

Facilities Committee Meeting Minutes 9/15/17.

Present: George Lawrence, George Gardner, JoAn Canning, Tom Borchert, Ken Sullivan, Stephanie Taylor and Jesse Freedman, VT Superintendents Association School Energy Management Program Director.

Meeting called to order at 7:35 am.

Questions before us: deciding on a fuel source at the high school; the elementary school additions, and the roof/solar panel component of the audit.

George L. indicates we should explore using air source heat pumps connected to solar in the CD wing and there would be no need for fossil fuels in that section of the building. Further discussion that Efficiency VT will give \$3000 to support this investigation; Ken S. indicates he has secured \$5,000. Discussion on the steam system. The Investment Grade Audit did not address how to deal with the old air conditioners that are in multiple classrooms.

More discussion on the roof and the use of solar panels and the placement of those panels. Further discussion on the conversion options of the current steam system. Discussion on electrical usage; the high school takes up approximately 50% of that usage. Discussion on the possibility of having a solar array located at FCS.

More discussion on the electrical costs/usage of air source heat pumps. George L. asks for the more in-depth spreadsheet from EEI with facts/figures regarding electrical usage and energy usage. Ken S. will get in touch with Mike Davey of EEI.

Ken S. indicates Mike D. had people looking at the roof recently and has suggested we can remove \$500,000 off the \$1,650,000 indicated in the audit - VUHS - ECM3.

Jesse F. offers some feedback and mentions Green Mountain Power is looking for a pilot project regarding electrical usage. He will reach out to them regarding this.

Discussion on the biomass/wood chip heating system; Jesse indicates $\frac{1}{3}$ of VT schools are heated this way. Discussion on the maintenance and training aspects of this system, the boiler life span, the long term supply of wood chips. Further discussion on cleaner fuel source options and the long-term availability of gas.

Discussion on allocating \$20,000 for preliminary engineering work for exploration of a new heating system.

Discussion on allocating \$20,000 for preliminary engineering work on three elementary school additions. JoAn C. suggests looking at reorganization possibilities at all three schools; it is agreed that it is unlikely we would recommend additions to the three elementary schools and we will not allocate these funds for such a purpose.

Discussion on the time frame on starting this project; Jesse F. indicates we should have a completed investment grade audit which will help further this conversation. If any preliminary design work is done beforehand it could be more difficult to make changes down the road. Typically an investment grade audit gets rolled into the project cost; EEI has offered to waive this cost.

Ken S. will talk with Mike Davey and ask for:

- a more refined spreadsheet
- replacing some of the old system with air source heat pumps/solar option
- remove the additions to the three elementary schools from the proposal
- remove the biomass plant option from the proposal

Discussion on the current control systems at all the schools and the issues we are facing as well as how they interface at the high school.

JoAn C. will send Jesse F. a copy of the 9/8/17 Investment Grade Audit. Jesse F. will attend our next meeting, scheduled for October 6, 2017 at 7:30 am at the ANWSD offices.

Meeting adjourned at 8:55 am