

Minutes of LWETB Board Meeting

Date	Tuesday 12 th January, 2021
Time	5.30 p.m.
Venue	Teleconferencing due to COVID19

Attendance

(Present: P, Apologies: AP, Absent: AB)

Board Member		Board Member	
Mr. Luke Casserly	P	Cllr. Frankie Keena	P
Mr. Donie Cassidy	P	Cllr. Denis Leonard	P
Cllr. Aoife Davitt	P	Ms. Kathleen McGahern	P
Cllr. John Dolan	P	Mr. Mark Murphy	P
Cllr. Michael Dollard	AP	Cllr. Garry Murtagh	P
Ms. Josephine Donohue	P	Cllr. Peggy Nolan	AP
Ms. Niamh Ginnell	P	Ms. Mary O'Brien	P
Cllr. Ken Glynn	P	Cllr. Pat O'Toole	P
Cllr. Gerry Hagan	P	Ms. Emily Wallace	AB
Mr. Colm Harte	P	Mr. Colin Whyte	P
Cllr. Louise Heavin	AP		

Also Present:

Dr. Christy Duffy, Chief Executive	P	Ms. Antonine Healy, Director of FET	P
Ms. Liz Lavery, Director of SYM	P	Ms. Elaine McEvoy, Acting Senior Staff Officer	P
Mr. Charlie Mitchell, Director of OSD	P		

1. Preliminary

Chairperson, Cllr Frankie Keena, opened the meeting by welcoming everyone present and wished everyone well.

1.2 Apologies

Cllr. Michael Dollard
Cllr. Louise Heavin
Cllr. Peggy Nolan

Condolences

Ms. Liz McNamee, LWETB Head Office, on the death of her Mother, Mary (Molly) Murtagh.

Congratulations to:

Wayne Walsh, Principal Castlepollard Community College on the birth of his son

BT Young Scientist 2021

Lanesboro Community College -- **Orla Lyons** – 'Rising from the ashes: A survey of plants in my

local bog which have been identified as having medicinal properties’

Result: 1st place in the Biological and Ecological section in the Senior Individual category

Castlepollard Community College – Senior Individual category - **Patrick D’Arcy** – ‘The Wide Awake’

Result: 3rd Place in the Technology section in the Senior Individual category

Athlone Community College – **Sarah Fitzpatrick** – ‘I Hear Everything’ – An investigation into the lack of knowledge and inclusion of Sensory Processing Disorder in society

Result: Highly Commended in the Social and Behavioural Sciences section Intermediate Individual category

Athlone Community College – **Clodagh O’Brien, Nikka Campbell. Alisha Collins** – ‘What are we recycling’

Result: Highly Commended in the Social and Behavioural Sciences section in the Intermediate Group category

Moate Community School – **Abby Mullins, Chloe Murphy, Megan Carroll** – ‘Wool Saviour of our Sea’

Result: Best Group in the Biological and Ecological section in the Intermediate Group

Moate Community School - **Abby Mullins, Chloe Murphy, Megan Carroll** – ‘Wool Saviour of our Sea’

Result: Gold Partner Award in the Perrigo Best Biological and Ecological section in the Intermediate Group category

Moate Community School – Best Overall School & Perrigo Educator of Excellence award

1.3 Adoption of Minutes of 10th November, 2020 (See Appendix 1)

Proposed: Mr. Donie Cassidy **Seconded:** Mr. Colm Harte

1.4 Matters arising from Minutes

Members enquired as to whether there was an update on the future of the Longford Campus discussed at the November 2020 meeting. Dr. Christy Duffy, Chief Executive, informed them that LWETB were engaging in discussions with developers but that it was still in the very early stages.

1.5 Acting Chief Executive Position

Chairperson, Cllr. Frankie Keena, informed members that on receipt of Dr. Christy Duffy’s resignation in December 2020 he sought sanction from the Department of Education to fill the position in an Acting capacity until a permanent appointment was made. He explained that the process to appoint an Acting Chief Executive was complete. Dr. Christy Duffy, Chief Executive, informed members that Ms. Liz Lavery, Director of Schools was appointed as Acting Chief Executive. Members thanked Dr. Christy Duffy for his time and dedication to Longford and Westmeath ETB since 2013 and wished him and Ms. Liz Lavery well in their new roles.

Proposed: Cllr. Denis Leonard **Seconded:** Cllr. Ken Glynn

2. Information and Communication

2.1 Summary of Correspondence (See Appendix 2)

Correspondence items of importance were highlighted by Dr. Christy Duffy and noted by the Board.

3. Committee Reports

3.1 Audit and Risk Committee

No report for this meeting.

3.2 Finance Committee (See Appendix 3)

The report in respect of meeting held on 27th November was noted by the Board

3.3 Youth Work Committee

No report for this meeting.

3.4 Boards of Management (See Appendix 4)

Athlone Community College 05th October, 2020
 Mullingar Community College 08th September, 2020
 Mullingar Community College 23rd September, 2020
 Mullingar Community College 24th November, 2020
 Castlepollard Community College 21st September 2020
 Ballymahon Vocational School 29th September, 2020
 Noted

4. Policies & Procedures

The following policy was noted by the Board

4.1 LWETB Visual Display Unit Policy

5. Governance & Publications

5.1 Property Lease Register (See Appendix 5)

Storage Facility, Granard

Proposed: Cllr. Pat O'Toole **Seconded:** Mr. Colm Harte

Adult Learning Centre, Granard

Proposed: Cllr. Garry Murtagh **Seconded:** Mr. Colm Harte

5.2 Circular Letters

Circulars of importance were highlighted by Dr. Christy Duffy and noted by the Board.

6. Chief Executives Report

6.1 Director of Organisation Support and Development Report (See Appendix 6)

Mr. Charlie Mitchell, Director of Organisation Support and Development informed the Board that the Department of Education sanctioned the spending of net capital balances that have been carried forward for over a decade. He explained that LWETB are liaising with the Department of Education in relation to how we can spend this balance.

Finance Report

The Finance Report was noted by the Board.

Buildings Report

The Buildings Report was noted by the Board.

HR Report

The HR Report was noted by the Board.

6.2 Director of Schools, Youth and Music Report

Ms. Liz Lavery, Director of Schools, gave members an update on the return to school. Following a discussion, it was agreed that a letter be sent to the Department of Education regarding the decision by Minister Foley to proceed with Leaving Certificate Exams 2021 in the traditional manner. Members wished to make an appeal that the decision was reviewed and alternative methods of assessment provided.

Proposed: Luke Casserly **Seconded:** Cllr. Denis Leonard

6.3 Director of Further Education and Training Report

Ms. Antonine Healy, Director of Further Education and Training, gave members a brief update on the return to online learning for further education students.

7. Motions

7.1 Motions

Motion to request that the Minister for Education, in consultation with the Department of Education, review the purchase of a parcel of land adjacent to Castlepollard Community College.

Proposed: Mr. Donie Cassidy **Seconded:** Cllr. Ken Glynn

8. Any Other Business

8.1 Date and location of next meeting

Mr. Charlie Mitchell, Director of Organisation Support and Development, explained that the March Board Meeting may have to take place slightly later than scheduled this year due to the timeline around the Annual Accounts.

It was agreed to hold the next meeting of LWETB on Tuesday 16th February, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. via teleconferencing due to COVID-19 restrictions

There being no further business the meeting concluded at 6.40p.m.

Signature of Presiding Chairman: 

Dated: 12/01/2021