

MINUTES

The regular meeting of the Yaak School Board of Trustees was called to order by Chairperson, Trish Lauer, at 9:03 a.m. on Wednesday August 17, 2022, at the Yaak School. Trish opened the meeting, welcomed visitors, reviewed meeting protocol, and stated that the meeting was being recorded. Trish stated that the new County Superintendent, Suzy Rios, may be joining us via zoom.

Trustees Present: Trish Lauer, Cheri Javorsky and David Gambill

Others Present: Diane Downey, District Clerk, Sabre' Alderete, Head Teacher, Larry Miller, Ron Webb, and Kathy Huber.

Minutes:

The minutes from the July 26, 2022 board meeting were reviewed. David moved that the July minutes be accepted as presented, Cheri seconded, and Trish concurred. Also, May minutes that were approved but not signed at the June meeting were signed.

Maintenance Committee:

- David reported that he had gone over the summer maintenance list with Artie and stated that everything was on track. Watering of the grass needs to be more evenly distributed. David spoke with Artie about the security roll down doors that need to be installed. Artie is not comfortable doing that installation. David has reached out to a community member that has a Montana Contractors license and asked if he would be interested in installing the doors for us. He will let us know if he hears back from that person.
- Diane reported that the rodent control efforts were on going. Traps are in place until Sunday before school starts. Gopher hole will need filled, Sabre' asked that that be done prior to the first day of school.

Technology Committee:

- Trish reported on the Point-to-Point Microwave project. Larry stated that he thought the completion date was June 30th, Trish explained that we had gotten an extension. Larry asked if we would be asking for liquidated damages, as the project was extended. No, we will not be asking for any liquidated damages. Larry asked when the new extension date was, Trish reported that it was June 30, 2023.

Fundraising Committee:

- Angelo Alderete will be the chairperson of the committee and will be reaching out for volunteers to help with future fundraising.

Old Business:

- Trish gave an update on the foundation project; TCI has been hired by WGM to do the concrete rework and it has been said they will have work done before the first day of classes which is Monday the 22nd.

New Business:

- Diane did a detailed review of the Trustees Financial Statement and fielded questions. After review Trish moved that the TFS be approved as presented, Cheri seconded, and David concurred.
- Diane presented the 22-23 Final Budget, General fund \$ 105,079.55, Transportation \$996.00, Retirement \$11,360.41, Technology \$497.72, Flex Fund \$1,043.65, and Building Reserve \$43,920.19. Total mills to fund all budgets is 48.72, down from last year's mills of 52.96. Trish moved that the final budget be approved as presented, Cheri seconded, and David concurred.
- Trish explained what the ESSER Premium pay was for those that did not know what it was. She proposed that the 22-23 SY payment be made before the end of September as this facilitates the grant ending cycle of September 30, 2024. Last year's payment was made in November, and this will get payments in sync with the grant cycle. Diane stated that there are only 2 remaining employees that would qualify for this payment. The unexpended budgeted amount for the employee that is no longer here can be budgeted for something else.
- The board has been approached by Diane Downey about allowing a 10X10 plot of land for a community garden. There was much discussion, at this time the school is not comfortable with this project being undertaken on school property. Cheri Javorsky has offered to speak to the county commissioners about property by the Rod and Gun Club and David will check with the Community Church. Sabre' asked that the school wait until all other locations have been investigated before

the school offers to have the garden on school property. David will check well logs for water capacity and also look at available locations on school property. The topic of the community garden will be placed under old business going forward so we can gather the needed information to make a decision about the use of school property.

Teacher's Report:

- Student count for the start of school is two (2). Public Notice has been posted for registration.
- The Co. Superintendent has been sent the names and addresses of the homeschool families that we know of and will be reaching out to them for the purpose of registering as homeschoolers and also completing the required data entry at the State Level for private/nonpublic school participation in federal grants.
- Back to school webinar "Supporting Children's Mental Health" is being presented by DotCom Therapy, our student counseling provider. This will be held September 13th at 6:30 p.m. the public is encouraged to attend.
- It has been decided the students will do their own Wings Walk on Friday September 9th at 8:30 a.m. Sabre' reviewed the route they will walk. She asked for support volunteers, Diane offered to help. She will have a spaghetti dinner for the kids Thursday evening at 5 p.m. to carb them up.
- The school zone speed limit is not being adhered to. Cheri will speak to the county commissioners to see if we can get some signage. Two years ago the sheriff was called up to do a speed trap and last year Sabre' had no response from her inquiries.
- A grant has been submitted through the Montana Historical Society for new textbooks covering Montana History. This curriculum follows MT Standards.

Clerk's Report, Financials & Expenditures:

- Review of the June balanced with the Treasures Office Financials. Trish moved that the June financials be approved as presented, Cheri seconded, and David concurred. (see attached for detail)
- Detailed expenditures for July were reviewed, financial report for July has not been received from the Co. Treasurer yet. August expenditures to date were reviewed. Diane reviewed the expenditure budget for the general fund. She alerted the board of the consumption of the budget for Operation and Maintenance as it only has 66.82 percent remaining and we are only 2 months into the school year.

Policy Update:

Trish gave an overview of the instatement of our State of Emergency and 1900 series policies in response to the 2020 Covid Pandemic. After reviewing the latest information from local public health, CDC, an assessment of community health at this time and recommendations from MTSBA as to policy, Trish proposes that we rescind the state of emergency and remove the 1900 series policies, she and the board have reviewed the recommendations for policies that cover any regular operational topics, and we have those recommended policies already in place. At this time Trish opened the floor for public input and questions. When all public questions and concerns were addressed (a recording of all comments can be requested by contacting the District Clerk) Trish made a motion that we end the state of emergency and remove all 1900 series policies, Cheri seconded, and David concurred. With the changes that have been approved we will need to update the Student Handbook. Sabre', in anticipation of the changes, presented the updated handbook. The board approved the updated document. Diane will have the new handbook put on the school website.

Public Comment:

Sabre' stated that it has been requested that if the monthly Wednesday board meeting needs to be rescheduled, not to reschedule on a Tuesday as that conflicts with the Volunteer Fire Departments meetings that are held on Tuesdays.

Kathy Huber asked why there was no running water in the bathroom sink in the girl's bathroom. Trish explained that as part of our disinfecting protocol during the Pandemic it was decided to take the bathroom sinks out of service and make the main sink in the coat room/kitchen area the only hand washing sink. This made it easier for the teacher to make sure all hands were washed and lessen contact surfaces to control the spread of the virus. We will be leaving those sinks out of service as it is helpful for the teacher to monitor hand washing.

Next Regular Meeting: September 14, 2022 @ 3:45 p.m. Meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

_____ Diane Downey, District Clerk

_____ Trish Lauer, Chair

_____ Cheri Javorsky, Vice Chair

_____ David Gambill, Board Trustee