

MINUTES

The regular/reorganization meeting of the Yaak School Board of Trustees was called to order by Chairperson, Pam Fuqua, at 4:10 p.m. on Tuesday, May 17, 2022 at the Yaak School. Pam opened the meeting, 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, Angelo Aderete, Bob Zaccheo, Cheri Javorsky, Bill Sullivan, Lynn Edwards, David Gambill, Lynsey Stringfellow, Craig Johnson, Ray McCready, Claire Warpole, Carolyn Bennett, and Herb Oehlke

Minutes:

The minutes from the April 26, 2022, regular meeting and the May 6, special meeting were presented. Pam stated that the Trustees had reviewed them, and the public was welcome to see them. Ron moved that the minutes from the April 26th regular meeting be accepted as presented, Trish seconded, and Pam concurred. Trish moved the minutes from the May 6th special meeting be approved as presented, Ron seconded, and Pam concurred.

Old Business:

- The Head Teacher's 21-22 SY contract was reviewed and presented to Sabre'. As she had seen the contract and was ready to accept it as presented it was signed. She asked if this contract tenured her, Pam stated that yes, she was now tenured.
- Pam stated that the HVAC system will be installed June 6th – 8th. Diane asked if she had signed a contract with Formula Fabrication for the work. If not, we will need to get a signed and agreed upon contract/proposal prior to start of work. Pam will see that that is done.
- Window replacement proposal changes were reviewed. Changes to window configuration and not replacing the windows in the clerk's office as they are newer brought the cost down to \$19,829.00. We will accept this proposal and move forward with having the work done by Valley Glass. The windows must be ordered special and more than likely will not arrive for installation over the coming summer. Dennis at Valley Glass will work with the school to coordinate the installation. Bob asked if both these projects' costs were covered by grant funds. Trish stated that ESSER III funds were covering both project costs, Bob thanked the Board for their hard work in finding funding sources for these improvements.
- Pam asked the incoming Board to please consider allowing her to work through the close out of the Foundation project. She reviewed what was left to complete this project. Diane explained that Pam was set as the authorized signer for all documents related to the grants that funded this project and it would be very time consuming to amend all those documents and would slow the closeout of the project. Diane asked if TCI had completed the needed fixes in the teacherage. Pam stated that they had, but asked Angelo to please check the crawl space to see if it was staying dry.
- Pam asked for a progress report on the community concerns related to the Point-to-Point Microwave Internet Project. Ron reported that he had spoken to Kevin at EL regarding the fire concerns and passed that information on to Craig. He also said he offered to set up a meeting with EL Internet NW to address the concerns that Craig and Ray had but Craig had declined and would reach out to EL Internet NW via email to get the concerns addressed. Ron stated that he felt that the issues had been addressed. Craig stated that he had sent an email and to date has gotten no response. At this point Ron reviewed the process he had taken to address the concerns that had been raised. Craig disagreed and felt that issues affecting the safety of the community have not been addressed. Bob stated that this was a project that was heavily regulated by the FCC and other government entities and EL Internet NW must have gotten permits that should address the concerns that the community may have. Ray stated that towers were being erected on private property within the valley and EL Internet NW has not disclosed any information regarding those locations or details about safety hazards at those locations. Trish stated that she felt there has been frustration regarding getting the flow of information smoothed out with EL Internet NW. Pam asked how the specific questions that Craig and Ray posed have been addressed. Craig stated that he gave his concerns to Ron after the last meeting and sent the fire concerns to EL Internet NW and has heard nothing back from them. The clerk stated that the school was copied on the email that was sent from the fire department by Craig and Ray. Bill Sullivan clarified that the said email was not from the fire department but was from Craig Johnson and Ray McCready who happen to

be the Fire Chief and Assistant Chief and that the correspondence did not officially come from the Upper Yaak Valley Volunteer Fire Department. Trish stated that the school wants to resolve the community issues and ask if a face to face with EL Internet NW where scheduled, with the specific questions being asked folk feel are not being answered, would that satisfy. Pam stated that this issue will fall to the incoming board and Trish will work to get this resolved. She asked if the fire concerns had been addressed. Craig stated no they had not responded. Trish will contact EL Internet NW and work on getting things moving. Claire suggested that Trish should send a letter instead of an email. Diane asked if this was something that needed to be done before she left for vacation on the 26th. Trish stated she would also be gone next week, and she and Diane will address this as schedules allow. Hoping to get it taken care of right away.

- Pam stated that this would conclude the clearing of old business. Pam thanked the public for their support and said it had been an honor to serve the school and community as a member of the board over the years. Several folks thanked Pam for all she had done for the school.

At this time, Carolyn Bennett conducted the swearing in of Cheri Javorsky and David Gambill, the newly elected members of the board, and notarized the required documents. The new board took the floor and nominated Trish as Chairperson and Cheri as Vice Chairperson. Trish called the room back to order and called for the appointment of Diane Downey as the District Clerk. Diane accepted and was sworn in by Carolyn Bennett. At this time Diane presented her letter of resignation to the Board and stated that she will complete this year but will not be accepting the appointment in May of 2023. The Board will start looking at how the school can best structure the vacancy, be it one or two positions. Bob asked how the school could pay for the trainee and the clerk at the same time. Trish stated that this was one of the budgetary issues the board will be addressing over the next 2 and a half months prior to the adoption of the 22-23 SY budget in mid-August.

The Board approved destroying previous year election files as retention schedule dictated. David moved Cheri seconded and Trish concurred.

The issue of Pam staying on as the Foundation Project lead person and authorized signer was brought for discussion. Trish moved that Pam stay on in that role, Cheri seconded, and David concurred.

Trish explained to the new board the process for how the board deals with continuing business.

Maintenance Committee:

- The washer and dryer in the teacherage needs to be replaced. Trish will start looking for replacements. Angelo stated that if the funds were not available, they would be happy to pitch in on the replacement costs. Diane stated that there are enough funds in the Rent Lease Fund to cover the cost. Sabre' will look for replacement units so Trish does not have to deal with that, she will forward her finding to Trish for board approval on purchase.
- The Annual Playground Inspection will be done by Artie, Diane will see that he gets the inspection form.

Technology Committee:

- At this time, we do not have an in-house Tech person and Sabre' voiced her concerns that the network has not been updated since December and that it must be addressed as soon as possible. Greg from All Systems Go has been logging in remotely and dealing with the day to day needs but the school needs to get an annual agreement set up so he can be our Tech Support person. The list of items that need to be addressed monthly will need to be taken down to Greg and a plan put in place. Trish will open the conversation with Greg to get this moving forward.
- The amendment to the Broadband for Montana Schools contract that covers the 10% of the Point-to-Point Microwave project that is not paid for with E-Rate funds has been signed and submitted.

Fundraising Committee:

- It has been decided that the Annual Arts and Crafts Fair will not be happening this summer. Whoever, we will be doing the silent auction during the same weekend as the Volunteer Fire Department's Rummage sale. Sabre' and Angelo will be spearheading that fundraiser.

New Business:

- Sabre' submitted the 22-23 SY Calendar for board approval. Trish moved to accept the calendar as submitted, Cheri seconded, and David concurred.
- Sabre' reviewed the PIR days scheduled for the 22-23 SY
- Sabre' submitted the new 22-23 Student Handbook for Board approval. David moved to accept the Handbook as presented, Trish seconded, and Cheri concurred.

- Diane reviewed the 2nd semester Transportation Contract costs, totaling \$910.00. These will be submitted when Diane returns, and Trish will be signing the submission report.
- Trish read the Resolution to Provide Individual Transportation Contracts for the 22-23 SY. It was approved and signed by the board.
- Review and setting of the School's Goals and Objectives for the ensuing school year was tabled until the June meeting. The board were given the present Goals and Objects, Mission Statement and corresponding Policy to review in preparation for June discussion.
- The updated Policy 2161P from Cabinet Mountain Coop was given to the board for replacement of the present version in their Policy books.
- The needed warrant signing authorization charges for the County Treasurer's office were completed and Diane will forward that document to the Treasurer.
- The Resolution to Designate an Authorized Representative was read by Trish. David moved to approve the resolution appointing Trish Lauer as our interim AR until such a time as the County appoints a new County Superintendent, Cheri seconded, and Trish concurred.

Clerks Report & Expenditures:

- Diane reviewed the cost of the Trustee Election and advised the board that going forward we need to budget for this as it was not budgeted for the 20-21 SY and this is one of the reasons why our remaining General Fund Balance is so low.
- The Treasures Office Financials for the month of April have not been received yet. Diane reviewed the detailed April expenditures and the May to date expenditures. The General Fund expenditure budget is sitting at 16.25% remaining.

Teachers Report:

- State Testing is still ongoing. Issues with the internet have hampered the progress.
- Update to Rendezvous plans is that we will not be spending the night at McCormick but returning for a sleepover/movie night in the classroom. Breakfast will be provided Friday morning before class starts.
- The 23rd we go on a field trip to Ross Creek Cedars with Brian Bagster.
- The 25th is the Art walk through, Poetry Reading and Music presentation. This event will be from 3:30 to 6:00 p.m.
- Annual Goals report in compliance with policy 2000 was presented.
- Sabre' presented her classroom goals for the 22-23 SY.

Policy Review:

- Policy 1905 section on face coverings and testing was reviewed. Trish 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

New MTSBA Policy:

- Second reading of policies 1120-Annual Organization Meeting, 1401-Records Available to Public and 1521-Board-Superintendent Relationship was conducted and they were adopted. Policy 1620-Evaluation of Board was tabled until such a time that the New Board could review it and bring forward suggestions as to how to move forward with this Evaluation Plan.

Public Comment:

Next Regular Meeting: June 16, 2022 @ 9:00 a.m.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

_____ Diane Downey, District Clerk

_____ Trish Lauer, Chair

_____ Cheri Javorsky, Vice Chair

_____ David Gambill, Board Trustee