

REGULAR MEETING – MARCH 8, 2011

1 & 2. CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Chairman Keith called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Elementary Board Conference Room. Trustees Present: Krystal Zentner, Kelly Stevenson, Penny Young and Russ Imlay. Others Present: Bill Phillips, Betty Sweet, Becky Bell, Diane George, Wes Schwend, Joe Scianna, Lela Hall, Quincy Webster, Jeff Zeltner, Wyatt Schroeder, Nathan Woepfel, Bailey Kilfoy, Deana Kilfoy, Linda & Don Skorupa and Shawana Wood.

Trustee Stevenson made a motion to move the Principal/AD report and the presentations by the Art Class and the representatives from the Community Garden project to the beginning of the meeting. Trustee Imlay seconded the motion. Members voted in favor. All in attendance moved to Lela Hall's classroom for the presentation then back to the conference room 8:00 p.m.

3. MINUTES:

Trustee Imlay made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 8, 2011 Regular Meeting. Trustee Young seconded the motion. Members voted 5/0 in favor.

4. CLAIMS, PAYROLL, TREASURER'S RECONCILIATION:

Trustee Young made a motion to accept the following: claims 13983-14029, payroll warrants 17576-17625 and the direct deposit lists of 3/3/11. Trustee Zentner seconded the motion. Vote 5/0. Questions were asked about the Haddock payment – SLATE funds for Fromberg, upcoming bus repairs on the stop arms and windshield. Note: payroll from 2/22 was not included in Board packet, will be included in April packet.

5. ATHLETIC/ACTIVITY ACCOUNTING:

Trustee Young made a motion to accept the activity accounting for February. Trustee Imlay seconded the motion. Vote: 5/0.

6. SPECIAL REPORTS:

6.1 Principal/Activities Director Report: CRT's will be given next week; the results of these tests help determine the districts' AYP status. Jr. Hi Boys Basketball continues. High School Track begins 3/14. Football and basketball games for the next season will be scheduled at a meeting to be held in Laurel on 3/9. Ms. Bell will be attending a Title I conference that day so Judy Zent will go to the AD meeting as the districts' representative.

6.2 Superintendent/Transportation Director Report: Superintendent Phillips encouraged members to ready the Board and Administration newsletters they are receiving as a professional development source. Special meetings may be necessary to work on the upcoming budget. We are waiting for information from the legislature and there may be a special session. Mr. Phillips answered questions on the budget and the meeting with Fromberg at the Bridger Senior Citizens and the local Lions Club meeting. There is a School Finance workshop in Miles City on 3/21. Claude, Krystal, Betty and Mr. Phillips hope to attend. Asbestos training will be held in Laurel on 3/23. Mr. Phillips, Deb Owens & Dolly Donges will attend the 2 hour session and Harvey Nott will be in training for two full days. Superintendent Phillips and Principal Bell need to get together with the basketball coaches to go over their evaluations. Recommendations will be mailed to the Board in a letter for consideration at an upcoming meeting. Deb Owens will be

offered the opportunity to obtain her boilers' certification license. We will begin advertising for Volleyball coaches with an April 15th deadline.

6.3 Clerk's Report: Mail ballot information is being received and worked on. MASBO regional meeting and OPI Budget meeting are scheduled for later in March – Betty will attend both days.

6.4 Art Class Presentation – 3D Software: Several High School Art Students were on hand to update the Board on the new software being used in their classes. In addition to the 3D software, Auto CAD software was demonstrated.

7. OLD BUSINESS:

7.1 2011-2012 Budget: News from Helena continues to get better especially in the Oil and Gas area. Schools receiving the highest amounts may be capped and the funds redistributed to other districts. Superintendent Phillips has continued to work on reduction-in-force scenarios. If a person retires or leaves, we would try to not replace them. Information on the number of students served by each teacher will be given. It was the consensus of the members that we look first at programs that would affect the least students. Essentially will be looking to reduce programs, not staff. The staff we have will be used to implement Advanced Placement classes. Teachers certified in other areas will be asked to teach other classes. Superintendent Phillips will have more options ready for the next meeting. To legally and ethically conduct a R.I.F., we need to set some guidelines for our decision and work hard to make sure all provisions of the Master Agreement are satisfied.

7.2 Retirement Incentives: It was the consensus of the Board to extend the deadline to April 7th in order to have the information available for the next meeting. Mr. Phillips will talk to the teachers who have expressed interest. The district will not be able to offer \$20,000 as severance but would offer either \$20,000 as an incentive or \$10,000 as severance due to the TRS match.

8. NEW BUSINESS:

8.1 Construction Projects: Ranking projects for grant funds went as follows: the High School Boiler-first and lighting in the classrooms-second. The elementary settling is an issue as are the windows in both buildings. Motion sensors in the bathrooms and programmable thermostats would be projects that we can pay for with regular funds. WTR will be consulted as to whether are problems with the gym are a safety issues as well as the crow's nest at the football field.

8.2 Community Garden Project: Lela Hall and Joe Scianna gave a presentation on the reasons for and goals of this project. The group is asking the Board for the use of school property not currently in use; the grass area on the east side of the Elementary building. They will be writing grants and asking for community support for this project. It was the consensus of the Board that we are not saying no to this project, we would like them to look at other areas in the community first.

8.3 Joint Board Meeting with Fromberg: This meeting will be held at Fromberg's request on March 16 at 7:30 p.m. in the new Fromberg gym addition.

8.4 Budget Amendment Resolution: Trustee Imlay made a motion to made a motion to proclaim the Boards' Resolution to adopt a budget amendment in the General Fund of \$250,000 for the purpose of class room supplies and for offering retirement incentives, items that have been

deferred due to funding constraints and an amendment in the Transportation Fund of \$55,000 for the purpose of supplies and other improvements of facilities with the anticipated source of funding for both to be the greater than anticipated net proceeds, oil, gas and bentonite revenues in each fund. Trustee Young seconded the motion and members voted unanimously in favor.

8.5 Surplus Property Resolution: Trustee Young made a motion to accept a resolution to continue our enrollment with the State of Montana Surplus Property Program. Trustee Imlay seconded the motion and all members voted in favor.

8.6 MTSBA renewal: Based on the recommendation of Superintendent Phillips, Trustee Zentner made a motion to continue membership with the Montana School Boards Association for the 2011-2012 year. Trustee Imlay seconded the motion and members voted 5/0 in favor.

8.7 Amend Retirement Plan: Trustee Stevenson made a motion to accept the resolution to include Roth 457 contributions as an option to the district's employee-funded retirement plan. Trustee Young seconded the motion. Vote: 5/0.

8.8 2011-2012 Calendar: Superintendent Phillips gave out a preliminary calendar for the 2011-2012 school year with school starting 8/31 and ending 5/31. Members would like to see school end before Memorial Day (5/28) and the date of graduation moved so that it does not coincide with State Track. Trustee Stevenson made a motion to table this item to the April meeting. Trustee Imlay seconded the motion. Vote: 5/0.

8.9 Election Resolution: Trustee Imlay made a motion to resolve to hold the 2011 Trustee and Mill Levy election as a mail ballot in conjunction with the Park and Recreation District. The election will be held May 3, 2011. Trustee Zentner seconded the motion. Members voted in favor. Note: it was later found out that the District does not have to hire Election Judges to receive walk-in ballots on election day. The County will hire the judges and mail out the ballots. The District will pay half the costs.

9. PERSONNEL:

No items on this agenda

10. PUBLIC COMMENT:

None at this time.

11. NEXT REGULAR MEETING:

Trustee Imlay made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:25 p.m. Trustee Zentner seconded the motion. The next regular Board meeting will be Tuesday, April 12 at 7:00 p.m.

ATTEST:

Board Chairman

Clerk of the Board