

BILLINGS COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT #1
Minutes of Regular Meeting
December 8, 2020
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 Joey Kessel at 5:03 p.m. MT, Tuesday, December 8, 2020, at the DeMores School in Medora. Present on site were board members Eric Bock, Kwirt Johnson, Joey Kessel, and Julie Reis. Also onsite were Superintendent Shae Peplinski, Assistant Superintendent Danielle O'Brien, and Business Manager Tammy Simnioniw. Present via teleconference was board member Anita Adams.

Reis moved, Johnson seconded, to approve the consent agenda with the addition of three agenda items. All in favor.

The board reviewed a written maintenance report provided by Bob Hushka, Maintenance Supervisor. They also were provided with a quote from Gooseneck Implement for a purchase of a John Deere 54 In. Quick-Hitch Two-Stage Snow Blower attachment at a cost of \$3,824.00 with a trade-in for the 2008 Frontier SB1148 attachment with trade-in allowance of \$1,424. Net purchase price after trade-in is \$2,400. Adams moved, Bock seconded, to approve the trade-in of the 2008 Frontier attachment and the purchase of the JD Quick-Hitch attachment. Roll call vote with all in favor.

One fuel oil bid was received. Kessel opened the bid from Farmers Union Oil of Beach for #2 fuel oil at \$1.375 per gallon delivered any time between December 9, 2020, and November 30, 2021. Bock moved, Reis seconded, to accept the fuel oil bid from Farmers Union Oil of Beach at \$1.375 per gallon for the delivery period specified in the bid. Roll call vote with all in favor.

Simnioniw presented the board with a report on the CARES Act grant funds purchases. The board indicated that they would like to provide bonus pay through the grant funds for hourly staff. This option was explored by administrators and business manager and it was determined that bonuses for hourly staff would not be an allowable expense through the grant. Grant administrators at the State level responded to inquiries from school districts regarding this stating that hourly staff could incur overtime which could be paid using grant funds, so providing a bonus wasn't an option.

Notification of the issuance of grant funds through the CARES Act and the REAP grant was received after the budget was approved. Therefore, with the additional revenue and grant expenditures, the 2020-21 budget needed to be revised. Reis moved, Johnson seconded, to increase the 2020-21 general fund revenue budget by \$99,885 and to increase the 2020-21 general fund expenditure budget by \$99,885. Roll call vote with all in favor.

Peplinski and O'Brien reported on upcoming events. The Christmas program needed to be scaled back due to COVID-19, but various performances by the students will be recorded and made available to parents. Other various planned events were reported. Peplinski reported that ABATE had donated toys for each student at both DeMores and Prairie schools. The board and administrators expressed their appreciation for this donation.

O'Brien reported that Marina Redig, a para-professional at Prairie, will graduate in December with elementary education and special education degrees. She will need to complete a praxis test prior to her license being issued, but this is anticipated to be completed by January 1, 2021. Johnson moved, Adams seconded, to approve the status change for Redig from para-professional to teaching position and offer her a teaching contract. Roll call vote with all in favor.

Peplinski informed the board that the ND School Boards Association (NDSBA) web page had information on an evaluation tool that can be used for the Superintendent and Business Manager. This will be looked into for future use. Peplinski also informed the board that the NDSBA has professional development opportunities for the board and can come on-site to provide training.

Simnioniw requested permission to void and reissue any grant payments that may need to be altered by the end of December when the grant period ends. Bock moved, Reis seconded, to authorize voiding and reauthorization of checks for CARES Act and REAP grant fund expenditures. Roll call vote with all in favor.

Policies were reviewed as follows. Adams moved, Johnson seconded, to approve the second reading of policies ABEA Wellness Policy, ABEB Child Nutrition Programs, ABEC School Meal Charge Policy, ACBB Significant Contagious Disease, DEBD Maintaining Professional Employee-Student Boundaries, and DEBG Electronic Communications with Students. Roll call vote with all in favor.

Adams moved, Bock seconded, to approve the first reading to amend policies ABBA ND's Comprehensive Model School Policy for Tobacco Use, ABDA Accessibility Policy, ACAA Emergency Closings, ACF Whistleblower Protections Policy: Prohibition Against Retaliation, BA School Board Ethics, BCAA Board Meeting Agenda and Pre-Meeting Preparation, BCBA Public Participation at Board Meetings, BDA Procedure for Adopting Board Policy, BDBB Retaining an Attorney, BE Board Member Development, BEB New Member Orientation, BFB Board-Staff Relations, BFD Board Member Visits to Schools, AACA Section 504 Policy, and BBC Method of Filling a Board Vacancy. Roll call vote with all in favor.

Adams moved, Reis seconded, to approve the first and only reading to amend policies ABBA-BR Tobacco-Free Policy Violations, ABDA-BR2 Website Accessibility Concerns, Complaints, and Grievances, BA-BR1 School Board Ethics Regulation, and BA-BR2 Board Member Internet and Social Media Use. Roll call vote with all in favor.

Adams moved, Johnson seconded, to approve the first and only reading to reaffirm policies BDAA Contracts Supersede Policy and Regulations, BDAB Savings Clause, BDC Insurance for Board Members, and BDE Membership in Associations. Roll call vote with all in favor.

Adams moved, Bock seconded, to approve the first reading to adopt policies ABCE Prohibition on Aiding Sexual Abuse, ACBF Medical Marijuana, ACEC Vandalism, BEA Candidate Orientation, BEC School Board Evaluation, BFA Board-Superintendent Relations, BFC Retiring Board Members, and BGA Board Communication with the Public. Roll call vote with all in favor.

Adams moved, Johnson seconded, to approve the first and only reading to adopt policy BCBA-BR Rules of Decorum at Board Meetings. Roll call vote with all in favor.

The following exhibits and administrative regulations were reviewed by the board. AACA-E School District's Duty Under Section 504, AACA-E2 Section 504 Notice & Procedural Safeguards Guidelines (became AACA-AR), ABDA-E1 Website Accessibility Complaint and Grievance form, BDA-E BCSD Policy Acknowledgment Form, BEC-E School Board Self Evaluation, and ACBB-AR1 Responding to Potential Health Threats.

Peplinski stated there was nothing to report for RESP this month. Adams reported next meeting will be in January.

The next regular school board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 12, 2021, at 5:00 p.m. at DeMores School in Medora.

Johnson moved, Reis seconded, to adjourn. All in favor. The meeting adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

Joey Kessel, President

Tammy Simnioniw, Business Manager