

BILLINGS COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT #1  
Minutes of Regular Meeting  
**September 10, 2019**  
**UNOFFICIAL MINUTES**  
**(Subject to review and revision by the board)**

The regular meeting of the Billings County School Board was called to order at 5:00 p.m. MT, Tuesday, September 10, 2019, at DeMores School in Medora, ND. Present were members Anita Adams, Eric Bock, Kwirt Johnson, Joey Kessel, 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, Maintenance Supervisor Pete Hegge, Jim Renke with SW Grain, Anna Velasquez, Dustin Ager, Liz Odermann, and Jessie Berger.

Bock moved, Johnson seconded, to approve the consent agenda, which included the Minutes from the August 13 regular meeting and the September 6 special meeting, the payment list, financial reports, and the addition of two items to the agenda. All in favor.

Simnioniw provided financial, taxation, and enrollment information to meeting attendees.

The board reviewed proposed adjustments to the preliminary budget. Adams moved, Reis seconded, to approve the 2019-20 budget with the proposed revisions. Roll call vote with all in favor. It was noted that taxes would not be raised in this budget.

Sealed propane bids were opened and read by President Kessel. West Dakota Oil presented a bid of 89 cents per gallon for the period of September 14, 2019, through August 31, 2020, and agreed to the other terms set forth in the call for bids. Southwest Grain presented a bid of 90 cents per gallon for the period of September 14, 2019, through August 31, 2020, or an option of a discount of 12 cents per gallon off our posted price. Current posted price is 96 cents per gallon with current posted price discount would be 84 cents per gallon. Missouri Valley Petroleum presented a bid of 84 cents per gallon for the period of September 14, 2019, through August 31, 2020, and agreed to the other terms set forth in the call for bids. Creative Energy presented a bid of 89 cents per gallon for the period of September 14, 2019, through August 31, 2020, and agreed to the other terms set forth in the call for bids. Bock moved, Adams seconded, to award the propane bid to Missouri Valley Petroleum at 84 cents per gallon plus tax bid price. Roll call vote with all in favor.

O'Brien updated the board on the progress of the expansion project informing them that a final walk through had been conducted. Installation of replacement carpeting in the hallway of the new expansion, installation of lockers, and a few other minor repairs were still needed.

Peplinski reported on the status of the DeMores Landscaping Project. KLJ agreed to pay half the cost to add a colored concrete border around the landscape area at the north entrance. The school district's cost would be \$1,252.50. Johnson moved, Reis seconded, to approve the request and split the cost with KLJ. Roll call vote with all in favor.

Pete Hegge provided a written and oral report on maintenance activities and future needs.

Discussion was held on staffing the new Prairie library one night per week and on Fridays when school is not in session. The board would like the principals and business manager to meet with library staff to explore staffing options.

Peplinski reported that Title IIA funds in the amount of \$10,267 had been awarded for professional development activities. These funds will be used for training staff on the new reading curriculum and for the principals to attend conferences for training and networking. Reis moved, Johnson seconded, to approve the \$10,267 Title IIA grant proposal as presented with said expenditures in the budget. Roll call vote with all in favor.

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Peplinski submitted the 2019-20 compliance reports with both schools meeting highly qualified staff standards. Adams moved, Bock seconded, to approve the 2019-20 DPI compliance report for DeMores School. Roll call vote with all in favor. Reis moved, Johnson seconded, to approve the 2019-20 DPI compliance report for Prairie School. Roll call vote with all in favor.

An open enrollment request was submitted for a student currently open enrolled into our district previously from Lone Tree School District who had now moved to Belfield School District. The parent requested that the student remain in the Billings County School District. Reis moved, Adams seconded, to approve the request. Roll call vote with all in favor.

Peplinski and O'Brien reported on upcoming events. They also reported that staff are interested in looking at a junior high Close-Up trip with optional participation.

School board members and staff stated whether they could attend the school board conference or not. Bock moved, Johnson seconded, to appoint Reis and Adams as voting delegates for our district. Roll call vote with all in favor.

A tuition waiver was presented along with a request for students to open enroll into Prairie School from the Belfield School District. Bus capacity issues for field trips and sports activities were discussed. Reis moved, Adams seconded, to deny the request due to bus and activity vehicle capacity limitations. Roll call vote with all in favor.

Anna Velasquez and Dustin Ager were present to request yard service from the high school bus. Current policy limits the board's ability to comply at this time. Policy would need to be changed. President Kessel appointed Julie Reis, Anita Adams, Principal Peplinski, and Assistant Principal Danielle O'Brien to study the impact complying with this request would have on policy and other considerations such as time, additional mileage costs, etc.

Adams and Peplinski gave the RESP report. Peplinski asked if the board would be interested in our district participating in a regional grant written and administered by RESP for professional development for music. The board concurred that this was worth pursuing.

The board discussed a lease proposal option with the Billings County Commission for Glade School to be used by the Sheriff's Department and EMS. Current costs for maintaining the building were looked at and the school board is interested only in recouping those costs through a lease agreement with no profit. Peplinski, O'Brien, and Simnioniw will meet with Pat Rummel to discuss lease terms.

It was noted that the next regular school board meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 8, at 5:00 p.m. at DeMores School in Medora.

Reis moved, Adams seconded, to adjourn. All in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

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Joey Kessel, President

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Tammy Simnioniw, Business Manager