

**BILLINGS COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT #1**  
**Minutes of Annual Meeting**  
**July 18, 2022**  
**UNOFFICIAL MINUTES**  
**(Subject to review and revision by the board)**

The annual meeting of the Billings County School Board was called to order by Julie Reis at 5:01 p.m. MT, Monday, July 18, 2022, at the DeMores School in Medora. Present on site were board members Anita Adams, Eric Bock, Kwirt Johnson, Joey Kessel, and Julie Reis. Also present were newly elected board members Jessica Evoniuk and Kinley Slauter. Also present for all or part of the meeting were Superintendent Shae Peplinski, Assistant Superintendent Danielle O'Brien, Business Manager Tammy Simnioniw, Maintenance Supervisor Bob Hushka, and Jessie Berger.

Joey Kessel took over chairing the meeting. Anita Adams and Julie Reis were thanked for their valuable service and left the meeting. Jessie Evoniuk and Kinley Slauter were seated on the board.

Johnson nominated Joseph G. Kessel for President, Evoniuk seconded. Slauter moved to cease nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Joseph G. Kessel as President, Bock seconded. Roll call vote with all in favor. Johnson nominated Eric Bock for Vice President, Slauter seconded. Evoniuk moved to cease nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Eric Bock as Vice President, Johnson seconded. Roll call vote with all in favor.

Members declared conflicts of interest as follows. Evoniuk, Johnson, Kessel, and Slauter had no conflicts of interest to declare. Eric Bock reported that his wife, DeeAnn Bock, is an employee of the Billings County School District.

The board walked through the building and grounds at DeMores where Hushka and Peplinski reported on various issues regarding the facilities.

The board reconvened in the meeting room. Bock moved, Evoniuk seconded, to approve the consent agenda, which included the June 14 regular meeting, the payments list, the 2022 fiscal year financial reports, and the addition of three items to the agenda. All in favor.

Hushka gave a written and oral report on facilities and vehicle maintenance. The library and west classroom carpets have been installed. The estimate for the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade classroom was \$4,000. This will be installed in a couple of weeks. Affordable Tree Care is removing the large trees on the Prairie School grounds that were downed in the major storm event in the Fairfield area July 10. The insurance adjuster checked the Prairie roof and noted that there was no damage.

Peplinski discussed the proposed DeMores Expansion project. The board would like to review at the August board meeting the architect proposals that were submitted and decide what steps to take from there.

Cerberus Security proposed to keep the 2022-23 maintenance agreement at current rate of \$336/month. Johnson moved, Slauter seconded, to approve renewing the contract for the specified terms. Roll call vote with all in favor.

The preliminary budget for the 2022-23 school year was reviewed. Bock moved, Johnson seconded, to approve the preliminary budget for the 2022-23 fiscal year with noted changes and with a proposed 6% increase to the general fund tax levy. Roll call vote with all in favor. Johnson moved, Evoniuk seconded, to request \$350,000 for general operating and \$1 million for the DeMores Expansion project from Billings County Bankhead Jones funds. Roll call vote with all in favor. Kessel and Johnson will

attend the August county commission meeting to make the request. Bock said he would serve as alternate if a conflict arose with Kessel or Johnson.

Kessel discussed the importance of on-site meeting attendance whenever possible and directed board members to policies in their policy manual that outlined roles and responsibilities of board members.

O'Brien presented a report outlining the curriculum to be used for the 2022-23 school year. Evoniuk moved, Bock seconded, to approve the curriculum established for the 2022-23 school year. Roll call vote with all in favor.

O'Brien read a letter of resignation from Stephanie Klym who was the cook at Prairie. Johnson moved, Slauter seconded, to accept the resignation and advertise the position at \$18 per hour. Roll call vote with all in favor.

Simnioniw presented an investment report for period ending June 30, 2022. Johnson moved, Bock seconded, to approve the report. Roll call vote with all in favor. District pupil membership and transportation reports were reviewed by the board. Slauter moved, Evoniuk seconded, to approve the reports as presented. Roll call vote with all in favor. The pledged assets report was reviewed for quarter ending June 30, 2022. Johnson moved, Slauter seconded, to approve the report and noted that pledged assets were adequate to cover deposits. Roll call vote with all in favor.

Simnioniw reported that the current contract with The Village EAP was a five year contract ending June 30, 2023. Policy Services annual fee was the same at \$800.

Simnioniw reported on the financial report being submitted to DPI. Evoniuk moved, Bock seconded, to approve the DPI financial report for fiscal year ending June 30, 2022. Roll call vote with all in favor.

Bock moved, Johnson seconded, to designate Golden Valley News/Billings County Pioneer as official newspaper for the District. Roll call vote with all in favor.

Bock moved, Slauter seconded, to designate Sanford Occupational as the vendor 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.

Johnson moved, Bock seconded, to appoint Shae Peplinski as District representative on the West River Student Services committee for the 2022-23 school year. Roll call vote with all in favor.

Bock moved, Slauter seconded, to appoint Kwirt Johnson as District representative on the Roughrider Educational Services Partnership governing board for the 2022-23 school year. Roll call vote with all in favor.

Evoniuk moved, Slauter seconded, to appoint Shae Peplinski as authorized representative for Title Program Homeless Liaison, 504 Coordinator, and ELL Coordinator for the 2022-23 school year. Roll call vote with all in favor.

Evoniuk moved, Johnson seconded, to appoint Danielle O'Brien as Behavioral Health Coordinator for the 2022-23 school year. Roll call vote with all in favor.

Bock moved, Evoniuk 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.

The following committee appointments were assigned. Johnson and Evoniuk on Transportation committee, Slauter and Kessel on Buildings/Grounds/Equipment/Food Service committee, Johnson and Bock on Negotiations and Finance committee, and Kessel and Evoniuk on Policy committee. Johnson moved, Evoniuk seconded, to approve the appointments to the standing committees. Roll call vote with all in favor.

The August regular meeting will be held August 9, 2022, at 5:00 p.m. at DeMores School in Medora. The public input meeting and finalization of the 2022-2023 budget was established for September 13 with the regular meeting convening at 5:00 p.m. (MT) and the public input meeting beginning at 6:00 p.m. (MT).

Johnson reported that RESP held a special meeting to hire a new ELL Coordinator and review the budget.

Johnson moved, Evoniuk seconded, to rescind policy FFIA since procedures outlined previously in policy are now listed in the employee handbook. Roll call vote with all in favor.

Bock moved, Johnson seconded, to adjourn the meeting. All in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 9:02 p.m.

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Joey Kessel, President

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Tammy Simnioniw, Business Manager