

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
ROBERTS SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5  
MAY 12, 2015**

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees, Roberts School District No. 5, was called to order by Chair Sarah DeVries at 6:00 p.m. on May 12, 2015, in the library at the Roberts School.

**ATTENDANCE**

Sarah DeVries, Chair  
Rusty Niemi, Vice Chair  
Joel Bertolino  
Tami Hoines  
Luke Holdbrook

Alex Ator, Superintendent  
JaLayne Obert, Business Manager/District Clerk

GUESTS: Deborah Hill, Ward Braten, Sanford Langager, Selina Miller, Ryan Miller, Rylee Perkins, Claire Schoening, Stacie Nardinger, Rick Hibbs, Danni Lynn Nardinger, Abe Hernandez, James Binado, Bob Carter, Adam Ruhnke, Karla Payovich, Crystal Wright, Chris DeVries

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**MINUTES**

Motion was made by Luke Holdbrook, seconded by Joel Bertolino and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the regular meeting April.14, 2015 as presented. (YES—DeVries, Niemi, Bertolino, Hoines, Holdbrook. NO—none).

**CLAIMS, SEQUENCE, AND VOIDED CHECKS**

Motion was made by Tami Hoines, seconded by Rusty Niemi and carried unanimously to approve the claims, sequence, and voided checks for May 2015 as presented. (YES—DeVries, Niemi, Bertolino, Hoines, Holdbrook. NO—none).

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Karla Payovich stated her son is a freshman with an IEP who is currently struggling and needs classes more appropriate to his level. She stated Red Lodge offers classes from the “Bridges” series that would be more geared to his level and asked that the district look into similar options so her son can be successful.

Rylee Perkins stated this second semester of her senior year, she was allowed to enroll in CNA classes as she had already met all her graduation requirements. She thanked the Board for the opportunity to do this and added she will soon test for her CNA certification.

Rick Hibbs, Rylee Perkins, and Claire Schoening reported on their senior trip to Seattle, Washington, on April 7-12, 2015. They thanked the Board for allowing the trip to happen.

Ryan Miller, Abe Hernandez, Danni Nardinger, Claire Schoening, and Rylee Perkins presented a slideshow on their trip to the BPA national convention in Anaheim, California.

**PERSONNEL**

RESIGNATIONS – Mr. Ator recommended the Board accept the following resignations:

Daniel Kosel – Assistant High School Girls’ Basketball Coach

Deborah Hill – Special Education Aide (due to being seated as trustee later in the evening)

Motion was made by Rusty Niemi, seconded by Joel Bertolino and carried unanimously to accept the resignation of Deborah Hill as special education aide. (YES—DeVries, Niemi, Bertolino, Hoines, Holdbrook. NO—none).

Motion was made by Tami Hoines, seconded by Luke Holdbrook and carried unanimously to accept the resignation of Daniel Kosel as assistant high school girls’ basketball coach. (YES—DeVries, Niemi, Bertolino, Hoines, Holdbrook. NO—none).

RECOMMENDATION FOR ELEMENTARY POSITION – Mr. Ator stated we advertised an elementary teaching position and a business teaching position. He stated we received 15 applications for the elementary position and only one for the business position and decided to go in the elementary direction. He recommended hiring Brian Frank for the elementary position at step one, lane four of the salary schedule at \$29,390.

Motion was made by Joel Bertolino, seconded by Rusty Niemi and carried unanimously to hire Brian Frank for the elementary teaching position at step one, lane four of the salary schedule at \$29,390. (Yes—DeVries, Niemi, Bertolino, Hoines, Holdbrook. NO—none).

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR COACHING POSITIONS – Mr. Ator asked that recommendations for coaching positions be tabled.

RECOMMENDATION FOR DRIVERS EDUCATION – Mr. Ator recommended Adam Ruhnke be hired as instructor for the Driver Education program running June 8 to July 10, 2015 at the rate of \$2600.00.

Motion was made by Joel Bertolino, seconded by Luke Holdbrook and carried unanimously to hire Adam Ruhnke to instruct the Driver Education program from June 8 to July 10, 2015 at a rate of \$2600. (YES—DeVries, Niemi, Bertolino, Hoines, Holdbrook. NO—none).

RECOMMENDATION FOR SUMMER GROUNDS KEEPING – Mr. Ator recommended Rick Sederberg be given 15 additional custodial hours per week for lawn care at the current custodial hourly rate.

Motion was made by Luke Holdbrook, seconded by Joel Bertolino and carried unanimously to approve an additional 15 hours per week for Rick Sederberg for lawn care at the current custodial hourly rate. (YES—DeVries, Niemi, Bertolino, Hoines, Holdbrook. NO—none).

RECOMMENDATION FOR SUMMER SCHOOL – Mr. Ator recommended hiring Crystal Wright to teach summer school in June and August and Sheila Roberts in July, two days per week at \$30.00 per hour.

Motion was made by Tami Hoines, seconded by Luke Holdbrook and carried unanimously to hire Crystal Wright for June and August and Sheila Roberts for July to teach summer school two days a week at \$30.00 per hour. (YES—DeVries, Niemi, Bertolino, Hoines, Holdbrook. NO—none).

**NEW BUSINESS**

CANVASS OF ELECTION – Mrs. Obert reported the Trustee and mill levy elections were held on May 5, 2015 with the following results:

Two (2) trustees for three (3) year terms	Sarah DeVries	122*
	Sanford Langager	112*
One (1) trustee for a two (2) year term	Deborah Lee Hill	81*
	Tim W Swansborough Jr	45
	Roxie Melton	16
Building Reserve Levy	For	89
	Against	62
Technology Fund Levy	For	79
	Against	71

Motion was made by Rusty Niemi, seconded by Joel Bertolino and carried unanimously to approve the canvass of election results from the May 5, 2015 election. (YES—DeVries, Niemi, Bertolino, Hoines, Holdbrook. NO—none).

SPRING ORDERS – Mr. Ator stated he has the supplies order requests for next year and would like either a committee or the leadership team to review them.

Mr. Bertolino stated the leadership team should review the orders.

Sanford Langager stated shop items should be reviewed for safety issues.

REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL PARAPROFESSIONAL – Mr. Ator stated he has received a request for an additional paraprofessional for special education but would like to table this item until June.

JOURNALISM CLASS GRANT – Mr. Ator stated the Roberts Community Foundation gave the Journalism class a grant for \$3248 for computer equipment for the class. He asked for approval of the purchase of the equipment using the grant money.

Motion was made by Rusty Niemi, seconded by Joel Bertolino and carried unanimously to approve the purchase of computer equipment for the Journalism class in the amount of \$3284 through a grant from the Roberts Community Foundation. (YES—DeVries, Niemi, Bertolino, Hoines, Holdbrook. NO—none).

BEARTOOTH BILLINGS CLINIC TRAINER CONTRACT – Mr. Ator recommended approval of the contract for athletic trainer next year with Beartooth Billings Clinic in the amount of \$650.00

Motion was made by Luke Holdbrook, seconded by Tami Hoines and carried unanimously to approve the contract with Beartooth Billings Clinic for athletic trainer for the 2015-2016 school year in the amount of \$650. (YES—DeVries, Niemi, Bertolino, Hoines, Holdbrook. NO—none).

CLASSIFIED STAFF NEGOTIATIONS – Mr. Ator stated the classified staff is asking for a two year contract with a 3% increase in salary each year. He stated after talking with some Board members, we sent a counter offer of \$0.45 a year for three years. He asked if the Board wanted to appoint negotiators or have him deal with these negotiations.

Mr. Bertolino stated he would help negotiate with the classified staff with Mr. Ator.

Mr. Bertolino and Ms. DeVries will negotiate with the administrative staff.

**OLD BUSINESS**

ACE AGREEMENT – Mr. Ator recommended paying dues for the Alliance for Curriculum Enhancement (ACE) in the amount of \$3000 for the 2015-2016 year.

Motion was made by Joel Bertolino, seconded by Tami Hoines and carried unanimously to approve \$3000 for dues for ACE for the 2015-2016 school year. (YES—DeVries, Niemi, Bertolino, Hoines, Holdbrook. NO—none).

Mr. Ator recommended doing MAPS testing through ACE in grades 2-10 next year at a cost of \$1250. He stated the data is important to help track student progress.

Motion was made by Rusty Niemi, seconded by Joel Bertolino and carried unanimously to do MAPS testing through ACE in grades 2 through 10 at a cost of \$1250. (YES—DeVries, Niemi, Bertolino, Hoines, Holdbrook. NO—none).

HEALTH INSURANCE PREMIUMS – Mr. Ator reported the health insurance premium increase with the Joint Powers Trust is about 9.5%, around \$50 per month for single coverage from \$516.43 to \$564.29 per month.

Motion was made by Luke Holdbrook, seconded by Joel Bertolino and carried unanimously to approve continuing health insurance coverage with the Joint Powers Trust for the 2015-2016 school year. (YES—DeVries, Niemi, Bertolino, Hoines, Holdbrook. NO—none).

MONTANA BEHAVIORAL INITIATIVE – Mr. Ator stated Crystal Wright and Rees Newton have expressed interest in attending the MBI training in Bozeman in June. He recommended those teachers receive a \$250 stipend for leading PIR days on the training during the school year with registration, meals and motel paid by the district.

Mr. Bertolino stated he feels Mr. Ator should also attend the training.

Motion was made by Rusty Niemi, seconded by Luke Holdbrook and carried unanimously to pay expenses for two teachers and Mr. Ator to attend the MBI conference in Bozeman in June and pay a \$250 stipend for the teachers. (YES—DeVries, Niemi, Bertolino, Hoines, Holdbrook. NO—none).

BUILDING PROJECTS – Mr. Ator reported the following bids received for the sidewalk replacement project:

Concrete Formfitters (Denny Chatlin)	\$9168 (not total project)
Matt Brown Concrete Finishing	\$17,220
McDonnell Concrete	\$12,000
Beartooth Concrete (John Dinsdale)	\$11,000

Mr. Ator stated Beartooth Concrete is the low bidder for the total project at \$11,000.

Motion was made by Luke Holdbrook to award the bid for the sidewalk replacement to McDonnell Concrete for \$12,000.

Mr. Niemi stated it is hard to argue with a low bid.

Mr. Holdbrook stated his motion is due to experience working with the contractors.

Mr. Ator stated Mr. Dinsdale is a taxpayer in this district.

Mr. Holdbrook withdrew his motion.

Motion was made by Rusty Niemi, seconded by Joel Bertolino and carried unanimously to award the bid for the sidewalk replacement to Beartooth Concrete for \$11,000 to be paid from the Deferred Maintenance fund. (YES-DeVries, Niemi, Bertolino, Hoines, Holdbrook. NO—none).

Mr. Ator stated there could be a few changes to the current layout of the sidewalk that would enhance the project and asked if the Board wanted to appoint a committee to explore some options with him.

Motion was made by Joel Bertolino, seconded by Rusty Niemi and carried unanimously to give the superintendent the discretion to make changes in the sidewalk replacement project up to the amount in the Deferred Maintenance Fund. (YES—DeVries, Niemi, Bertolino, Hoines, Holdbrook. NO—none).

Mr. Ator stated Levi White of Hi-Altitude Electric did a study of how to improve the lighting in the gym and parking lot. He stated the bids are \$16,000 for the gym and \$1210 for outside the building.

Mr. Ator stated he would like to table this item to be discussed with year-end items or possibly out of the Building Reserve Fund next year.

JUNIOR HIGH FOOTBALL CO-OP—Mr. Ator stated Red Lodge sent us a proposal for a junior high football co-op, which was essentially their contract with Luther for all activities. He stated he changed the date to align with the high school co-op and changed the agreement to reflect just junior high football. He recommended this be approved as our counter offer.

Motion was made by Joel Bertolino, seconded by Luke Holdbrook and carried unanimously to approve the language of the contract as presented with Red Lodge for junior high football. (YES—DeVries, Niemi, Bertolino, Hoines, Holdbrook. NO—none).

CERTIFIED NEGOTIATIONS – Mr. Ator stated Ms. DeVries and Ms. Hoines served as the Board negotiators for certified staff negotiations with Clark Begger and Courtney Halvorsen. He stated the group has come to agreement on a three-year contract with \$900 added to the base in the first and second year and \$450 in the third year. He stated discretionary days will stay the same at nine per year.

Mr. Ator stated the following additional language will be added to the salary section of the contract: “Any teacher that has reached the bottom of the matrix may formally request another step by meeting with the board of trustees on or before July 1. This step would be at the discretion of the board”.

Motion was made by Joel Bertolino, seconded by Luke Holdbrook and carried unanimously to approve the negotiated agreements for certified staff for the 2015-2016, 2016-2017, and 2017-2018 years as amended. (YES—DeVries, Niemi, Bertolino, Hoines, Holdbrook. NO—none).

## **RECESS**

Ms. DeVries called for a recess at 7:42 p.m. and returned the meeting to regular session at 7:50 p.m.

## **SUPERINTENDENT REPORT**

ACTIVITIES – Mr. Ator gave the following report on activities:

BPA – National BPA was in Anaheim, California

TRACK – The high school boys’ track team took third place at the district tournament and the junior high girls’ team took first place. He added divisional track will be in Laurel on Thursday.

ACADEMIC – Mr. Ator reported all three schools are fully accredited.

LIBRARY WEEDING – Mr. Ator stated Mrs. Lastusky has been weeding books in the library, using the criterion listed on pages 61-64 and has about 12 boxes of books she would like to dispose of.

Motion was made by Luke Holdbrook, seconded by Joel Bertolino and carried unanimously to declare the weeded books from the library obsolete property and offer them to the public. (YES—DeVries, Niemi, Bertolino, Hoines, Holdbrook. NO—none).

GRADUATION – Mr. Holdbrook and Ms. DeVries will assist with handing out diplomas at graduation.

SMARTER BALANCE TESTING – Mr. Ator stated the Smarter Balance testing will be completed tomorrow and it has gone smoothly.

FIRE MARSHALL REPORT – Mr. Ator stated he included a copy of the report from the Fire Marshall in the board packet. He stated some of the main items in the report are the doors in the elementary wing which must be closed at all times or provided with approved magnetic hold open devices, all lockers need to have doors and back packs can’t be hung on hooks in the hallways, and items need to be cleared from the exit way/corridor outside the music room.

Mr. Ator stated he will be responding to the report.

POTENTIAL OF FUND TRANSFERS FOR SECURITY AND SAFETY – Mr. Ator stated if there are items the board feels are essential for safety and security and there is no other way to finance them, a fund transfer can be made from a budgeted fund such as Bus Depreciation to the Building Reserve Fund for funding.

SUPERINTENDENT SCHEDULE – Mr. Ator stated he would like discretion to go to events as needed during this last part of the school year. He stated he has been asked to attend the state track meet.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Ms. DeVries adjourned the meeting at 8:07 p.m.

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Board Chair

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District Clerk

**MINUTES OF THE REORGANIZATION MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
ROBERTS SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5  
MAY 12, 2015**

The reorganization meeting of the Board of Trustees, Roberts School District No. 5, was called to order by Chair Sarah DeVries at 8:07 p.m. on May 12, 2015, in the library at the Roberts School.

**ATTENDANCE**

Sarah DeVries, Chair  
Rusty Niemi, Vice Chair  
Joel Bertolino  
Deborah Hill (newly elected trustee)  
Sanford Langager (newly elected trustee)

Alex Ator, Superintendent  
JaLayne Obert, Business Manager/District Clerk

**SWEARING IN OF TRUSTEES**

The swearing in of newly elected trustees Deborah Hill and Sanford Langager was conducted by JaLayne Obert,

**ELECTION OF CHAIR**

Motion was made by Joel Bertolino, seconded by Deborah Hill and carried unanimously to re-elect Sarah DeVries as Board Chair. (YES—DeVries, Niemi, Bertolino, Hill, Langager. NO—none).

**ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR**

Motion was made by Joel Bertolino, seconded by Deborah Hill and carried unanimously to elect Rusty Niemi as Vice Chair. (YES—DeVries, Niemi, Bertolino, Hill, Langager. NO—none).

**APPOINTMENT OF CLERK**

Motion was made by Joel Bertolino, seconded by Deborah Hill and carried unanimously to appoint JaLayne Obert as District Clerk for the 2015-2016 school year. (YES—DeVries, Niemi, Bertolino, Hill, Langager. NO—none).

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Ms. DeVries called for an executive session at 8:15 p.m. stating the next item concerns an individual and it is her determination that the individual's right to privacy supersede the merits of public disclosure. She returned the meeting to regular session at 9:45 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Ms. DeVries adjourned the meeting at 9:45 p.m.

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Board Chair

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District Clerk