acknowledging the excellent teaching and learning taking place and also making recommendations to further improve efforts.

Staffing

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Chairma
Initials

Two Posts of Responsibility (one each at Tullamore College and Oaklands Community College) will be advertised presently.

Music Generation

We are part of Music Education Partnerships (Laois and Offaly/Westmeath) that successfully applied for funding under the Music Generation Programme. This initiative will be funded by DES at the end of the respective programmes.

Laois School of Music

The classes and operation of Laois School of Music (a partnership with Laois County Council) have transferred from Portlaoise College to Portlaoise Youth Education Centre, Railway Street, Portlaoise.

Further Education and Training Services

Training Services

As and from 1 July 2014 Laois and Offaly ETB took responsibility for training services delivered in the counties of Laois and Offaly. A Memorandum of Understanding was put in place with Longford and Westmeath ETB until 31 December 2014 to manage the operations of training services on our behalf. This followed a requirement from the Dept. of Education & Skills (DES) to submit a plan to ensure the continuity of services through the transfer process.

Mount Lucas Training Facility

As part of the transfer of training services to ETBs, and in line with legislation, ownership of the facility at Mount Lucas transferred to Laois and Offaly ETB on 1 July 2014. A Licence Agreement is being put in place with Longford and Westmeath ETB to facilitate the on-going delivery of training services at the Centre.

SOLAS have contracted Deloitte to prepare a business case for the transfer of their Assessment Function (currently carried out at SOLAS Head Office) as it is not part of their remit under the Further Education and Training Act. Mount Lucas will be considered as part of this process.

Further Education and Training 2015 Service Plan

SOLAS, in consultation with ETBI, are revising the process for funding for 2015. We are currently planning our Further Education provision for 2015 and working with Longford and Westmeath ETB in relation to the Training element of our provision.

Training Services

DES has requested a submission by 1 December on the resources necessary for Laois and Offaly ETB to manage the delivery of training services in the counties of Laois and Offaly. SOLAS have been asked to facilitate this process.

Youth Services

Youthreach provision

Following a review of provision across the two counties, 25 places have been transferred from Mountmellick Further Education Centre to Portlaoise Youth Education Centre, effective from 1 September.

Capital Grant

ETBs have been requested to administer a capital fund (€0.5M) for youth work organisations towards minor works (e.g. equipment and maintenance of premises). Recommendation will be made by ETBs, with decisions made by DES in early December.

Administrative Services**Staffing**

A detailed business case was submitted to DES for additional administrative posts and revisions were subsequently requested to the proposal. I have requested a meeting to discuss the matter further and await a response to same.

Capital

Work commenced on the new school building at Tullamore College on 1 September and progress to date is to schedule.

A number of our schools received funding for minor upgrades through the Summer Works Scheme and Emergency Works Scheme.

Additional temporary accommodation was approved for Oaklands Community College and all works are now complete. We await a response from DES on the proposed redevelopment of the site.

9. PROPOSAL TO BORROW BY WAY OF OVERDRAFT FACILITY:

Following a proposal approved at the September meeting of Laois and Offaly ETB that the Board should borrow money for the purposes of carrying out the Board's function and the subsequent consent received from the Minister of Education and Skills, the following resolution was accepted by members:

Resolution regarding Bank Overdraft Facility

That the Board, on the consent of The Minister for Education and Skills dated 6th October 2014, accepts the Chief Executives proposal to accept the offer of the facility amounting to EUR 3,300,000 made by Allied Irish Banks, p.l.c. ("the Bank") to the Laois and Offaly Education and Training Board subject to the terms and conditions referred to in the letter of sanction dated 3rd November 2014 addressed by the Bank to the Board, and that Denis Magner and Joe Cunningham (Chairperson and Secretary) are hereby authorised to sign on behalf of the Board the letter of sanction and such other authorities, documents and instructions that the Bank shall require to be signed by the Board in connection with the facility.

Proposed by: Eamon Dooley

Seconded by: John King

Chairman
Initials

10. FINANCE REPORT – MONTHLY RETURN:

A copy of the monthly return for September was circulated to members for their information.

11. APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS FROM JANUARY TO JUNE 2013:

A copy of the accounts of Laois and Offaly VEC's from January to June 2013 were circulated to members for their approval. Members approved same:

Co. Laois VEC	Co. Offaly VEC
<i>Proposed by:</i> Mary Sweeney	<i>Proposed by:</i> Liam Quinn
<i>Seconded by:</i> Jerry Lodge	<i>Seconded by:</i> Eamon Dooley

12. CORRESPONDENCE:

The following Circular Letters were sent to members for their information.

<u>CL0028/2014</u>	<u>CL0043/2014</u>	<u>CL0061/2014</u>
<u>CL0029/2014</u>	<u>CL0048/2014</u>	<u>CL0062/2014</u>
<u>CL0030/2014</u>	<u>CL0049/2014</u>	<u>CL0063/2014</u>
<u>CL0032/2014</u>	<u>CL0050/2014</u>	<u>CL0065/2014</u>
<u>CL0033/2014</u>	<u>CL0053/2014</u>	<u>CL0066/2014</u>
<u>CL0035/2014</u>	<u>CL0055/2014</u>	<u>CL0067/2014</u>
<u>CL0037/2014</u>	<u>CL0056/2014</u>	<u>CL0068/2014</u>
<u>CL0038/2014</u>	<u>CL0057/2014</u>	<u>CL0070/2014</u>
<u>CL0042/2014</u>	<u>CL0059/2014</u>	

13. BOARD OF MANAGEMENT MINUTES:

The following Board of Management minutes were circulated to members prior to the meeting for their approval:

Ard Scoil Chiaráin Naofa, Clara:	Banagher College – Coláiste na Sionna:
27 th March 2014	8 th April 2014
15 th May 2014	20 th June 2014
18 th September 2014	18 th December 2014
<i>Proposed by:</i> Eamon Dooley	<i>Proposed by:</i> John Carroll
<i>Seconded by:</i> Vivienne Keenan	<i>Seconded by:</i> Eamon Dooley

St Fergals College:

10th December 2013

4th February 2014

8th April 2014

13th May 2014

23rd September 2014

Proposed by: John King

Seconded by: Mary Sweeney

Oaklands Community College:

28th February 2014

26th May 2014

28th August 2014

2nd October 2014

Proposed by: Eamon Dooley

Seconded by: Liam Quinn

Coláiste Naomh Cormac, Kilcormac:

9th January 2014

28th April 2014

Proposed by: Liam Quinn

Seconded by: Eamon Dooley

Tullamore College:

10th March 2014

8th May 2014

Proposed by: Molly Buckley

Seconded by: John Carroll

Portlaoise College:

9th May 2014

Proposed by: Mary Sweeney

Seconded by: Catherine Fitzgerald

14. APPOINTMENT OF NOMINEE TO IRISH PUBLIC BODIES MUTUAL INSURANCES LTD:

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Members were asked to nominate for the appointment of a member of Laois and Offaly ETB to Irish Public Bodies Mutual Insurances Ltd.

Nomination: Mary Sweeney

Proposed by: Liam Quinn

Seconded by: John King

Nomination: John Carroll

Proposed by: Eamon Dooley

Seconded by: Carol Nolan

The nominations went to a vote count (by a secret ballot) resulting in a tie. The casting vote was made by the Chairman resulting in **John Carroll** being appointed.

15. ETBI ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND EXTRAORDINARY CONGRESS 2014:

Members were asked to nominate 4 voting delegates to attend the ETBI Annual General Meeting and Extraordinary Congress 2014 which will take place on Thursday 27th November 2014 in Killashee House in Naas.

- 4 Voting Delegates Nominated:**
- Declan Costello
 - Carol Nolan
 - Catherine Fitzgerald
 - Mary Sweeney
- Non-Voting Delegates to attend:**
- Denis Magner (Chairperson)
 - Vivienne Keenan
 - Joe Cunningham

16. ETBI ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND EXTRAORDINARY CONGRESS 2014 – NOMINATIONS TO THE RESERVE MEMBERS FORUM:

Members were asked to nominate one member to the Reserve Members Forum of the ETBI.

Nomination: Eamon Dooley
Proposed by: Declan Costello
Secoded by: Catherine Fitzpatrick

Nomination: Mary Sweeney
Proposed by: John King
Secoded by: Jerry Lodge

The nominations went to a vote count (by secret ballot) resulting in **Mary Sweeney** being appointed to the Reserve Members Forum.

17. COMMITTEES – EXTENSION OF TERM OF OFFICE OF BOARDS OF MANAGEMENT OF SCHOOLS AND OTHER CENTRES OF EDUCATION OPERATED BY EDUCATION AND TRAINING BOARDS:

Joe Cunningham, Chief Executive informed members that the Minister for Education and Skills has directed that the term of office of Boards of Management of schools and other centres of education operated by Education and Training Boards shall be extended to the 31st December 2014 in order to facilitate the reformation of Education and Training Boards following the Local Elections on 23rd May 2014.

A further communication is due to issue from the Department concerning the reestablishment of committees with effect from 1st January 2015.

Members approved this extension of term of office.

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Proposed by: Molly Buckley
Seconded by: John King

18. VOTES OF SYMPATHY:

A vote of sympathy was passed to the following:

- To the Partner and family of the late James (Jim Doyle), Staff Member at Portlaoise College.
- To Eileen Mullaney on the death of her Father.
- To Catherine MacNamara on the death of her Father.
- To Heather Delahunt on the death of her Grandmother.
- To Richard Murphy on the death of his Father.

19. VOTES OF CONGRATULATIONS:

A vote of congratulations was passed to the following:

- To Tullamore College: a group of Transition Year students who represented their school in Moscow at the 2014 Sage World Cup last August with their business venture 'Greener Globe'.
- To the Rathdowney Senior Hurling Team on winning the Leinster A hurling final.
- To Ard Scoil Chiaráin Naofa, Clara, for organising the county sports day.

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20. AOB:

There were no matter discussed under AOB.

21. DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT ETB MEETING:

It was agreed that the Board would meet in January further to guidance from Department of Education and Skills on appointments to Boards of Management.

Signed: *Paul Maguire*
Chairperson

Date: 27-1-15

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