

BILLINGS COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT #1
Minutes of Annual Meeting
July 18, 2017

A work session of the Billings County School Board was held at 3:07 p.m. MT, Tuesday, July 18, 2017, at the DeMores School in Medora. Present were members Joey Kessel, Stacey Kessel, Mike Klatt, and Julie Reis. Also present were Principal Shae Peplinski, Assistant Principal Danielle O'Brien, and Business Manager Tammy Simnioniw. The board and administrators reviewed plans for Prairie expansion and determined the changes to be made. The work session was adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

The annual meeting of the Billings County School Board was called to order at 5:00 p.m. MT, Tuesday, July 18, 2017, at the DeMores School in Medora. Present were members Joey Kessel, Stacey Kessel, Mike Klatt, and Julie Reis. Also present for all or part of the meeting were Principal Shae Peplinski, Assistant Principal Danielle O'Brien, Business Manager Tammy Simnioniw, Dan Schaff with KLJ, Marjorie Jensen, and Kami Kling.

Stacey Kessel moved, Klatt seconded, to approve the consent agenda, which included the Minutes from the June 12 regular and July 11 special meetings, the attached check list, and the addition of five items to the agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

Peplinski then noted that the agenda item she added under Other for Principal report was for a resignation. Stacey Kessel moved to rescind her previous motion, Klatt seconded. All were in favor.

With all added agenda items now identified, Stacey Kessel moved, Klatt seconded, to approve the consent agenda, which included the Minutes from the June 12 regular and July 11 special meetings, the attached check list, and the addition of five items to the agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

The board discussed changes with Dan Schaff of KLJ that they would like made to the preliminary drawings for the Prairie expansion project. Schaff will have the design changes ready for the August meeting.

Dan Schaff also provided the board with the design of the hallway replacement tiles, lighting, and heating. Simnioniw informed the board that the total cost would be approximately \$23,300. This did not include the replacement lights for the secretary's office and the workroom. That quote was not yet available.

Simnioniw discussed placement and design of security camera at the front entrance at Prairie. It was the consensus of the board to position the cameras in that area to allow for the potential of replacing current doors with a solid door in the future. Simnioniw provided two quotes for replacement of the sidewalk grates and removal of two tree grates at DeMores School. Martin's Refrigeration and Welding's quote was for \$2,540.46 (including \$50 for painting). Krebs Welding provided a quote of \$1,800 for unpainted sidewalk grates. Klatt moved, Reis seconded, to approve the request to replace sidewalk grates and remove two tree grates at DeMores School and award the project to Krebs Welding for \$1,800. Roll call vote with all in favor.

O'Brien provided the board with a quote from Allan's Decorating for replacement of blinds on several windows at Prairie. Another vendor had been contacted and came out and measured but did not follow up with a quote. Klatt moved, Stacey Kessel seconded, to approve awarding the project to Allan's Decorating for the quoted cost of \$6,533.

O'Brien also reported that the survey of the Prairie School property and the construction of the fence on the northwest end was completed. All went well and the fencing job looks good.

Simnioniw informed the board that an air compressor on an air conditioning unit at Prairie had gone out and the compressor cannot be replaced without replacing the entire unit as the unit has become obsolete and cannot function with a new compressor. A new air conditioning unit will cost \$6,902 for equipment and installation. Reis moved, Klatt seconded, to hire Martin's Refrigeration & Welding to replace the air conditioning unit at the quoted price. Roll call vote with all in favor.

The board reviewed a proposal from Valuations Northwest, Inc., to do an assessment of the DeMores and Prairie buildings which would be used in determining replacement cost for insurance purposes. Reis

moved, Klatt seconded, to approve the request to contract with Valuations Northwest, Inc. for \$1,535 for construction valuation plus \$900 for travel. Roll call vote with all in favor.

Stacey Kessel moved, Reis seconded, to approve the investment report for period of 1/1/17 through 6/30/17. Roll call vote with all in favor.

The board reviewed the 2016-17 tuition report.

Klatt moved, Stacey Kessel seconded, to approve the District tuition and transportation reports for period of 7/1/16 through 6/30/17. Roll call vote with all in favor.

Reis moved, Klatt seconded, to approve the pledged assets report from First State Bank of Golva. Roll call vote with all in favor.

Stacey Kessel moved, Reis seconded, to approve the DPI annual financial report for fiscal year ending 6/30/17. Roll call vote with all in favor.

At 7:05 p.m., Reis moved, Klatt seconded, to adjourn the meeting for the 2016-17 fiscal year. All in favor. The meeting was then immediately called to order for the 2017-18 fiscal year with Joey Kessel seated for another three-year term.

Members declared conflicts of interest as follows. Reis and Klatt had no conflicts of interest to report. Joey Kessel reported that Joe Kessel, his father, is a County Commissioner, Danielle O'Brien, Assistant Principal for the School District is his sister-in-law, Jennifer Kessel, Kindergarten Teacher for Prairie School is his wife, and Vickie Johnson, Counselor for the District is his wife's aunt. Stacey Kessel reported that her husband is on the board of directors for Creative Energy which provides fuel for the District schools. Arthaud was absent so no conflicts declared at this time.

Election of officers was conducted. Klatt nominated Lynn Arthaud as president. No other nominations were presented. Stacey Kessel moved, Klatt seconded, to elect Lynn Arthaud as board president. Roll call vote with all in favor. Reis nominated Joey Kessel as vice president. No other nominations were presented. Reis moved, Klatt seconded, to elect Joey Kessel as vice president. Roll call vote with all in favor.

Principal Peplinski and Assistant Principal Boswell discussed the following with the board. A revised Interventionist Job Description was reviewed. Action was tabled at this time. Upcoming events and training were reported on. Peplinski would like to purchase a different alert system that is compatible with Power School data. The cost is \$250 for setup plus annual fees of ninety-nine cents per student. The old system which is more costly was recently renewed, but efforts are underway to obtain a refund.

The board was informed that Klatts will have a high school student in the fall and the board was asked which turnaround this student should be picked up at. Klatt declared a conflict of interest. Stacey Kessel moved, Reis seconded, to allow Klatt to participate in discussion and vote on this matter. Roll call vote was taken with all in favor. Stacey Kessel moved, Reis seconded, to table a decision until the August meeting when transportation policy was on the agenda. Roll call vote with all in favor.

The NDSBA policy services agreement is up for renewal at an annual maintenance rate of \$900. Reis moved, Stacey Kessel seconded, to renew the NDSBA Policy Services agreement. Roll call vote with all in favor.

A new tobacco free policy was presented to the board. Stacey Kessel moved, Reis seconded, to rescind the current Tobacco Free policy (ABBA) and to approve the first reading of the new policy ABBA with noted changes. Roll call vote with all in favor. Klatt moved, Stacey Kessel seconded, to approve Policy Board Regulation Tobacco-Free Schools & Workplaces Violations by the Public (ABBA-BR). Roll call vote with all in favor.

Klatt moved, Reis seconded, to designate the *Billings County Pioneer* as official newspaper for the District. Roll call vote with all in favor.

Reis moved, Stacey Kessel seconded, to designate health care professionals at Sanford Health, Wellness

Chiropractic, and CHI clinics for DOT required health physicals, and Performance Truck Center, Westlie Truck Center, Wallworks Diesel, Nelson International, Harlow's, and Guy Tessier for DOT inspections of buses. Roll call vote with all in favor.

Stacey Kessel moved, Klatt seconded, to appoint Principal Peplinski as District representative on the West River Student Services committee. Roll call vote with all in favor.

Klatt moved, Reis seconded, to establish the annual meeting calendar for the 2017-18 fiscal year with regular meetings scheduled for the second Tuesday of each month at 5:00 p.m. except for the July annual meeting which will be held the third Tuesday in July. Roll call vote with all in favor.

Reis moved, Klatt seconded, to appoint Stacey Kessel as District representative on the Roughrider Educational Services Partnership governing board for the 2017-18 school year. Roll call vote with all in favor. Joey Kessel moved, Stacey Kessel seconded, to designate Lynn Arthaud as alternate on the RESP board. Roll call vote was taken with all in favor.

Klatt moved, Reis seconded, to appoint Business Manager Simnioniw as the authorized representative for Title Programs for the 2017-18 school year. Roll call vote with all in favor.

Klatt moved, Stacey Kessel seconded, to designate First State Bank of Golva as depository for regular working accounts, with investments to be made through Choice Financial Bank of Belfield, First State Bank of Golva, or Edward Jones public fund investment program. Roll call vote with all in favor.

Kami Kling presented a letter requesting that she be released from her contract for teaching preschool at Prairie. The board reviewed the policy regarding release from contract. Klatt moved, Reis seconded, to release Kling from her contract with 4% of her base salary assessed for liquidated damages. Roll call vote with all in favor. The board expressed regret that they were losing her and thanked her for her service in past years.

The preliminary budget for the 2017-18 school year was reviewed. Reis moved, Stacey Kessel seconded, to approve a preliminary budget for the 2017-18 school year with noted changes and with the exception of the 12% increase in general fund levy which will be decided after the August 29 public meeting. Roll call vote with all in favor.

The board scheduled the public meeting to propose a tax levy increase for 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 29 at the DeMores School in Medora. The regular August board meeting date and time will be changed to 5:00 p.m. on August 15 at DeMores School in Medora.

Stacey Kessel gave the RESP report stating they were interviewing for an Executive Director soon.

Correspondence from ND School Board Association, John Syminow, and the Historical Society were read by the board.

Joey Kessel stated his concerns for the meetings being so lengthy. All present discussed options.

Stacey Kessel stated that with the activity vehicles being donated, there needed to be procedures in place for usage and tracking mileage. The Principals stated they would develop procedures for that and monitor usage.

Reis moved to adjourn the meeting, Klatt seconded. All in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Joey Kessel, Vice President

Tammy Simnioniw, Business Manager