

## **MINUTES**

The Regular meeting of the Yaak School Board of Trustees was called to order by Chairperson, Pam Fuqua, at 4:10 p.m. on Tuesday April 26, 2022, at the Yaak School. Pam opened the meeting, welcomed visitors, explained the protocol for the meeting, and stated that the meeting was being recorded.

Trustees Present: Pam Fuqua, Trish Lauer, and Ron Webb

Others Present: Diane Downey, District Clerk, Sabre Alderete, Head Teacher, Taralee McFadden, Co. Superintendent, Tracey McCready, Kathy Huber, Sue Jansen, Karen Hoster, Bob Zaccheo, Lynsey Stringfellow, Craig Johnson, Ray McCready, Claire Warpole, and Sherri Oehlke

### **Minutes:**

The minutes from the March 18, 2022, regular meeting were presented. Pam stated that the Trustees had reviewed them, and the public was welcome to see them. Trish moved that the minutes be accepted as presented, Ron seconded, and Pam concurred.

### **Maintenance Committee:**

- Summer ground maintenance will be done by Artie Wright, Diane suggested that he checks the mowers in case they need any tuning up, he will need to get gas and oil from Libby or Troy.
- Department of Labor has annual trainings that are required, our workers compensation provider is offering a day long training in Columbia Falls this summer that Artie and Diane should attend. Information was given to Trish by Diane, and she will see that Artie is aware of the need for him to attend.
- Sabre' stated that the seed has been purchased for re-seeding the portions of the lawn that were affected by last year construction projects.
- Pam reviewed the proposal for replacing the windows from Valley Glass and the quote from Formula Fabrication quote for a HVAC system. Bob Z. asked if these bids were the only ones we got. Diane stated that the school has requested bids for the HVAC system from 3 different companies and only got interest from the one company. We did have two bids for the windows, but the local Libby company was twice as much as the quote from Valley Glass.

### **Technology Committee:**

- John Rilling our Tech Support Contractor has resigned. For the time being we will be seeking assistance with Tech issues from Greg at All Systems Go in Troy. Pam will be taking Greg a list of our needs and see how best he can serve our needs.
- Pam stated that we have had requests from community members that the school offer a time for public use of the internet. She stated that the board would be looking into this. There was much discussion about the topic, folks raised concerns about use of school equipment, staffing someone to be present when building is open to the public, and other issues. Ron Webb asked that this be tabled until the next regular meeting to give the board time to figure out how this can work. Trish asked if the requester wished to use the Wi-Fi or, do they need a device to use as well. Sabre stated that yes, a device was needed as well. As school will not be in session most Mondays next year the clerk would be here to monitor any public use. Diane suggested that once the school is on a non-metered system the use of the Wi-Fi from the parking lot would not be an issue.
- The Point-to-Point project is moving forward. The pole has been placed at the school and cable will be laid next week. Work is continuing at the Vinal Lake Road site on private property. Craig stated that his questions regarding the EMF frequency reading from the towers located in the valley has not been addressed. Ron Webb offered to work with Craig and EL Internet NW to get his questions answered. Ray McCready also voiced concerns about the fire hazards the electrical systems to run the towers will cause. Ron will assist with that inquiry as well.

### **Fundraising Committee:**

- The Annual Arts and Crafts Fair notices to vendors have not yet been sent out. The committee has reached out to the Mercantile to see when their July 4<sup>th</sup> event will be held but have not heard back yet, so are planning on July 2<sup>nd</sup> as the date for the Fair. Sabre' mentioned that as this a fund-

raising event the committee has decided to wait until after the WINGS event on May 16<sup>th</sup> is over before they start asking for auction donations.

### **Old Business:**

- Policy 1905 section on face coverings and testing was reviewed. Pam stated that as the cases in Lincoln County are static at this time the board feels the policy is good as it stands and does not need any changes. Diane advised that a copy of the revised policy from the April meeting was in the board books and trustees needed to place that revised policy in their personal policy books.
- Diane encouraged the public to pass the word that if anyone has an issue with their ballot to please contact her so she can get the issue addressed. Late registration is open until close of the polls, so if you are not registered that option is available. Just keep in mind you must register in Libby and return your certificate of registration to the election office in the Yaak at the school prior to 8 p.m. May 3<sup>rd</sup>. Kathy asked who was counting ballots. Diane stated that Mary Loney, Terri Nussbaum and Pam Rockwell will be counting ballots. Count will happen in the library. Provisional ballots, if we have any, by law cannot be counted until Monday May 7<sup>th</sup>. Announcement of the unofficial count can happen as soon as all ballots are counted. Official count will be posted in the Western News after the board has canvassed the vote.

### **New Business:**

- Tara McFadden our County Superintendent will be taking over the duties of our Homeless Liaison. She fielded questions from the public regarding what the Homeless Liaison does and some of the services that are available. Tara will also take over the duties of our Title IX Coordinator, policy will be updated to reflect this change.
- A quick review of standing State Grants, Title IA, IIA, and IVA. Title IA and IIA funds will be spent as they have been in the past. Title IVA funds will not be flexed this year into Title IIA but stay in IVA and be used for playground improvements.
- It was the decision of the board to increase the hourly rate for the custodial/groundskeeper wage from \$16.00 per hour to \$16.50 and the clerk's hourly rate from \$18.00 to \$18.60 per hour for the 22-23 school year. Lowry Bass has been hired as a classroom aide at \$15.00 per hour. She is still in the probationary period so her rate will be reconsidered at the 90-day probation period end.
- The 22-23 Teachers Contract negotiations are underway, the Co. Supt. has completed her recommendation to the board and highly recommend they offer Sabre' her 4<sup>th</sup> contract. Tracey McCready asked that she be heard on the subject. Tracey stated her teaching credentials and that she was available if there were to be a teaching position open at the school. It was stated by Taralee and confirmed by the board that at this time there was not position open for a teacher. Pam thanked her and stated that they would reach out to her if one became available.

### **Teachers Report:**

- State testing is still to be done. There are 21 days left for our students. State accreditation certificate was presented and Sabre' will post it. Early Childhood screening is May 4<sup>th</sup>, at this time Sabre' is unaware of how many have made appointments. She has reached out to those parents in the valley that she knows have young children.
- Guest speaker from the Lincoln County Fair came to speak to the students about how they can participate. The students are very excited about the opportunity to participate. The fair is during the summer but Sabre' will do what she can to assist the students in getting registered and entering the exhibits they may have.
- May 9<sup>th</sup> we will have a poet visiting the classroom.
- Nicky the Head Teacher from McCormick has invited the school to Rendezvous. This will be an overnight event on May 19<sup>th</sup>. Lowry has said she would be available to go with Sabre' and the students.
- One of the parents has invited all the students and teacher to a weenie roast at their home for the last day of school which is May 26<sup>th</sup>.
- Sabre' did a run down of her plan for State Testing.
- Sabre' will be completing her Elementary Ed Certificate later this month when she takes her Praxis Test. Diane asked if the board would visit with Tara regarding the law pertaining to her certification date and the signing of her 22-23 contract.

- Diane asked if she could invite the Lincoln County Zero to Five coordinator up to visit with parents of preschools that come to the Early Childhood Screening on May 4<sup>th</sup>. Sabre' said that would be a wonderful way to inform those with pre-school age kiddos what resources are available in the area. She asked that Diane contact the Coop to confirm that this was okay with them.

**Clerks Report & Expenditures:**

- The Health Insurance Plan for the 22-23 SY has been renewed.
- The Treasures Office Financials for the month of March do not balance with the school as they failed to enter a requested adjustment that the clerk asked for due to a miss coded entry that was not caught by the clerk prior to submitting the March month end reports. Diane spoke with Sedaris and she said she was sorry they had missed that adjustment and would make it in the April cycle. Diane asked if it was okay with the board to go ahead and review and approve the March Financials as they were aware of the discrepancy. March financials were reviewed. Trish moved that the March Financials be accepted as presented and Ron seconded, and Pam concurred. Diane reviewed the April expenditures to date. Our General Fund Expenditure budget is sitting at 23.98% remaining. Quick overview of Grant Spreadsheets. (see attached for detail)

**Policy Review:**

The needed updates that reflect the change of our Title IX Coordinator in policies, 3210-Equal Education Nondiscrimination and Sex Equity and 3225-Sexual Harassment of Students were approved by the board. Diane will make those changes and have updated policies posted to our website and new copies for board policy books. Policy 1513-Management Rights was tabled until the May meeting.

**New MTSBA Policy:**

1120-Annual Organization Meeting and 1401-Records Available to Public needed no changes. 1521-Board-Superintendent Relationship had a minor change to line 11. Requested changes will be made and these will go to second reading at the May meeting. 1620-Evaluation of Board, there was much discussion regarding this. It was decided that this would be a good idea and would be used as a tool to facilitate public input. It should be placed on the board calendar as an agenda item maybe in January. These policies will go to second reading at the May meeting as old business.

**Public Comment:**

**Next Regular Meeting:** May 18, 2022 @ 4:10 p.m.  
Meeting was adjourned at 5:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

\_\_\_\_\_ Diane Downey, District Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_ Pam Fuqua, Chair

\_\_\_\_\_ Trish Lauer, Vice Chair

\_\_\_\_\_ Ron Webb, Board Trustee