

BILLINGS COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT #1  
Minutes of Regular Meeting  
**December 20, 2022**  
**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 5:06 p.m. MT, Tuesday, December 20, 2022, at the DeMores School in Medora. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll call with board members Eric Bock, Jessica Evoniuk, Kwirt Johnson, Joey Kessel, and Kinley Slaughter present on site. Also present on site for all or part of the meeting were Superintendent Shae Peplinski, Assistant Superintendent Danielle O'Brien, Business Manager Tammy Simnioniw, and Maintenance Supervisor Bob Hushka.

Slaughter moved, Evoniuk seconded, to approve the consent agenda, which included the November 15 regular meeting Minutes and November 18 and November 22 special meeting Minutes, the payments list, and the financial reports. All in favor.

Peplinski reported that the contract provided by JLG for the expansion project was still being negotiated between JLG and the school's attorney. The school's attorney is working directly with Dan Miller from JLG regarding language that was of concern for the school district.

Hushka gave a written and oral report on facilities and vehicle maintenance.

One fuel oil bid was received, and it was from Farmers Union of Beach, ND. Kessel opened the bid quoted at \$3.63 per gallon per bid specifications. Slaughter moved, Bock seconded, to accept the bid from Farmers Union of Beach for \$3.63 per gallon for the period of December 14, 2022, through November 30, 2023. Roll call vote with all in favor.

Simnioniw reported that Mrs. Honeyman met with her to correct the amount determined to be submitted for Close-Up from the student account. Bock moved, Johnson seconded, to rescind the motion from the November 15 meeting to transfer \$9,861.12 to the Billings County School account with Close-Up and to retain \$9,861.15 for three students for whom funds were raised for 2020 Close-Up trip that was cancelled and to approve that \$4,059.61 be transferred to the Close-Up organization account for Billings County School and retain \$9,861.15 for the three students for whom funds were raised for 2020 Close-Up trip that was cancelled. Roll call vote with all in favor.

It was determined that no action was needed regarding designating a new official newspaper for Billings County School District as the Billings County Pioneer was still being published, just under new ownership.

The board was provided information from Farmers Union insurance regarding current coverage for buildings and contents along with recommendations from insurance company on increasing some of the values. Questions were posed by the board that will be passed on to the insurance agent and this will be revisited at future board meeting.

Peplinski reported that the DeMores Christmas program had been postponed for December 21 with the Close-Up group providing a soup and sandwich free will offering meal to follow weather permitting. Peplinski also reported that we did not get awarded the grant for new ovens at DeMores and Prairie schools. The Prairie gymnasium project to install volleyball pole holders and refurbish the floor was underway this week. O'Brien stated that purchase of the speakers from City of Medora was on hold as there may be another option for an upgraded sound system at Prairie.

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Peplinski reported that the school district entered an agreement with Avel Telemedicine Services. This service will include immunization tracking and tele-med services such as on-line nursing assessments for school students. Once setup is completed, information will be sent out to parents regarding this service.

Peplinski read a letter of resignation from DeMores Kindergarten teacher, Elizabeth Odermann, effective upon completion of her 2022-23 school year contract. Johnson moved, Slauter seconded, to accept her resignation. Roll call vote with all in favor. The board extended their appreciation for her years of service to the school district.

Simnioniw discussed preliminary discussions being held by legislators regarding a proposed change to school funding formula and property tax buy down. Information on potential impact to school district funding was provided. A legislative bill to that effect has not yet been drafted. At this point, legislators are just discussing the idea of such action with constituents before drafting a bill.

There was nothing to report for RESP.

Policies were reviewed and acted upon as follows. Johnson moved, Evoniuk seconded, to approve the second reading to amend policies DEBC Gifts to District Personnel, DEBE Employee Relations With Vendors, and FFD Possessing Weapons. Roll call vote all in favor.

A thank you from the Schafer family was reviewed by the board.

The next regular school board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 10.

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

Meeting adjourned at 6:13 p.m.

Recorded by Tammy Simnioniw, Business Manager