

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
ROBERTS SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5  
FEBRUARY 22, 2023**

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Roberts School District No. 5, Roberts, Montana was called to order by Chair Michelle Swansborough at 6:00 p.m. on February 22, 2023 in the library at the Roberts School.

**ATTENDANCE**

Michelle Swansborough, Chair  
Brandon Crane, Vice Chair  
Joel Bertolino  
Mariah Holdbrook  
Sam Langager

Alex Ator, Superintendent  
JaLayne Obert, Business Manager/Clerk

GUESTS: Jackie Ronning, Sanford Langager, Kelley Guasp, Jen Larson, Sarah Shoopman

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**MINUTES**

Motion was made by Joel Bertolino, seconded by Sam Langager and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the January 18, 2023 regular meeting as presented. (YES—Swansborough, Crane, Bertolino, Holdbrook, Langager. NO—none).

**WARRANTS**

Mr. Ator stated the check for \$92,139.84 to the Yellowstone Boys and Girls Ranch is for CSCT services and is the federal Medicaid reimbursement.

Sanford Langager stated he would like to see board discussion on this item when the contract comes up for renewal.

Motion was made by Joel Bertolino, seconded by Mariah Holdbrook and carried unanimously to approve warrants 48981-49049 as presented. (YES—Swansborough, Crane, Bertolino, Holdbrook, Langager. NO—none).

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. Ator stated he has been contacted by the Carbon County Health Department about a dental program called Smiles Across Montana that provides dental services at the school and asked if trustees would have any concerns with participating.

Mariah Holdbrook stated it sounds like a good idea. No concerns were expressed by board members.

ACTIVITIES REPORT – Sarah Shoopman reported the following for activities:

1. High school basketball postseason is underway with the district tournament held in Columbus last weekend. The boys' finished the regular season at #4 and won their first tournament game but lost the next two. The girls' finished the season in the #1 spot and came out on top of the district tournament and advanced to the divisional tournament on March 2, 2023 at Lockwood High School.
2. Junior high boys' basketball has begun.
3. FFA has been busy with district events and held different activities for national FFA week.
4. BPA state competition will be held March 12-14 in Billings.
5. Practice for the track season begins on March 13.
6. Rocket Leadership is helping plan prom and Student Council is hosting the district student council meeting tomorrow.
7. The community support for the basketball teams was very much appreciated.

Mariah Holdbrook stated the growth of the Junior Varsity girls this year has been amazing and thanked the coaches for all their hard work.

**STAFFING**

ACTIVITIES – Mr. Ator recommended a consent action item to hire the following for activities:

Head JH Boys Basketball Coach	Rick Chirrick at base salary of \$1515
Assistant JH Boys Basketball Coach	Cameron Lloyd at base salary of \$965
Head HS Track Coach	Melissa Bertolino at base salary of \$2400
Asst. HS Track Coach	Theresa Kosel at base salary of \$1845
Head JH Track Coach	Kennedee Blankenship at base of \$1515

Motion was made by Brandon Crane, seconded by Sam Langager and carried to approve the hiring of activities coaches as recommended by the superintendent. (YES—Swansborough, Crane, Holdbrook, Langager. NO—none. Abstained—Bertolino (conflict of interest)).

SUBSTITUTE LIST – Mr. Ator recommended adding Rick Chirrick and Theresa Kosel to the substitute list.

Motion was made by Brandon Crane, seconded by Sam Langager and carried to add Rick Chirrick and Theresa Kosel to the substitute list. (YES—Swansborough, Crane, Holdbrook, Langager. NO—none. Abstained—Bertolino (conflict of interest)).

RESIGNATIONS – Mr. Ator recommended accepting letters of resignation from Jackie Ronning, Mike Rausch, and Sam McCrone, all effective at the end of the school year.

Mr. Ator stated Jackie Ronning has exceeded all expectations in her role as instructional coach with the district. He thanked all three for their service to the district.

Motion was made by Joel Bertolino, seconded by Mariah Holdbrook and carried unanimously to accept the letters of resignation from Jackie Ronning, Mike Rausch, and Sam McCrone. (YES-Swansborough, Crane, Bertolino, Holdbrook, Langager. NO—none)

**NEW BUSINESS**

RESOLUTION TO APPROXIMATE PERMISSIVE LEVY AMOUNTS FOR 23-24 – Mr. Ator stated in March we need to approve the resolution estimating permissive levy amounts for the 23-24 school year. He stated we will probably need to look at an increase in Transportation as there are always unexpected costs like fixing bus barn doors and fuel cost fluctuation.

Mr. Ator stated there is an open enrollment bill in the legislature that will probably pass that will require districts to pay tuition for every out of district student so we probably need to put a substantial amount in the Tuition Fund to cover that. He added these bills are all branded parental choice bills but are actually consolidation bills.

Mr. Ator stated because of inflation, schools will probably receive about a 3% increase in funding and special education will be included in that formula this year.

Mr. Ator reported the bill he testified on about the location of marijuana dispensaries is still in committee and may die there.

**SUPERINTENDENT REPORT**

**MEETING DATES**

Mr. Ator stated the next meeting date will be held on March 13 with a special meeting on March 29.

SUPERINTENDENT EVALUATION AND NEGOTIATIONS – Chair Swansborough called for an executive session at 7:02 p.m. stating the next item to come before the board involves an individual and it is her determination that the individual’s right to privacy supersedes the merits of public disclosure.

The meeting was returned to regular session at 7:15 p.m.

Motion was made by Brandon Crane, seconded by Joel Bertolino and carried unanimously to approve the superintendent’s contract for the 2023-2024 year with a salary of \$90,000 and the addition of one personal day. (YES—Swansborough, Crane, Bertolino, Holdbrook, Langager. NO—none).

The meeting was reclosed at 7:30 p.m. for the superintendent’s evaluation and returned to regular session at 8:00 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Michelle Swansborough called for adjournment at 8:00 p.m.

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Board Chair

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District Clerk

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
ROBERTS SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5  
FEBRUARY 20, 2023**

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Roberts School District No. 5, Roberts, Montana was called to order by Chair Michelle Swansborough at 4:00 p.m. on February 20, 2023 in the library at the Roberts School.

**ATTENDANCE**

Michelle Swansborough, Chair  
Brandon Crane, Vice Chair  
Joel Bertolino  
Mariah Holdbrook  
Sam Langager

Alex Ator, Superintendent  
JaLayne Obert, Business Manager/Clerk

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**TRUSTEE RESOLUTION CALLING FOR AN ELECTION**

Mr. Ator stated Sam Langager will be leaving the area in early April and will be vacating his seat on the board. He added Mr. Langager's belief is the electorate should vote on who fills his position but because of time restraints with filing the resolution calling for the election, that isn't possible. He asked for approval of the Trustee Resolution Calling for an Election as presented (see attached).

Motion was made by Mariah Holdbrook, seconded by Brandon Crane and carried unanimously to approve the Trustee Resolution Calling for an Election as presented. (YES—Swansborough, Crane, Bertolino, Holdbrook, Langager. NO—none)

**ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Michelle Swansborough called for adjournment at 4:15 p.m.

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Board Chair

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District Clerk

**TRUSTEE RESOLUTION CALLING FOR AN ELECTION**

*(Regular School Election, One Voting Location)*

**BE IT RESOLVED**, the Board of Trustees for School District No. 5, Carbon County, State of Montana, will hold the Annual Regular School Election on Tuesday, the 2nd day of May, 2023, which date is not less than seventy (70) days after the passage of this resolution.

The election will be conducted by:

- Mail Ballot     Poll Election (the polls will be open from 12:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m.)

The purpose of the election is to elect two (2) trustees for three-year terms.

Approval of additional levies to operate and maintain the General Fund for FY 24 will also be requested.

If it is later determined that any portion of the election is not required, the Board of Trustees authorizes JaLayne Obert, election administrator, to cancel that portion of the election in accordance with **13-1-304 and 20-3-313, MCA**.

The following voting locations will be used for the election and the three electors of this district who are qualified to vote at such election are hereby appointed to act as judges at the election at each voting place as follows:

**Voting Location and Address: Roberts Fire Hall, 3 South 1st Street, Roberts MT 59070**

- | Election Judge    | Address                               |
|-------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Jane Zumburn,  | 8769 Hwy 212, Roberts MT 59070        |
| 2. Sally DeSarro, | 212 Cottonwood Road, Roberts MT 59070 |
| 3. Connie Bell,   | 53 Bell Road, Roberts MT 59070        |

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the clerk of this school district is hereby directed to notify the above named election judges of their appointment and to notify the county election administrator of the date of holding said election, and request the clerk to close regular registration and to prepare and furnish election materials as required by law. If any of these judges should not be able to serve, the election administrator will choose a replacement from certified judges.

No further proceedings were conducted relating to the election.

_____	_____
Print Name of Board Chair	Signature of Board Chair

_____	_____
Print Name of Clerk	Signature of Clerk

DATED this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_.