

BILLINGS COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT #1
Minutes of Regular Meeting
February 14, 2023
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 5:05 p.m. MT, Tuesday, February 14, 2023, at the DeMores School in Medora. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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

Evoniuk moved, Bock seconded, to approve the consent agenda, which included the January 10 regular meeting and the January 20 special meeting Minutes, the payments list, the financial reports, and the addition of three agenda items. All in favor.

Peplinski reported that the contract provided by JLG for the expansion project had been finalized. After review by the board, Slauter moved, Evoniuk seconded, to approve the final draft of the architect services agreement between JLG Architects and the Billings County School District for the DeMores Expansion Project. Roll call vote with all in favor.

O'Brien informed the board that H2I came back to redo the refinish work on the Prairie gym floor. It was done satisfactorily this time.

Hushka gave a written and oral report on facilities and vehicle maintenance. Hushka stated that he met with Consolidated to select a satisfactory area on the Prairie school grounds to place a 20' x 40' building for their equipment. Hushka will follow up with Consolidated for them to initiate the process of developing an easement contract and will work with Billings County Zoning board to determine if site selected is acceptable.

Simnioniw reported that Farmers Union Insurance can add an endorsement to the policy providing 125% coverage of the value of property. The property value increase along with the 125% replacement coverage will add a total of \$65 to the insurance amount. Bock moved, Slauter seconded, to approve the increase for property value and the 125% endorsement. Roll call vote with all in favor.

Kessel reported on what he learned at the NDSBA association training sessions regarding meeting protocols and superintendent negotiations. Discussion ensued on various aspects of the training. Peplinski and O'Brien will work on developing a job description for the superintendent and principal roles and the negotiations committee will compare the current superintendent contract with the NDSBA template and recommendations made at the training session.

Superintendent and business manager evaluations are to be completed. An online platform will be used. Simnioniw will provide information to board members. Kessel asked that the evaluations be completed by March 7 so he can meet with Peplinski and Simnioniw prior to the March 14 meeting to go over the results.

Peplinski, O'Brien, and Simnioniw discussed various legislative bills that would impact the school district. O'Brien reported on meetings with area legislators.

Simnioniw provided the board with information on NDSBA school finance webinar sessions being held in March. Board members and administrators are asked to let Simnioniw know if they would like her to register them for the training.

Peplinski reported that the District spelling bee will be held in Medora on February 15. The Math Meet will be held on February 27. A rough draft of the school calendar is being drafted with final draft presented at next board meeting.

O'Brien reported that volleyball equipment is needed before games can be hosted at Prairie. She gathered input on what would be needed to include poles, nets, pads, referee stands and ball carts. Total cost of items will be approximately \$6,758.89 and the facilities equipment budget could cover the costs. Johnson moved, Evoniuk seconded, to approve the purchase. Roll call vote with all in favor.

O'Brien attended a sports co-op meeting with South Heart and Belfield. The High School Activities Association went to a 3 class level with AA, A, and B classifications. The Heart River co-op would be in the A level since it goes by the student population of the three schools involved in the Heart River co-op. South Heart will have a school board meeting on February 15 and one of the agenda items will be to discuss breaking off from the co-op for girls' and boys' basketball. South Heart would then be in the B level.

O'Brien read a letter of resignation from Jamie Prellwitz, Kindergarten teacher at Prairie. Bock moved Slauter seconded, to accept the resignation. Roll call vote with all in favor.

The board reviewed the family transportation payment report for period of August through December, 2022.

Requests for donations for after prom parties were received from Killdeer, Belfield, South Heart, and Beach. The student councils from DeMores and Prairie each pledged \$25 from their student account funds for each school with Billings County students enrolled in their high school. Therefore \$50 was donated to Killdeer, Belfield, and South Heart. Beach does not have Billings County high school students enrolled at this time.

The next regular school board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 14.

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

Meeting adjourned at 6:38 p.m.

Joey Kessel, President

Tammy Simnioniw, Business Manager

