

Frenchtown School Board of Trustees Meeting
August 2, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. – Special School Board Meeting
Middle School Shared Common Area

- I. **Call to Order:** The Special School Board Meeting was called to order at 5:35 p.m. by Board Chair Jami Romney FitzGerald.

Trustees in attendance were Gordon Schmill, Bryce Simpson, Shiloh Lucier, Jami Wright and Noah Peters. Trustee David Weber attended electronically. Also in attendance were Superintendent Les Meyer, District Legal Counsel Elizabeth Kaleva and District Clerk Shauna Anderson.

- II. **Public Comment Period (for non-agenda items) - none**

- III. **Trustee/Admin Training Workshop**

District Legal Counsel Elizabeth Kaleva conducted the workshop for Trustees on boardsmanship and legal obligations. Topics regarding the role of the Board of Trustees covered were:

- a. The Rights and Responsibilities of a Trustee, referencing Montana Code Ann. 20-3-324
- b. Communication between Trustees and Staff, included in Frenchtown Board Policy 1520
- c. Trustee Representation, the responsibility to represent the students of the District
- d. Trustee Authority and code of conduct, where a trustee only has authority when acting as a group with a majority, referencing MCA 20-3-332 and FTSD BP1240 and BP1511
- e. Montana Open Meetings Law, addressing the public right to know, right to participate and right of privacy, referencing Montana's Constitution, MCA 2-6-102, 2-3-221, and 2-3-203
- f. Also discussed were seven important things a Trustee needs to know, including due process, open meetings, what is delegable, employment law, the importance of District policy language, the unique responsibilities of being appointed to a public entity and the concept of "do what you know is right".

Questions were asked by the Trustees regarding further clarification of topics covered such as policy language, conflicts of interest and right to privacy. District Counsel Kaleva was thanked for the presentation and Board members found the workshop to be very helpful.

IV. **ADJOURNMENT**

ADJOURNED 7:37 p.m.

Approved: August 17, 2021

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Jami Romney FitzGerald
Board Chair

/s/ Shauna Anderson
District Clerk