

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
ROBERTS SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5
NOVEMBER 10, 2021**

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Roberts School District No. 5, Roberts, Montana was called to order by Chair Joel Bertolino at 6:00 p.m. on November 10, 2021 in the library at the Roberts School.

ATTENDANCE

Joel Bertolino, Chair
Michelle Swansborough, Vice Chair
Brandon Crane
Sam Langager
Tyler Allen (via teleconferencing)

Alex Ator, Superintendent

GUESTS: Peter Wisniewski

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

NEW BUSINESS

NEW GYM BOILER UPDATE – Mr. Ator stated the boiler for the new gym is still fully operable but the control panel isn't so it is costing us to try to keep it running. He stated the system is twenty years old and without the control panel, there is no way of knowing when it will quit functioning so he asked for bids to replace the system. He added he received the following three bids:

1. Indoor Air Solutions LLC -- \$69,317.00
2. Conditioned Air Systems Inc. -- \$55,573.70
3. Montana Boiler Service Inc. -- \$39,970.00

Representatives from Indoor Air Solutions and Conditioned Air Systems Inc. joined the meeting via Zoom to talk about their bids.

Joseph from Indoor Air Solutions stated his bid of \$69317.00 includes two new boilers although one boiler would cover the majority of situations if needed. He added boilers could be ordered and here in about 4 weeks.

John from Conditioned Air Systems stated his bid is also for two boilers that are known to be one of the best to have parts available locally. He added he is familiar with the current system and could start installation immediately and have temporary heat in the building in a week and completed in two weeks.

Mr. Ator stated his recommendation would be to go with the bid from Conditioned Air Systems but the board would make a formal motion at the November 17 board meeting.

RECESS

The board took a short recess at 6:45 p.m. to view the boiler room.

RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION

Joel Bertolino returned the meeting to regular session at 6:45 p.m. and adjourned the meeting at 6:50 p.m.

Board Chair

District Clerk

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
ROBERTS SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5
NOVEMBER 17, 2021**

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Roberts School District No. 5, Roberts, Montana was called to order by Chair Joel Bertolino at 6:00 p.m. on November 17, 2021 in the library at the Roberts School.

ATTENDANCE

Joel Bertolino, Chair
Michelle Swansborough, Vice Chair
Brandon Crane
Sam Langager
Tyler Allen (via teleconferencing)

Alex Ator, Superintendent
JaLayne Obert, Business Manager/Clerk

GUESTS: Sarah Shoopman, Katy Rausch, Peter Wisniewski, Steve Keebler, Alan Schuyler, Susann Beug, Deborah Muth, Linda Remmick, Kevin Owens, MaKayla Pratt, Grayce Payovich, Misty Pitts, Roxie Melton, Jim Neu, Jackie Ronning (via teleconferencing), Kelley Guasp (via teleconferencing)

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES

Motion was made by Michelle Swansborough, seconded by Brandon Crane and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the October 20, 2021 regular meeting as presented. (YES—Bertolino, Swansborough, Allen, Crane, Langager. NO—none).

WARRANTS

Motion was made by Brandon Crane, seconded by Sam Langager, and carried unanimously to approve warrants 47598-47682 as written. (YES—Bertolino, Swansborough, Allen, Crane, Langager. NO—none).

PUBLIC COMMENT

Kevin Owens, General Manager of Beartooth Electric, gave a presentation on installing solar energy equipment at the school. He stated Beartooth Electric would provide 50% of the funding for the project and the Carbon County Resource Council would provide \$7500 of funding with the district responsible for the balance of the project.

Mr. Owen stated what would work best for the school would be to mount solar panels on the bus barn and the cost would vary according to the number of panels mounted. He added this energy initiative is funded with capital credits unclaimed for five years that go back to Beartooth Electric and must be used for education.

Joel Bertolino thanked Mr. Owen for coming and informing the board of this project. He stated the board will be taking a closer look at the information and alternatives for funding.

Mr. Ator stated this would be a project we could apply for a grant to help fund.

Alan Schuyler, representing the Roberts Community Foundation, gave a history of the organization, an overview of the projects done by the group, and current membership of the board, who are all alumni of Roberts School.

Mr. Schuyler stated this fall the foundation provided \$50,000 worth of trees to be planted in the community and will be working on installing electrical outlets so more Christmas decorations can be put up. He added the group would then like to refocus on the school.

Joel Bertolino thanked Mr. Schuyler for coming and keeping the board updated on the activities of the foundation.

SENIOR TRIP

MaKayla Pratt and Grayce Payovich, representing the senior class, gave an overview of the class plans for the senior trip, activities and overnight stay in Billings on April 14 and 15, 2022.

Motion was made by Michelle Swansborough, seconded by Sam Langager and carried unanimously to allow the Class of 2022 access to their funds for their senior trip. (YES--

TEACHER REPORTS

Katy Rausch, Peter Wisniewski, and Sarah Shoopman gave teacher reports for the month.

Miss Rausch stated she teaches fifth and sixth grade math and science and also K-3 art and showed some samples of projects completed in art class. She added the students are also decorating a tree to put in the Festival of Trees in Red Lodge.

Mr. Ator stated Miss Rausch joined us last year as first grade teacher and moved to 5/6 this year. He added she has been a great addition to the staff.

Mr. Wisniewski stated he teaches special education and is head of the maintenance department.

Mr. Wisniewski stated having two special education teachers this year has resulted in the students getting more one on one support which is so important. He added at a recent training he attended he found out we're already doing some things in education other school aren't doing. He added he really likes that everyone here makes such an effort to make the students feel welcome and safe.

Mr. Ator stated there are so many areas Mr. Wisniewski is qualified in and he is ready to step up wherever he is needed.

Mrs. Shoopman stated this is her third year of teaching 7-12 math. She reported we use Eureka math which she really likes because it gives opportunities for self-exploration. She added this year she can really see how helpful it has been to have pre-algebra and pre-geometry at the seventh and eighth grade level when those students are in algebra and geometry in grades 9 and 10.

Mrs. Shoopman stated she has four seniors who are not college bound and wanted to have a life math class. She added that has gone very well and they will be doing a project with the second grade soon.

Mrs. Shoopman reported she is also the activities director and gave the following activity report:

1. High school basketball begins tomorrow with the first competition on December 16. We are able to field both a boys' and girls' junior varsity team this year.
2. High school volleyball team came out third in the conference, second at the district tournament, and third at the divisional tournament. Grayce Payovich and Bentley Bertolino were selected for All-State and All-conference honors and McKayla Pratt and Hailey Croft were selected for the second team. Thirteen of 14 players on the team made academic all-state.
3. High school football team made it to the playoffs. Roberts had one senior and four freshmen on the team.
4. High school cross country team sent one person to the state competition.
5. FFA attended John Deere Ag Days and the NILE.
6. BPA has been doing their testing competitions and will go to regional competition on December 7.

Mr. Ator stated Mrs. Shoopman does many different things and in a small community we really need this type of person.

STAFFING

ADDITIONS TO SUB LIST – Mr. Ator recommended adding Kaylee Langager to the substitute list.

Motion was made by Michelle Swansborough, seconded by Brandon Crane and carried unanimously to add Kaylee Langager to the substitute list. (YES—Bertolino, Allen, Crane, Swansborough. NO—none. ABSTAINED: Langager, conflict of interest).

Mr. Ator recommended adding Jill Agnew, a retired teacher from Charlo, to the substitute teacher list.

Motion was made by Sam Langager, seconded by Michelle Swansborough and carried unanimously to add Jill Agnew to the substitute teacher list. (YES-- Bertolino, Allen, Crane, Langager, Swansborough. NO—none.)

NEW BUSINESS

BOILER BID REVIEW – Mr. Ator stated the board discussed the bids for the boiler for the upper gym at a special meeting on November 10, 2021. He stated a formal motion by the board is now needed and recommended the bid from Conditioned Air Systems, Inc. be accepted in the amount of \$55,573.70.

Motion was made by Michelle Swansborough, seconded by Brandon Crane and carried unanimously to accept the bid from Conditioned Air Systems, Inc. in the amount of \$55,573.70 for the boiler for the upper gym. (YES—Bertolino, Allen, Crane, Langager, Swansborough. NO--none).

OPEN CERTIFIED NEGOTIATIONS – Mr. Ator stated we received a letter formally requesting negotiations for certified staff be opened for 2022-2023 and beyond. He added Jon Milligan and

Sarah Shoopman will be the representing the certified staff and a board committee needs to be established.

It was determined that Brandon Crane and Michelle Swansborough will negotiate with certified staff, Tyler Allen and Sam Langager will negotiate with classified staff, and Joel Bertolino will negotiate with the administrative staff.

REVIEW OF PROCEDURES (DRESS CODE) – Mr. Ator stated the dress code policy contained in the Student Handbook states head coverings are not allowed in the building. He added about half the staff feels the policy should be enforced and students asked to remove their hats and the other half are ignoring the policy. He added he needs some direction from the board.

Brandon Crane asked if it's an issue with having the policy or having to enforce the policy. Mr. Ator stated it is some of both.

Mrs. Swansborough stated during the school day in the classroom, having no head coverings is a sign of respect for teachers and students have to learn a respect for authority. She added she feels we need to teach students to follow the policy so teachers need to enforce the policy.

Mr. Ator stated he will address the issue in small group.

Motion was made by Michelle Swansborough, second by Tyler Allen and carried unanimously that the current dress code stands as written and is to be enforced. (YES—Bertolino, Allen, Crane, Langager, Swansborough. NO—none).

OLD BUSINESS

BUS ROUTE AMENDMENTS – Move to next month.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

LITERACY REPORT – Jackie Ronning reported for the literacy grant, progress monitoring is occurring and progress is being seen. She added teachers are engaged in meeting winter benchmarks in January.

NEXT MEETING – Mr. Ator stated meeting dates for the next few months are December 15 at 5:30 p.m. because the Christmas concert is at 7:00 p.m., January 19, 2022 and February 16, 2022.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Bertolino called for adjournment at 7:55 p.m.

Board Chair

District Clerk