

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
ROBERTS SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5  
MAY 15, 2012**

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees, Roberts School District No. 5, was called to order by Chair Frank Ropp at 7:00 p.m. on May 15, 2012, in the library at the Roberts School.

**ATTENDANCE**

Frank Ropp, Chair  
Joel Bertolino  
Sarah DeVries  
Carl Easthouse

Absent: Sanford Langager, Vice Chair

Elliott Crump, Superintendent  
JaLayne Obert, District Clerk

GUESTS: Deborah Hill, Kelly Horton, Rusty Niemi, Mike Gebhardt, Tami Hoines, McKenzie Ropp, Breann Carlson, Kate Hibbs, Kali Nuttall, Trisha Ayre, Kylee McDonnell, Stacie Nardinger, Rezina Zeiler, Chris DeVries, Crystal Wright, Wyatt Abbe

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**MINUTES**

Motion was made by Sarah DeVries, seconded by Joel Bertolino and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the regular meeting April 10 and special meeting April 17, 2012 as presented. (YES—Ropp, Bertolino, DeVries, Easthouse. NO—none).

**CLAIMS, SEQUENCE, AND VOIDED CHECKS**

Carl Easthouse asked what computer hand-held devices are listed on the MasterCard bill. Mr. Crump stated those are the clickers students use with the Promethean Board.

Frank Ropp asked about the payment to NCS Pearson and to Ace Supplies. Mrs. Obert stated the payment to Pearson is for the yearly fee for PowerSchool, the system used for student recordkeeping and the Ace payment was for shop supplies.

Motion was made by Carl Easthouse, seconded by Sarah DeVries and carried unanimously to approve the claims, sequence, and voided checks for May, 2012 as presented. (YES—Ropp, Bertolino, DeVries, Easthouse. NO—none.)

**SENIOR PRESENTATION**

Members of the senior class gave a power point presentation on their trip to Florida.

**BPA REPORT**

Kelly Horton, BPA advisor, reported on the trip to Chicago for BPA national competition. She stated the experience taught her she has a lot to learn about taking a group of students on a trip.

Ms. Horton stated she was hoping to have about \$3,000 left in funds this year to begin next year and feels the group will meet that goal.

**STUDENT REPORT**

Mr. Ropp stated the next item to come before the Board involves a student and it is his determination that the privacy rights of the individual supersede the public's right to know and called for a closed session at 7:25 p.m. The meeting was returned to regular session at 7:33 p.m.

**TEACHER REPORTS**

Stacie Nardinger, Guidance Counselor, gave the teacher report for May.

Mrs. Nardinger stated there are three parts to counseling – academic, social well-being, and life after school. She asked senior student Kate Hibbs to talk about the academic portion.

Ms. Hibbs stated she was selected to be a member of the Student Advisory Board for State Superintendent of Public Instruction Denise Juneau. She stated the group is comprised of students from around the state and has met twice with Superintendent to give input on how to improve graduation rates in Montana. She added being on this board has really opened her eyes to how good our school is and how well prepared the seniors are for college.

Mrs. Nardinger stated she has two applications for the advisory board for next year.

Mrs. Nardinger stated the social well-being component of counseling is addressed through character education and life after high school is the JMG program in a nutshell. She stated she is requiring all seniors to take JMG next year because they work on scholarships, portfolios and college applications.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Deborah Hill stated the K-4 classes had a tremendous day on the field trip to Pompey's Pillar and thanked the Board for the opportunity to take the students on field trips.

Mike Gebhardt stated Mrs. Nardinger's work is very beneficial to the school. He added the reputation of being a great school has been on-going for Roberts for years.

#### **PERSONNEL**

**RESIGNATION** – Mr. Crump stated J.D. Jones has decided to retire and recommended the Board accept his letter of resignation.

Motion was made by Joel Bertolino, seconded by Carl Easthouse and carried unanimously to accept the letter of resignation from J.D. Jones from his teaching position at the end of this school year. (YES—Ropp, Bertolino, DeVries, Easthouse. NO—none).

**SCIENCE POSITION** – Mr. Crump stated he has taken a serious look at the science teaching position with the retirement of Mr. Jones. He stated we have a person on staff with a science degree who would be an excellent candidate for the position as Mrs. Nardinger did her student teaching with Mr. Jones and knows the curriculum.

Mr. Crump stated if we create a rotating system in science as we did in social studies, the science and counseling position could both be reduced to half time with Mrs. Nardinger filling both positions. He added the change wouldn't reduce the number of course offerings for the students, only how they are scheduled.

Mr. Ropp asked if the rotating system is working with social studies. Mr. Crump stated it is going well and the students have the opportunity to be in a larger class such as twelve rather than six.

Mr. Easthouse asked if the digital academy offers science classes that transfer students could take if they had already completed the course being taught. Mr. Crump stated it does.

Mr. Crump stated at the end of the school year, good science teachers are hard to come by. He stated Mr. Jones had seven students per class plus an extra prep and the class size would be 11.75 if we do this. He stated Mrs. Nardinger has done an excellent job as counselor and we need to look at how to shift some of those duties to other staff members.

Mr. Bertolino asked if the increased work load is a potential concern. Mr. Crump stated that depends on what Mrs. Nardinger is willing to let go of. He stated he feels the work load is manageable and would need to be reviewed often. He added if we're going to hire a science teacher from outside, the process needs to start in March.

Mr. Bertolino asked if we could advertise and see what applications we get. Mr. Crump stated that is not his preference.

Mr. Bertolino stated he would like to hear from Mrs. Nardinger.

Stacie Nardinger stated she is very busy in her counseling position and concern about the work load of both positions did not make this decision easy. She stated having Mr. Neibauer teach Earth Science and the fact that Mr. Jones is willing to substitute are both very helpful.

Mr. Crump stated his recommendation is to have Stacie Nardinger replace Mr. Jones as science teacher.

Deborah Hill expressed concern about elementary students getting the counseling they need.

Mr. Easthouse asked if there is an outside agency we could bring in if we need assistance.

Mr. Ropp asked if counseling is provided through the co-op. Mr. Crump stated it isn't.

Mrs. Obert stated what schools employ is a guidance counselor, not a personal or family therapist.

Mr. Bertolino asked if this issue can be tabled until next month. Mr. Ropp stated at this point, good science teachers already have jobs.

Mr. Crump stated he will be working with Mrs. Nardinger to see she has the time to be a great science teacher and a great counselor.

Motion was made by Joel Bertolino and seconded by Sarah DeVries to accept the recommendation of the superintendent to change Stacie Nardinger's position to half-time science, half-time counselor, look at mitigating issues and review to see if students and Mrs. Nardinger are getting what they need.

An amendment to the motion was made by Carl Easthouse and seconded by Joel Bertolino to conduct the review at the semester break.

The motion as amended was voted on and carried. (YES—Bertolino, DeVries, Easthouse. NO—none. Abstained: Ropp (conflict of interest as it involves a family member)).

**RECESS**

Mr. Ropp called for a break at 8:35 p.m. and returned the meeting to order at 8:40 p.m.

**NEW BUSINESS**

CANVASS OF SCHOOL ELECTION -- Mrs. Obert presented the canvass of the trustee and mill levy elections held on May 8, 2012. She stated the following were the results for the two three-year trustee positions with Sarah DeVries and Tami Hoines elected:

Sarah DeVries	123
Michael Gebhardt	79
Tami Hoines	90

The results for the one one-year trustee position were as follows with Russell Niemi elected:

Elta Ayre	8
Sanford Langager	38
Russell Niemi	115

The results for the proposition for authorization to increase the mill levy in the amount of \$30,000 to support the General Fund were as follows with the proposition passing:

For	100
Against	67

Motion was made by Carl Easthouse, seconded by Joel Bertolino and carried unanimously to approve the canvass of election results for the trustee and mill levy election held on May 8, 2012. (YES—Ropp, Bertolino, DeVries, Easthouse. NO—none).

END OF YEAR PRIORITY LIST – Mr. Crump stated he included a priority listing of items for year-end money in the Board packet but it is very rough at this point.

Mr. Bertolino asked how the floor mats would be used. Mr. Crump stated they are to help protect the finish on the gym floor.

SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOLS – Mr. Crump stated he and Mr. Bertolino met and reviewed the proposals for the Safe Routes to School project from Great West Engineering and CTA and recommended awarding the project to Great West Engineering.

Motion was made by Sarah DeVries, seconded by Carl Easthouse and carried unanimously to award the Safe Routes to Schools planning grant to Great West Engineering. (YES—Ropp, Bertolino, DeVries, Easthouse. NO—none).

SPORTS MEDICINE AGREEMENT – Mr. Crump stated it is the recommendation of the athletic directors to continue the agreement with Beartooth Billings Clinic for sports medicine at \$600 for the year. (YES—Ropp, Bertolino, DeVries, Easthouse. NO—none).

CLASS ADVISORS – Mr. Easthouse stated Sanford Langager asked him to bring up the topic of class advisors and the way it is determined who goes on the senior trip.

Rezina Zeiler stated last year she and Stacie Nardinger put together a plan for advising and have made some changes for next year. She stated the plan isn't policy, just something they put together.

Mrs. Zeiler stated concessions is the big issue as the Booster Club doesn't feel it is ready to take them over.

Mr. Ropp stated other schools pay a stipend for the concessions manager.

Mrs. Nardinger stated another question is if the elementary teachers want to be a part of the plan.

Mr. Ropp stated it will take some time to consider this issue.

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART – Mr. Bertolino stated Mr. Langager asked him to address the organizational chart.

Mr. Ropp stated that can be added to the June agenda.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

2012-2013 CALENDAR – Mr. Crump stated the proposed calendar for the 2012-2013 school year was included in the packet and recommended it be approved. He stated the year begins with PIR days on August 24 and 27 with school beginning on August 28.

Mr. Easthouse asked how many hours are included in the calendar. Mr. Crump stated the calendar is about 3.5 hours over the required minimum of 1080.

Motion was made by Sarah DeVries, seconded by Carl Easthouse and carried unanimously to approve the 2012-2013 calendar as presented. (YES—Ropp, Bertolino, DeVries, Easthouse. NO—none).

TEACHER NEGOTIATIONS – Mr. Bertolino stated Mr. Creeden is no longer representing the teachers.

Mr. Crump stated we need a letter of authorization from the teachers for whoever they decide to have negotiate for them.

#### **SUPERINTENDENT REPORT**

SUPERINTENDENT SCHEDULE – Mr. Crump stated he spoke to Roly DeVries about the busses and the bus driven by Dick Sederberg is leaking oil but not enough to warrant spending the money to fix it. He added with running a mill levy this year, he doesn't feel we don't need to look at purchasing a bus.

ELEMENTARY CONFIGURATION – Mr. Crump recommended the Board consider hiring a new elementary teacher to separate the kindergarten and first grade. He stated the configuration would then be K, 1, 2/3, 4/5, and 6.

Mr. Crump stated another option would be to keep the K/1 combo and have an aide with a great deal of experience with young children teach the kindergarten but he doesn't know if that is the right move at this time.

Mr. Bertolino asked how aides fit in the scenario if another teacher is hired. Mr. Crump stated the classroom aide would split time between the combination classes of 2/3 and 4/5.

Motion was made by Sarah DeVries, seconded by Joel Bertolino and carried unanimously to open the position for an elementary teacher. (YES—Ropp, Bertolino, DeVries, Easthouse. NO—none).

Motion was made by Carl Easthouse, seconded by Sarah DeVries and carried unanimously to approve the elementary configuration of K, 1, 2/3, 4/5, and 6 for the 2012-2013 school year. (YES—Ropp, Bertolino, DeVries, Easthouse. NO--none).

ONLINE/DUAL CREDIT COURSES – Mr. Crump stated he has been trying to find information on what other schools are doing with online and dual credit classes but there aren't many in our area that offer dual credit classes. He stated he talked with MTSBA and they sent a sample policy but it didn't address what we need to address so he took our policy and revised it to address dual credit classes.

Mr. Easthouse asked if there have been requests from parents of freshmen and sophomores to take online classes.

Mrs. Zeiler stated she has submitted a request for her daughter who will be a freshman.

Mr. Crump stated the revised policy was included in the packet and the item needs to be on the June meeting agenda.

PROGRAM UPDATE – Mr. Crump stated we are offering driver education from July 9 to August 13.

Mr. Crump stated next year's course schedule was included in the packet and it includes some elementary classes taught by high school staff such as keyboarding, health, and social studies for grades 4/5.

Mr. Easthouse stated if we add an elementary teacher, is there any reason to have high school staff teaching elementary classes.

Mr. Crump stated in some cases high school teachers are being assigned elementary classes to fill up their schedules. He stated having someone else teach social studies at grades 4/5 allows Mr. Nelson to teach math to another grade.

Mr. Easthouse stated we need to have elementary teachers teaching at the elementary level and high school teachers teaching high school classes instead of bouncing all around.

Mr. Bertolino stated another option is to have Mrs. Hart teach the 4/5 social studies class. He stated he would have no further questions with the schedule if that change is made.

Motion was made by Joel Bertolino, seconded by Carl Easthouse and carried unanimously to approve the class schedule for the 2012-2013 school year with the change made in the 4/5 social studies teacher. (YES—Ropp, Bertolino, DeVries, Easthouse. NO—none).

FIRE INSPECTION – Mr. Crump stated the Deputy Fire Marshall conducted the annual fire safety inspection. He stated some violations were noted and he has responded with a plan of action to address those violations.

TRUSTEE WORKSHOP – Mr. Ropp stated MTSBA is conducting a workshop for trustees on May 24 and encouraged whoever can attend to do so.

SUMMER HOURS – Mr. Crump stated summer hours begin on May 28 and office hours are 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Ropp adjourned the meeting at 10:12 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  
MAY 1, 2012**

The special meeting of the Board of Trustees, Roberts School District No. 5, was called to order by Chair Frank Ropp at 6:00 p.m. on May 1, 2012, in the library at the Roberts School.

**ATTENDANCE**

Frank Ropp, Chair  
Sanford Langager, Vice Chair  
Joel Bertolino  
Sarah DeVries

Absent: Carl Easthouse

Elliott Crump, Superintendent  
JaLayne Obert, Business Manager/Clerk

Guests: Stacie Nardinger, Elta Ayre, Ron Prinkki, Mary Allen, Chris DeVries, Deborah Hill, Rose Ramberg

**COMMUNITY MILL LEVY QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION**

The Board held a question and answer session with members of the audience regarding the need for the additional mill levy.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Elta Ayre stated she hopes the Board will not reduce the teaching staff.

**JANITORIAL POSITION**

Mr. Crump recommended the Board hire Anita Ankerholz for the morning janitorial position for 4-5 hours per day at \$12.50 per hour with a 90 day probationary period.

Motion was made by Sanford Langager, seconded by Sarah DeVries and carried unanimously to hire Anita Ankerholz for the morning janitorial position for 4-5 hours per day at \$12.50 per hour with a 90 day probationary period. (YES—Ropp, Langager, Bertolino, DeVries. NO—none).

**GYM FLOOR RE-COAT SERVICE**

Mr. Crump stated he spent time with representatives from two different companies on maintaining the finish on the gym floor during the year and recommended Bruco continue to do the re-coat service.

Motion was made by Joel Bertolino, seconded by Sanford Langager and carried unanimously to accept the bid from Bruco for refinishing the gym floors at a cost of \$2995.20 for the new gym and \$1591.20 for the old gym. (YES—Ropp, Langager, Bertolino, DeVries. NO—none).

**GYM USE REQUEST**

Mr. Crump stated Jimmy Howard requested the use of the gymnasium for a funeral service for his son on Saturday at 1:00 p.m. as they are anticipating a large gathering

Motion was made by Sarah DeVries, seconded by Joel Bertolino and carried unanimously to approve the request for the use of the gymnasium for a funeral. (YES—Ropp, Langager, Bertolino, DeVries. NO—none).

**SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOLS**

Mr. Crump reported the bidding period for the Safe Routes to Schools project is closed and we received two proposals. He stated the Board will receive a recommendation at the May meeting on bid selection.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Ropp adjourned the meeting at 7:20 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 15, 2012**

The reorganization meeting of the Board of Trustees, Roberts School District No. 5 was called to order by Chair Frank Ropp at 10:15 p.m. on May 15, 2012 in the library at the Roberts School

**ATTENDANCE**

Frank Ropp, Chair  
Joel Bertolino  
Sarah DeVries  
Tami Hoines (newly elected trustee)  
Russell Niemi (newly elected trustee)

Elliott Crump, Superintendent  
JaLayne Obert, District Clerk

**SEATING OF TRUSTEES**

The oath of office for newly elected trustees Tami Hoines and Russell Niemi and re-elected trustee Sarah DeVries was administered by JaLayne Obert, Business Manager/Clerk.

**BOARD REORGANIZATION**

Nomination was made by Joel Bertolino and seconded by Sarah DeVries to elect Frank Ropp as Board Chair. As there were no further nominations, Mr. Ropp was elected by acclamation.

Nomination was made by Sarah DeVries and seconded by Rusty Niemi to elect Joel Bertolino as Vice Chair. As there were no further nominations, Mr. Bertolino was elected by acclamation.

**APPOINTMENT OF DISTRICT CLERK**

Motion was made by Joel Bertolino, seconded by Sarah DeVries and carried unanimously to approve the appointment of JaLayne Obert as District Clerk for the 2012-2013 year. (YES—Ropp, Bertolino, DeVries, Hoines, Niemi. NO—none).

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Ropp adjourned the meeting at 10:25 p.m.

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Board Chair

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District Clerk