

**OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 2 - LARAMIE COUNTY, WYOMING
December 14, 2009**

The Laramie County School District No. 2 board meeting was held at Burns High School, Burns, Wyoming on December 14, 2009.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Davison called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Members Present – Jack Bomhoff, Esther Davison, Patty Epler,
Jeff Kirkbride, Lee May, Tom Morgan, Julianne Randall, Steve Trimble
Wynema Thompson

Members Absent –

Superintendent: Jack Cozort

Also Present – Benjamin Cossel, Becky Orr, Sue Stevens, Jerry Burkett,
Mike Brownawell, Craig Williams, Rob Bryant, and Jeaneane Parsons

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Chair Davison deferred her position to the clerk, Julianne Randall, for the election of Board Chair.

Motion: Jack Bomhoff moved for a unanimous ballot for the officers currently standing. (Chair, Esther Davison; Vice Chairman, Steve Trimble; Clerk, Julianne Randall and Treasurer, Patty Epler)

Second: Lee May seconded the motion.

Vote: Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES OR ASSIGNMENTS

Motion: Steve Trimble moved to appoint Patty Epler and Jeff Kirkbride as the legislative contact members of the Board.

Second: Julianne Randall seconded the motion.

Vote: Motion carried.

Motion: Wynema Thompson moved to retain Tom Morgan and Patty Epler as board members on the Recreation Board.

Second: Jeff Kirkbride seconded the motion.

Vote: Motion carried.

Motion: Tom Morgan moved to approve the meeting locations and dates for the Board meetings and Work Sessions/Committee of the Whole meetings for 2010.

Second: Julianne Randall seconded the motion.

Vote: Motion carried.

Motion: Wynema Thompson moved that the Pine Bluffs Post and the Wyoming Tribune Eagle should be the designated official newspapers for the district.
Second: Steve Trimble seconded the motion.
Vote: Motion carried.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Questions for reporter Becky Orr, from the Wyoming Tribune Eagle, was added under new business.

Motion: Jeff Kirkbride moved to accept the agenda as amended.
Second: Tom Morgan seconded the motion.
Vote: Motion carried.

Patron Comments: None

Principal, Mike Brownawell, was pleased to report that Coach Brooks Hoffman was given the Good Sportsmanship Award from WHSAA. Congratulations are in order for demonstrating respect, integrity, dedication and encouragement.

Principal, Sue Stevens, was thrilled to report that Albin Elementary received word that they were nominated for a Blue Ribbon School award. This is a U.S. Department of Education award which honors America's most successful schools. Albin Elementary is in the top 10% of schools in the state as measured by the state reading and math test. Only two awards for a Blue Ribbon School are given in the State of Wyoming. Congratulations Albin Elementary!!

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion: Jeff Kirkbride moved to approve the November 9, 2009 regular meeting minutes.
Second: Patty Epler seconded the motion.
Vote: Motion carried.

FINANCES

Motion: Wynema Thompson moved to approve the warrants as presented.
Second: Lee May seconded the motion.
Vote: Motion carried.

Rob Bryant reported that school enrollment dipped 7 students, but we are still up 34 students from last year. We are currently through December 14, 2009 and have received 65.1% of the budgeted revenues. This compares with December 14, 2008 when we had received 62.6% of the budgeted revenues. We have encumbered 85.7% of the budgeted amount and have expended 36.4% of the budgeted amount. Wynema Thompson asked when TAP bonuses would be given and was told it would be next month. Mr. Bryant also stated that the legislature will be discussing bills on health insurance and retirement.

Motion: Tom Morgan moved to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented.
Second: Wynema Thompson seconded the motion.
Vote: Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

- Motion: Wynema Thompson moved that the Board approve policy GCCAB, Family Medical Leave, on 2nd reading and that it be directed that this policy is now the operational procedure for FMLA requests.
- Second: Tom Morgan seconded the motion.
- Vote: Motion carried.
- Motion: Jeff Kirkbride moved that the Board approve policy GCC/GDC (Staff Leave and Absences) as revised.
- Second: Patty Epler seconded the motion.
- Vote: Motion carried.

The Superintendent was thanked for meeting with student leadership groups for input regarding policy JICFA-Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying.

- Motion: Julianne Randall moved that the Board approve policy JICFA on final reading and that the policy be submitted for review and approval to the Wyoming Department of Education.
- Second: Lee May seconded the motion.
- Vote: Motion carried.

Mr. Cozort reported that JICFA-E has been given to administrators for review. Until that review has been completed a form needs to be approved by the Board. He felt this could be a unanimous reading because it is a support form to policy JICFA. Mrs. Stevens wanted to make sure this is the information the Board desired.

- Motion: Patty Epler moved that Policy JICFA-E be approved.
- Second: Jeff Kirkbride seconded the motion.

Mr. Bomhoff felt that the procedure for policies needed to be waived or he could not support this motion. Mr. Kirkbride stated that he is trusting Mr. Cozort. Mr. Cozort explained that it is called a policy because it is put in the policy book; however, it is an Exhibit of what is going to back up the policy. Mrs. Epler wanted to know if every time there is a change on an exhibit if the Board will have to approve it.

- Amended: Patty Epler moved that policy JICFA-E be approved as the attachment to JICFA, waiving the 2nd & 3rd readings.
- Vote: Motion carried.

- Motion: Patty Epler moved that policy BBBB, Board Member Oath of Office, for Laramie County School District #2, be approved on second reading.
- Second: Wynema Thompson seconded the motion.
- Vote: Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Cozort explained that a public record request was received from Wyoming Tribune Eagle. Pursuant to the state open records act, secs. 16-4-201 to 16-4-205 all employee contracts or any other records depicting employee names and salaries are available to the public. After discussion with the school attorney, Mr. Cozort released the information to the Wyoming Tribune Eagle. The Board asked Becky Orr, Education Reporter, how this information was going to be used. She stated that she did not know but that they were collecting information from Laramie #1, and down the road possibly LCCC. She also stated that they are not required to state what the

information will be used for. Much discussion ensued regarding the consequences of this. Craig Williams stated that he was speaking from a personal point of view, not that of the school district or WEA, that this is very threatening to employees. He would not want to tie salaries to test scores. Patty Epler asked if because of legal stance we should hold off. Tom Morgan asked the reporter for the list back. Lee May feels like we were blindsided and would rather wait. Jack Bomhoff said he agrees with the feelings expressed, but since Mr. Cozort checked with our attorney we need to go with his legal advice. By state law we are required to give this information to those who request it. Julianne Randall also felt that the information needed to be given even though they did not know until late afternoon about this. Jeff Kirkbride wanted to wait for the sake of the employees. Lee May wanted Becky Orr to know that this was not directed to her personally. The Wyoming Tribune Eagle requested they receive the information within five days in a letter received on 12/14/09. Esther Davison felt that there would be no change in deciding what to do after five days and that they needed to go with Mr. Cozort's recommendation. Mr. Bomhoff encouraged Becky Orr to report on the positive (Blue Ribbon School). Patty Epler wanted to know how Laramie #1 was pursuing this and thought we should be contacting other schools in the State to see how they handle this.

Motion: Wynema Thompson moved to ask for the document back, to do some additional research, with the understanding that the Board will comply with the five day window to get the information to the Wyoming Tribune Eagle.

Second: Patty Epler seconded the motion.

Vote: Motion carried with opposed votes from Jack Bomhoff, Esther Davison and Steve Trimble.

Discussion ensued about where to hold another Board meeting this week to discuss this process. It was decided on Thursday, December 17, at 4:45 p.m.

Old Albin High School: The requirement of the SFC is to start approval for bids for abatement and demolition at Albin. The request is to have formal minutes and actions by the Board of Trustees for any demolition of any school building in the district. The administration is making recommendation that the Board begin the formal process of the demolition of the Old Albin High School.

Motion: Jack Bomhoff moved to approve the action of notification to the SFC on the requested demolition of the Old Albin High School and that such notification be provided to the School Facilities Commission staff for the formal beginning stages of this request.

Second: Lee May seconded the motion.

Vote: Motion carried.

Contemporary Band: This request is to complete the formal process of a course change in a department.

Motion: Jeff Kirkbride moved to approve a course change and that a new program entitled Contemporary Band be provided in the district.

Second: Jack Bomhoff seconded the motion.

Vote: Motion carried.

Approve Audit 2008-2009: The auditor made his presentation at the COW meeting on December 9.

- Motion: Wynema Thompson moved that the Board accept and approve the audit as submitted for the 2008-2009 school year for Laramie County School District #2.
Second: Patty Epler seconded the motion.
Vote: Motion carried.

Request for Public Hearing Date: The request for a public hearing for the Town of Burns is to fulfill requirements for the SFC and notify the public of the intent of the Board of Trustees. The purpose of the meeting is to gather public comment on the proposed action of transferring school property to the ownership of the town of Burns.

- Motion: Jack Bomhoff moved that the Board advertize and establish a date for a public hearing and that the date be January 12, 2010 with a start time of 7:00 p.m.
Second: Julianne Randall seconded the motion.
Vote: Motion carried.

Winter Board Retreat:

- Motion: Patty Epler moved to have the winter retreat on January 30, 2010.
Second: Tom Morgan seconded the motion.

Discussion ensued as to whether January was the best time for a retreat.

- Vote: Motion failed.

It was decided to put this back on the agenda for January to discuss further.

HIRE, TRANSFERS AND RESIGNATIONS

- Motion: Patty Epler moved to approve David Lerwick as a "C" basketball coach for Burns.
Second: Tom Morgan seconded the motion.
Vote: Motion carried.
Motion: Patty Epler moved to approve Kirsten Castro and Kristy Brooks as teacher subs for the district along with Bethany Allen as a sub para.
Second: Tom Morgan seconded the motion.
Vote: Motion carried.

INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION

Becky Orr stated that she had called the attorney for the Wyoming Tribune Eagle and they are under no obligation to give the employee information back. She then left the meeting. The special meeting the Board was planning to have to further discuss this later in the week was cancelled.

Policy JE: A sample of Policy JE (Student Attendance) was given to the Board members. The Board applauded the efforts made to have meetings with students.

Calendar Dates and Information for the Board

January 6, 2010

COW Meeting

January 11, 2010	Board Meeting
January 12, 2010	Ribbon Cutting (Burns Elementary)
January 12, 2010	Public Hearing @ 7:00 p.m. (Burns Elementary)
January 12, 2010	Notify SFC: Agenda for next commission
January 16, 2010	New Board Member Training in Casper
January 25-26, 2010	SFC Commissioner Meeting
February 3, 2010	COW Meeting
February 8, 2010	February Board Meeting & Legislative Session Begins
February 21, 2010	WSBA Legislative Forum in Cheyenne

Other dates discussed were the Christmas Concerts at the various schools.

Information on Meeting with SFC – 11/23/09: Those in attendance were Esther Davison, Jack Bomhoff, Jeff Kirkbride and Julianne Randall. A letter to the commission was requested at the COW meeting and a draft of that letter was provided to the Board.

Energy Grant Approval: The District has qualified and will receive a \$549,000 energy grant that will be matched from major maintenance funds. The purpose of writing the grant was to gather funds to assist with modifications at Pine Bluffs Elementary.

Jack Bomhoff left the meeting at 8:47 p.m.

ARRA Expenditure Information Updates: Mr. Bacon has been working to develop ideas to expend the ARRA funds allocated to the district. A page of suggestions were given in the board packet. There will be a public meeting on December 17th regarding this. It is scheduled for 4:00 p.m. at the central office.

Evaluation for Board: The first section is for individual member consideration. The second section is designed to allow the members to evaluate the operation of the board as a body. Mr. Cozort asked that the information be completed and sent to the central office by the end of this month. Tabulation will take place and the information provided to the Board on January 6.

Jeff Kirkbride commended Mr. Cozort on the good choices of late start and early release for student and staff last week.

Motion:	Steve Trimble moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 p.m.
Second:	Tom Morgan seconded the motion.
Vote:	Motion carried and meeting adjourned.

Chairman

Clerk