

BILLINGS COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT #1  
Minutes of Regular Meeting  
**October 8, 2019**  
**UNOFFICIAL MINUTES**  
**(Subject to review and revision by the board)**

The regular meeting of the Billings County School Board was called to order by President Joseph G. Kessel at 5:05 p.m. MT, Tuesday, October 8, 2019, at DeMores School in Medora, ND. Present on site were members Eric Bock, Joey Kessel, and Julie Reis. Anita Adams was present for the majority of the meeting via teleconference. Also present on site for all or part of the meeting were Principal Shae Peplinski, Assistant Principal Danielle O'Brien, Business Manager Tammy Simnioniw, Maintenance Supervisor Pete Hegge, Liz Odermann, and Jessie Berger.

Reis moved, Bock seconded, to approve the consent agenda, which included the Minutes from the September 10 regular meeting and the September 27 special meeting, the payment list, financial reports, and the addition of five items to the agenda and the removal of two agenda items. All in favor. The September 24 policy committee minutes were also reviewed.

O'Brien updated the board on the progress of the expansion project. Simnioniw presented the board with an amendment to the KLJ Engineer-Owner Agreement increasing the original contract by \$2,200. Bock moved, Reis seconded, to approve KLJ's request to amend the Engineer-Owner agreement as presented. Roll call vote with all in favor.

Peplinski reported on the status of the DeMores Landscaping Project. Project completion is delayed due to wet summer and fall. Peplinski continues to stay in touch with contractor to try to complete as much of the project this fall as possible.

Pete Hegge provided a written and oral report on maintenance activities and future needs. Hegge provided a quote in the amount of \$4,104 from Pro-Serve on retrofitting the outside lights at DeMores to LED. Simnioniw reported that the approved building fund budget would support these costs. It was the consensus of the board to move forward on that project. Hegge reported that the zoning board granted approval for the school to construct a storage shed on east side of school and move the fence. Hegge will obtain quotes from contractors for this project. Hegge and O'Brien presented a list of excess property to be disposed of. Bock moved, Reis seconded, to dispose of the excess property as presented. Roll call vote with all in favor.

Peplinski, O'Brien, and Simnioniw discussed the meeting they had with Rita Ennen, Director of the Dickinson Public Library, regarding services offered, disposal of books, and staffing at Prairie to open the library/technology lab to the public. The board reviewed an addendum to the contract between the Dickinson Public Library and Billings County School District to add \$3,400 in additional funding for the additional staffing at Prairie. Land Utilization funds contributed from the Billings County Commission will be used. The library/tech lab would be open to the public Thursday nights, year-round, and Friday's during the school year when school is not in session. Reis moved, Bock seconded, to approve the proposed addendum to the contract as presented. Roll call vote with all in favor.

It was reported that Sheriff Pat Rummel was provided a proposal with leasing terms for the use of Glade School. It will be considered at the November County Commission meeting.

Discussion was held on a title change for the principals. Peplinski and O'Brien reported they are gathering information. The principals and board agreed to table discussion until the February meeting, giving all parties time to gather information.

Peplinski and O'Brien reported on upcoming events. They also discussed the location for graduation. The Medora Community Center can accommodate larger crowds than either school's lunchroom. Also, the parents of the eight grade graduates traditionally hold a dance inviting neighboring school district students. Peplinski stated that since it's off school premises and a parent sponsored event, the school

does not have any liability issues since the dance is not a school function. Therefore, the board was asked to decide whether to hold all graduations, present and future, at the Medora Community Center. It was the consensus of the board to allow the principals to make that decision.

Peplinski reported that milk costs have increased. The current charge for a carton of milk to students is 25 cents. This will not cover the cost of each carton. Reis moved, Adams seconded, to set a price of 30 cents per carton for milk. Roll call vote with all in favor.

Simnioniw confirmed attendance at the school board convention. A pledge assets report was provided. Bock moved, Reis seconded, to approve the quarterly pledged assets report noting that there was adequate pledged assets for deposits. Roll call vote with all in favor.

Simnioniw discussed the current contract with Horace Mann for long term disability insurance provided by the district for all staff. Current maximum benefit limits do not provide full allowable coverage to all employees at their current rate of pay. Bock moved, Adams seconded, to approve the request to raise the maximum limit to \$6,000 per month for long term disability insurance coverage. Roll call vote with all in favor.

Simnioniw reported the WDEA conference was scheduled in Minot at the end of October. She will try to attend, weather permitting. Valuations Northwest has been scheduled to complete the inventory of both schools the end of November. This information will be provided to our insurance carrier.

Peplinski requested that substitute pay for para's be increased to \$150 per day. Current rate is \$14 per hour. It has become difficult to get subs at this rate. Reis moved, Bock seconded, to set substitute teacher and substitute para pay at \$150 per day. Roll call vote with all in favor.

Kessel reported on a safety meeting held by his company on the benefits of dash cams in vehicles recording an outside view of traffic. He would like to explore options of placing this on buses and the school's activity vehicles.

Agenda items Technology Excess Property and Close Up Trip were removed from agenda and will be addressed at November meeting.

Policies were reviewed. Bock moved, Adams seconded, to rescind policy FCAB Administering Medication to Students, and approve the first reading to adopt ACBD School Medication Program. Roll call vote with all in favor. Reis moved, Bock seconded, to approve the first reading to adopt policy FAAD Tuition Agreements. Roll call vote with all in favor. Bock moved, Adams seconded, to approve the first reading to amend policies FFD Carrying Weapons, FFE Extracurricular Participation Requirements, FG Student Rights and Responsibilities, and FGDB Student Handbooks. Roll call vote with all in favor. Kessel moved, Reis seconded, to reaffirm policies FFG Student Assemblies and FGGB Student Prayer During Non-Instructional Time. Roll call vote with all in favor.

Peplinski reported that a music grant was awarded to Billings County School District. These funds will be forwarded on to RESP once received as RESP is coordinating music professional development for regional schools.

The next regular board meeting was scheduled for November 12, 2019, at 5:00 p.m. at DeMores School in Medora.

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

---

Joey Kessel, President

---

Tammy Simnioniw, Business Manager

October 8, 2019 Minutes