



MINUTES OF MEETING
Held on Thursday, 25th September, 2014
In Limerick Strand Hotel, Limerick

Present: Cllr. Cathal Crowe, Chairperson,
Ms. Joan Aherne, Deputy Chairperson
Cllr. Maria Byrne
Cllr. Michael Donegan
Ms. Mary Flanagan
Cllr. Liam Galvin
Ms. Catherine (Kate) Harran De Parra
Cllr. Michael Hillery
Cllr. Mary Howard
Cllr. Gabriel Keating
Mr. Sean Kennedy
Cllr. Ann Norton
Cllr. Richard O'Donoghue
Mr. Donal O'hAinifein
Cllr. Kieran O'Hanlon
Cllr. Elena Sacas
Cllr. Lisa Marie Sheehy

In attendance: Mr. George O'Callaghan, Chief Executive
Bernadette Cullen, Education Officer
Paul Patton, Education Officer
John O'Connor, Head of Corporate Affairs
Shelagh Graham, Head of Human Resources
Eamon Murphy, Head of Buildings and Procurement
Ms. Mary Troy, Head of Finance
Ms. Aileen O'Sullivan, Corporate Affairs
Ms. Caroline Hayes, Corporate Affairs
Ms. Joanne O'Brien, Corporate Affairs (Recording Secretary)

1. Introduction and Welcome

The Chief Executive warmly welcomed Members who were appointed in accordance with Section 30 (11) (b) of the Education and Training Boards Act (2013) and congratulated them on their appointment to the Board. He advised the Board that in the absence of a Chairperson, he would chair the meeting until conclusion of Agenda Item 2. The CE advised that training would be provided for all Members on conclusion of legislation in relation to Corporate Governance for ETBs. This was welcomed.

2. Election of the Chairperson of Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board

Following a discussion with regard to Chairperson, Cllr. Cathal Crowe was proposed by Cllr. Anne Norton and seconded by Cllr. Mike Donegan. Cllr. Maria Byrne was proposed by Mr. Tony Brazil and seconded by Cllr. Liam Galvin.

On the proposal of Cllr. Kieran O'Hanlon, seconded by Cllr. Ann Norton, the Members agreed to a recess for ten minutes.

The Meeting reconvened and the CE was advised that the Members wished to proceed with a vote.

At the conclusion of the vote, Cllr. Cathal Crowe was deemed elected Chairperson of Limerick and Clare ETB.

Cllr. Crowe then took the Chair, thanked all Members and wished them well in their endeavours as Members of Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board.

On taking the Chair, Cllr. Crowe wished to record in the minute that it was his intention to serve as Chairperson of Limerick and Clare ETB for one year only.

In accordance with Schedule 3, 4 (1) of the Act, the Board decided to elect a Deputy Chairperson, and in this regard Ms. Joan Aherne was elected on the proposal of Cllr. Kieran Hanlon, seconded by Mr. Sean Kennedy.

3. Apologies/Condolences

- The Harty Family on the death of Mary Harty (Former Councillor and former Member of Co. Limerick VEC).
- Mr. Michael O'Connor (East Limerick College of Further Education) on the death of his grandfather Mr. Tim O'Connor.
- Ms. Claire Sheehan (Desmond College, Newcastle West) on the death of her father in law, Mr. Sean McMahon.
- Ms. Aileen O'Sullivan (Head Office) on the death of her aunt in law.
- Ms. Stephanie Murphy (Head Office) on the death of her uncle.
- Mr. Joe Biggane (Employment Facilitator Kilmallock) on the death of his mother, Kathleen.
- Ms. Mary Laffan's (Castletroy College) on the death of her brother, Alfie
- Ms. Bernie Pearse (Head Office) on the death of her father in law, James.
- Ms. Marie Burke (SOLAS Training Services, Limerick) on the death of her mother, Annie Cusack.

Chairperson, Members and CE expressed their sympathy to the Harty Family on the recent passing of Cllr. Mary Harty, former Member of Co. Limerick and VEC. As a mark of respect the Meeting was formally adjourned for fifteen minutes as per Standing Orders Section 20.7 (ii).

4. Adoption of the Minutes of the Previous Meetings

Minutes of Meetings held on 28th June, 28th July and 5th August, 2014, were confirmed and signed on the proposal of Cllr. Mike Donegan, seconded by Cllr. Liam Galvin.

5. Matters Arising from the Minutes

None.

6. Correspondence

DEPARTMENT CORRESPONDENCE

CL 0051/2014

June, 2014

Re: Secured Borrowings by schools and Vocational Education Committees/Education and Training Boards.
Noted.

CL 0053/2014

11th July, 2014

Re: Implementation of the Public Service Stability Agreement 2013 – 2016 (Haddington Road Agreement) - Teachers - Increased Incremental Salary Scale, Part-Time Rates and Allowance Rates for post 1 January, 2011 Entrants to Teaching and Increased Allowance Rates for post 1 February 2012 Entrants to Teaching.
Noted.

CL 0055/2014

11th July, 2014

Re: Implementation of Clause 2.31 of the Haddington Road Agreement - revised pay scales and allowances for persons recruited to certain direct entry grades. Revised Salary and Allowances for Adult Education Guidance Counsellors and Co-ordinators, Adult Education Guidance Information Officers, Adult Literacy Organisers, Community Education Facilitators, Psychologists (City of Dublin ETB and Dublin-Dun Laoghaire ETB) and Youthreach Resource Persons.
Noted.

CL 0057/2014

11th July, 2014

Re: Implementation of Clause 2.31 of the Haddington Road Agreement - revised pay rates and allowances for persons recruited to certain direct entry grades. Revised Pay Rates and Allowances for Self Financing Adult Education Classes.
Noted.

CL 0059/2014

18th July, 2014

Re: Sick Leave Scheme for Registered Teachers in Recognised Primary and Post Primary Schools.
Noted.

CL 0060/2014

18th July, 2014

Re: Sick Leave Scheme for Special Needs Assistants in Recognised Primary and Post Primary Schools.
Noted.

<u>CL 0061/2014</u> August, 2014	Re: Discontinuance of Typewriting examination after 2016. Noted.
<u>CL 0063/2014</u> 25 th July, 2014	Re: Certified Sick Leave Scheme for all staff in Education and Training Boards, other than Teachers and Special Needs Assistants (SNAs). Noted.
<u>CL 0065/2014</u> 30 th July, 2014	Re: Sick Leave Scheme for Clerical Officers and Caretakers employed in National Schools under the 1978/79 Scheme and Clerical Officers employed in Post Primary Schools under the 1978 Scheme. Noted.
<u>CL 0066/2014</u> August, 2014	Re: Procedures for Borrowing by Education and Training. Noted.
<u>CL 0067/2014</u> 5 th September, 2014	Re: Statistical Returns in respect of part-time courses in ETB (Vocational) Schools/Community Colleges in the 2013/2014 School Year. Noted.
<u>CL 0068/2014</u> 2 nd September, 2014	Re: HSE Post-Primary School Vaccination Programme 2014/15. Noted.
<u>CL 0070/2014</u> September, 2014 27 th June, 2014	Re: Guidance for post-primary schools on the provision of resource teaching and learning support Noted. Re: Capital Projects Outstanding Balances. Noted.
10 th September, 2014	Re: General and Post Primary non-pay (ordinary non-pay (ONP) grant to LCETB 2014. Noted.
15 th September, 2014	Re: Revised Arrangements for the Provision of Substitution Cover for Registered Teachers employed in Post Primary Schools - Circular 0050/2014. Noted.
18 th September, 2014	Re: DEIS (Delivering Equality of Opportunity in Schools), the Action Plan for Education Inclusion. Noted.

ETBI CORRESPONDENCE

15th September, 2014 Re: Annual General Meeting and Extraordinary Congress scheduled for Thursday, 27th November, 2014 and See Agenda Item 10.

September, 2014 Re: Publication ETBI Magazine Autumn 2014. Noted.

OTHER CORRESPONDENCE

Fr: Teachers Union Ireland (TUI)
9th June, 2014 Re: Mr. Sean Kennedy remaining on the Executive Committee. Noted.

Fr: National Council for Special Education Needs (NCSE)
18th June, 2014 Re: Publication - A Proposed New Model for Allocating Teaching Resources for Students with Special Educational Needs. Noted.

Fr: Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport.
20th June, 2014 Re: 2012 Sports Capital Programme – Burren Outdoor Education Centre. Noted.

Fr: Department of Children and Youth Affairs
3rd July, 2014 Re: Third Instalment of Current Funding 2014. Noted.

Fr: Teagasc
July, 2014 Re: Teagasc 2014 National Rural Development Conference. Noted.

Fr: Clare County Council
20th July, 2014 Re: Section 32 Local Government reform Act, 2013, duty to inform rating authority of transfer of relevant property. Noted.

Fr: NALA
26th August, 2014 Re: NALA's Female Nominee to the Board of Limerick and Clare ETB. Deferred to Item No. 4.

Fr: Limerick Institute of Technology
28th August, 2014 Re: Student nominations to the Governing Body of Limerick Institute of Technology. The Board approved the nominations of Ms. Mairead Keogh and Mr. Chris Walshe as Student Representatives to Governing Board.

Fr: Colaiste na Trócaire, Rathkeale
2nd September, 2014

Re: Female Staff Nomination to the Board of Management of Colaiste na Trócaire, Rathkeale.
The Board approved the nomination of Ms. Michelle Wilmott as female Staff Representative to Board of Management.

Fr: Quality and Qualifications Ireland (QQI)
18th September, 2014

Re: ETB Learners and CAO.
Noted.

Fr: Board of Management, Colaiste Iosaef, Kilmallock.
22nd September, 2014

Re: Financial Procedures re Board of Management and Parents Association Account.
The Chief Executive read out a letter from a Board of Management to Members in which concern was expressed with regard to funds raised by the Parents Association. The Finance Officer advised that funds raised in the name of the school have to be accounted for by the ETB whose accounts and procedures are subject to audit by the Comptroller and Auditor General and the Internal Audit Unit, the Vocational Support Services Unit and also to scrutiny by the Public Accounts Committee. The CE informed Members that this is now the required standard procedure in all schools nationwide. He also reassured Members that this did not mean a change in how funds raised by parents would be disbursed nor did it mean that such funds could be substituted for exchequer funding. The CE paid tribute to the Parents Association and the time and effort that parents have devoted to ensuring a better education for the pupils of the school. Their commitment and dedication is a tremendous support to the school community and while the Board understood the concerns at the proposals, it is the intention of same to support the school community as a whole.

Fr: Nala

Re: Resignation of Ms. Eileen Sheehan from Board.
Accepted.

7. Appointment of Board Member to fill vacancy

The Board noted nominations to fill vacancy and following a general discussion and show of hands, Ms. Mary Margaret Vallenge, nominated by Aontas and the National Adult Literacy Organisation, was appointed to the Board.

8. Chief Executive's Report

Members were circulated with the Chief Executive's Report as follows;

Principals Forum Meeting

A meeting with Principals was held on 21st August. The meeting entailed a number of areas, financial, human resources, corporate services, buildings and procurement and educational planning. Further meetings are planned.

Schools Examinations Results 2014

Compliments to Principals and Staff Teams in schools, and centres on the excellent results obtained in the State Examinations and in particular to the high progression rates to further and higher education programmes.

St. Nessian's & Salesians Amalgamation Process

The third Conjoint Staff Day was held on Tuesday 26th August. The CE and Provincial of the Salesians, Sr. Mary Doran, opened the session. The staff of both schools had another opportunity to consider a name for the new Community College. Significant progress was made on the day regarding the identification of the curriculum for the new school and also on the development of an inclusive policy framework. New working groups with staff from both schools have been established.

The name for the new Community College has been agreed between the patron and Trustees as Thomond Community College.

A Steering Group meeting was held on the 9th September and further progress has been made on the development of a uniform and planning for the forthcoming open night on 1st October.

Local Youth Grant Scheme 2014

Applications for youth club grant schemes were considered by the existing sub-committees and recommendations have been made by the sub-committees for adoption by the LCETB. The Board unanimously adopted same.

Colaiste Na Trocaire Rathkeale Outreach Programme

The project is growing from strength to strength and will have third year students going forward to complete Junior Certificate Examinations in June 2015.

Individual Schools Continuous Professional Development

A number of staff sessions have been facilitated in schools by in house personnel and by PDST staff in areas such as Child Protection, Restorative Practices, Student Support Teams, Whole School approach to Numeracy and Whole School Strategy to Manage Behaviour. These individual sessions are linked to the overall Teaching and Learning Plan for the Limerick and Clare ETB.

An Bord Pleanála Decision Croom

The CE informed members that he was most disappointed at the decision of An Bord Pleanála to refuse planning permission for the new Colaiste Chiaráin, Croom Post Primary School Development, thus overturning the planning permission granted by Limerick County Council for this development in April this year.

Members were advised that Limerick County Council have previously granted both outline planning permission and full planning permission for the development of a school on the proposed site at Skagh, Croom. The decision to grant planning for the new school was appealed to An Bord Pleanála.

Notwithstanding the disappointment at an Bord Pleanála's decision for the entire school community, particularly students, staff and parents, LCETB is determined and committed to ensuring the delivery of the much-needed new Colaiste Chiaráin Post Primary Campus.

The implications of this decision for the new school project are being assessed by the ETB in close consultation with the Design Team and Planning Consultant. All appropriate steps, including direct engagement with the Planning Authority, are being implemented without delay in order to progress a resolution of this issue. The Board Members expressed their absolute disappointment on hearing the news and it was suggested that the Chief Executive correspond with Parents/Guardians with an update on same. The Buildings Officer, Mr. Eamon Murphy, agreed to brief Members at next meeting on any further developments.

Community School Site, Ennistymon

The Minister has asked the patrons of the three schools in Ennistymon to consent to the co-location of the Scoil Mhaincín Primary School with the new Community School to be built arising from the amalgamation of the three post primary schools.

Third Level Grants

Members were informed of applications dealt with to-date as follows;

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|-----------------------------------------------|-----|
| • No of renewal applications received to date | 208 |
| • Awarded | 105 |
| • Refused / Closed (on income grounds) | 7 |
| • Under query | 96 |

9. Motion to Requisition the President (Vice President) and General Secretary of Education and Training Boards Ireland, ETBI, to convene an Extraordinary Congress of the Association.

In accordance with Rule 21 5 of the ETBI Constitution, Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board, being a member of the Association, agreed to requisition the President (Vice-President) of ETBI to convene with the General Secretary, an Extraordinary Congress of the Association on Thursday, 27 November, 2014, to address the proposed amendments to the ETBI Constitution.

10.Appointment of Voting Delegates, (4), to ETBI Extraordinary Congress and AGM

The following Members were appointed as Voting delegates to ETBI Extraordinary Congress and AGM;

Cllr. Gabriel Keating, Cllr. Kieran O'Hanlon, Cllr. Mary Howard and Cllr. Michael Hillery.

11.Appointment of Non-Voting Delegates, (4), to ETBI Extraordinary Congress and AGM

The following were appointed as Non-Voting delegates to ETBI Extraordinary Congress and AGM;

Ms. Joan Aherne, Cllr. Liam Galvin, Cllr. Maria Byrne, Cllr. Richard O'Donoghue, Cllr. Michael Donegan and Mr. Sean Kennedy.

12. AOB

Following a query from Cllr. Liam Galvin on future of Abbeyfeale Education Centre and repairs to Centre from Storm Darwin, the Chief Executive advised that Mr. Paul Patton, Education and Training Officer was currently conducting a value for money exercise on centres as per Comptroller and Auditor General guidelines and following this review, he would report back to Board on the matter. Members expressed their concern at the possible closure of centres and the CE advised that unfortunately there is no capital funding available for Further Education centres and any monies for repairs etc. would have to be found in programmes themselves.

Thursday, 13th November, 2014, commencing at 4.30 p.m. in Marshal House.

(Signed) GEORGE O'CALLAGHAN,
Chief Executive.

Signed: 
Chairperson of meeting held on 13th November, 2014