

Report on Minutes of Education Finance Board
5th April, 2006

Date	Topic	Decision
5.4.2006	The EFB welcomed the new acting Secretary. The staff of the RIRU to continue to act as Secretary until post of Secretary/Manager filled.	
	Minutes of Meeting dated 6th March, 2006	Approved
	<p>Matters arising from the Minutes Two members of the Board to make presentation to the Association of Chief Executive Officers of VECs on 27th April, 2006. This will be followed later in the year by briefing sessions for adult education and other relevant VEC staff throughout the country.</p> <p>A member of the Board sought clarification on the appointment of the Deputy Chairperson over the three years. He was informed that the matter would have to be subject to formal consideration by the Board each time the post falls vacant.</p>	
	<p>Finance Report A breakdown of overall receipts and expenditure under the ad hoc scheme was given. The Board to become responsible for all expenditure after the establishment date of 17th February, 2006 with the full amounts being chargeable against the Fund. CDVEC agreed to provide a payment service for the Board</p>	
	<p>Staffing – Post of Secretary/Manager Board informed that the post of Secretary/Manager would be advertised on the Public Appointments Commission's website and in the newspapers on 7th April, 2006. The possibility of having a former resident involved in the interview board was discussed.</p> <p>Secretariat: It was agreed that the appointment of another member of office staff on a short-term basis would be desirable.</p>	
	<p>I.T. & Communication Requirements The Board discussed the necessity of having satisfactory IT and communications arrangements in place to meet the needs of former residents and the reporting requirements of the Board.</p>	
	<p>Report on Current Applications A report on current applications was given. A discussion took place with regard to how fraudulent claims might be avoided and how to ensure that grants paid are used for their approved purpose. A member asked that the role of the support groups in giving advice and information in relation to grants availability be considered. The Chairperson undertook to discuss these issues with the Department and to give further consideration to them prior to the next meeting.</p>	
	<p>Appeals There were 6 appeals in total.</p>	
	<p>Criteria and Procedures It was reported that it was hoped to publish the new criteria within the next three months. The revised proposed preamble to the criteria was approved.</p>	
	<p>Special Cases It was suggested that a sub-committee of 3 people would be set up to look at special cases.</p>	
	<p>Any Other Business Role of Facilitator: It was agreed that if an applicant was unhappy with the decision of the Facilitator then their case could be considered at the next Board meeting.</p>	