

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
ROBERTS SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5
OCTOBER 18, 2022**

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 October 18, 2022 in the library at the Roberts School.

ATTENDANCE

Michelle Swansborough, Chair
Brandon Crane, Vice Chair
Joel Bertolino
Sam Langager
Mariah Holdbrook (after swearing-in)

Alex Ator, Superintendent
JaLayne Obert, Business Manager/Clerk

GUESTS: Alan Schuyler, Katie Day, Jen Larson, Pete Wisniewski, Jackie Ronning

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES

It was noted that the correct amount for the Hanson Co. bid approved in September is \$14,806.44.

Motion was made by Joel Bertolino, seconded by Sam Langager and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the September 21, 2022 regular meeting as corrected. (YES—Swansborough, Crane, Bertolino, Langager. NO—none).

WARRANTS

Motion was made by Joel Bertolino, seconded by Brandon Crane and carried unanimously to approve warrants 48709 to 48772 as presented. (YES—Swansborough, Crane, Bertolino, Langager. NO—none).

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Ator stated the Roberts Community Foundation will be meeting in the library next Monday at 6:00 p.m.

TEACHER REPORTS

Peter Wisniewski, Jen Larson, and Jackie Ronning gave teacher reports for the month.

Mr. Wisniewski gave an overview of his special education and maintenance roles and needs of the facility.

Mrs. Larson gave an overview of the science program and filling in for Mr. Milligan for the next two years.

LITERACY REPORT --Mrs. Ronning reported on what is happening with the literacy grant this year. She stated we have had three consultant visits and they are working with new staff members to acquaint them with the goals and processes of the grant. She added the new teachers are doing really well and the summer institute was helpful in getting staff to know each other.

ACTIVITIES REPORT – Sarah Shoopman reported the following for activities:

1. 16 girls in grades 4-8 are playing elementary/junior high basketball.
2. Volleyball final home match will be October 22 with district tournament beginning October 27 in Bridger.
3. The volleyball tournament we held was successful and thanks to all who helped.
4. Elementary/junior high football is over and high school will be heading into the playoffs.
5. High school cross country team is headed to the state competition in Missoula.
6. FFA students attended NILE on October 17.
7. High school basketball practice begins on November 17.

STAFFING

WINTER ACTIVITIES – Mr. Ator asked when activities negotiations were done, was there any discussion of increasing the cap on longevity as it is currently set at \$2900.

Brandon Crane and Sam Langager stated that wasn't discussed.

Mr. Ator recommended the negotiating team go back for that discussion before approving winter contracts.

Brandon Crane stated it would probably be increased by the same percentage as everything else, 10%.

Michelle Swansborough stated activity negotiations will be reopened and coaching assignments scheduled to be approved tonight, with the exception of junior high girls' basketball, will be tabled.

Motion was made by Joel Bertolino, seconded by Sam Langager and carried unanimously to approve contracts for Sarah Shoopman as head junior high girls' basketball coach at \$1715 and Kennedee Blankenship as assistant junior high girls' basketball coach at \$965 for the 2022-2023 year. (YES—Swansborough, Crane, Bertolino, Langager. NO—none).

Motion was made by Brandon Crane, seconded by Joel Bertolino and carried unanimously to table the remaining activities appointments until negotiators can meet. (YES—Swansborough, Crane, Bertolino, Langager. NO—none).

NEW BUSINESS

APPOINTMENT AND SWEARING IN OF NEW BOARD MEMBER – Mr. Ator stated at the September 21, 2022 board meeting, it was determined the consensus of the board would be to appoint Mariah Holdbrook to fill the vacancy on the board.

Michelle Swansborough stated two emails were sent to all board members, one from Nancy and Sanford Langager and Casey and Lacy Kircher supporting the appointment of Nick Dobbel to the board and one from Lacy Kircher after the vote expressing disappointment in the board's

decision. She added she responded by encouraging them to come to the board meeting to express their feelings during public comment.

Mr. Ator stated a decision was made by the board and asked for it to be formalized with a motion and vote.

Motion was made by Brandon Crane, seconded by Joel Bertolino and carried unanimously to appoint Mariah Holdbrook to the board of trustees to fill the vacant position. (YES—Swansborough, Crane, Bertolino, Langager. NO—none).

JaLayne Obert conducted the swearing in of Mariah Holdbrook.

BATHROOM VENTING BID – Mr. Ator reported he is working on a bid for ventilation in the new bathroom and expects it to be between three and five thousand.

NEW GYM SHOT CLOCK INSTALLATION AND BID – Mr. Ator stated he received a bid from Taylor Election for \$6525 to install the shot clock in the new gym. He added he expects the final bill to be less but doesn't know how much wiring will have to be changed.

Motion was made by Mariah Holdbrook, seconded by Joel Bertolino and carried unanimously to approve the bid of \$6525 from Taylor Electric for installation of the shot clock in the new gym. (YES—Swansborough, Crane, Bertolino, Holdbrook, Langager. NO—none).

LUNCH PROCEDURE AND OPEN CAMPUS – Mr. Ator stated he has had some conversations with parents about students driving during the lunch period. He stated he is not really a fan of an open campus as there aren't places to go, there isn't much time, and the liability put on the school if the students are allowed to drive. He added there are other schools that have open campuses that require parents to sign a waiver of liability if their child is allowed to drive at lunchtime.

Joel Bertolino asked what has been done in the past.

Mr. Ator stated in past high school students were allowed to walk to the Y-Stop at lunchtime.

Mariah Holdbrook asked if the question is about getting lunch or having some freedom.

Motion was made by Brandon Crane, seconded by Mariah Holdbrook and carried to approve an open campus at lunchtime with students having the ability to drive if a waiver is signed by the parents. (YES—Swansborough, Crane, Bertolino, Holdbrook, Langager. NO—none).

LITERACY VAN LEASE – Mr. Ator asked for formal approval of the lease agreement with Ford Credit Company for the literacy van.

Motion was made by Sam Langager, seconded by Joel Bertolino and carried unanimously to approve the lease with Ford Credit Company for the literacy van. (YES—Swansborough, Crane, Bertolino, Holdbrook, Langager. NO—none).

OLD BUSINESS

BELL CLOCK ORDER – Mr. Ator stated the new bell clock was installed but it wasn't the correct clock. He added after working with a company representative, we will be getting the clock we ordered and asked for approval of the bid for \$7657.57.

Motion was made by Brandon Crane, seconded by Sam Langager and carried unanimously to approve the bid of \$7656.57 for the bell clock. (YES—Swansborough, Crane, Bertolino, Holdbrook, Langager. NO—none).

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Mr. Ator stated he has been asked for serve a second three-year term with Education Northwest and asked for approval to accept.

Motion was made by Brandon Crane, seconded by Joel Bertolino and carried unanimously to approve Mr. Ator’s second three-year term with Education Northwest. (YES—Swansborough, Crane, Bertolino, Holdbrook, Langager. NO—none).

MEETING DATES

Mr. Ator stated meeting dates for the next few months are November 16, December 21, and January 18.

ADJOURNMENT

Michelle Swansborough called for adjournment at 8:05 p.m.

Board Chair

District Clerk