

**Snake River School Board of Trustees
Held at Snake River Junior High
185 North 750 West, Blackfoot, Idaho 83221
Wednesday, December 18, 2019**

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chairman Bill Martin called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Board members present were Carol Hepworth, Marci VanOrden, Kent Miller, Lon Harrington and Bill Martin. Also attending were Superintendent David Kerns and Board Clerk Terisa Coombs.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Lon Harrington opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ACTION ITEMS:

a. Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by Marci VanOrden and seconded by Lon Harrington to approve the agenda as presented. All board members present voted aye. Motion passed 5-0.

b. Consent Agenda

Minutes: Regular Meeting of November 20, 2019

New Hire/Payroll Status Change: Shelly Adams, Moreland Special Ed Paraprofessional; Haiden Siepert (from 2 classes for 3 trimesters to 1 class for 2 trimesters)

Internships: Sam Runyan, High School Counseling Internship; Crystal Murdock, Administrator Internship.

Budget, Payroll, and Claims Payable for November 2019

A motion was made by Carol Hepworth and seconded by Lon Harrington to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Board members present voted aye. Motion passed 5-0.

4. PATRON FORUM

There were no comments.

5. INFORMATION ITEMS

a. Jr. High School Presentation

The Snake River Jr. High Orchestra opened the presentation by playing two Christmas numbers. After that, Mr. Morris introduced himself to the board. He discussed a fund raiser where students recently raised money for some families in the community who need help. They were able to raise \$4000 which gave a full Christmas to 20 children. This all happened because of the donations from the students and the community. Mr. Morris praised the students, staff, and community. He also discussed the leadership council of students at the junior high. There are about 65 students who meet once a week where they discuss what it means to be a good leader in the community. They also plan and organize all of the activities in the school. It is rewarding to see because they have ownership and pride in their school. In turn, it is good for him to see how this carries over to all of the programs including athletics, drama, music, etc. Mr. Morris thanked the board for everything they do and in turn, the board thanked him all for the good things that are happening at the Jr. High School.

6. ACTION ITEMS

a. Septic System Update/Construction Payment:

Superintendent Kerns updated the Board on the progress of the sewer system construction. The system is complete. The pumps are in place and working. The fence is up and gates with locks are surrounding the system in front of the high school. The system is working well. The tank holds about 3,000 gallons and the line holds about 16,000 gallons and Superintendent Kerns said that it does take a long time to fill up. The odor is gone and the old septic system has been crushed and is filled with sand. Discussion was carried out about the eighth and final payment on the sewer construction project. After reading through the contract, Trustee Harrington had questions. The first question raised was why was there such an overage charge and the second question was why the startup of the system date was delayed for so long. Joe Stanislau from Edstrom Construction discussed that there were delays because of manufacturing problems with the pumps and also because of the amount of rock that they had to bore through. Trustee Harrington asked to table the motion. The board would like to schedule a special meeting on December 23, 2019 at 1:00 p.m. at the district office to continue discussions.

Lon Harrington moved and Kent Miller seconded to table the eighth payment for the construction project by Edstrom Construction. All board members present voted aye. Motion passed 5-0.

Kent Miller moved and Lon Harrington seconded to schedule a special meeting on Monday, December 23, 2019 at 1 p.m. at the district office to discuss the eighth payment for the construction project. All board members present voted aye. Motion passed 5-0.

b. Ski Club Fee Hearing

As part of his senior project, Joseph Hansen, a student at Snake River High School, has proposed to implement a new high school ski/snowboard club and fee. Because the fee increase hearing was not properly advertised, it will be tabled until next month.

A motion was made by Lon Harrington and seconded by Carol Hepworth to table the Ski Club fee increase as presented. All board members present voted aye. Motion passed 5-0.

c. Declare a Vacancy

Vice Chairman Miller asked for a motion accepting the resignation of Chairman Bill Martin as of December 31, 2019. Accepting the letter will in effect declare the seat vacant, thus beginning the 90-day period to appoint. The Notice of Trustee Vacancy will be posted on the website until December 31, 2019 after which the board will review the applications.

Lon Harrington moved and Kent Miller seconded to accept the resignation of Trustee Bill Martin from Zone 3, with special thanks for his years of service to the district. All board members present voted aye. Motion passed 5-0.

d. Change Time of January 15, 2020 Board Meeting

Misty Swanson from ISBA will be coming to the board meeting on January 15, 2020 to help with the superintendent search. The board would like to start the regular/annual meeting at 5:30 p.m. to have more time to finish everything in a timely manner.

A motion was made by Carol Hepworth and seconded by Lon Harrington to change the time of the January 15, 2020 board meeting from 7:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. All board members present voted aye. Motion passed 5-0.

7. INFORMATION ITEMS

a. Review of Superintendent Search Survey Results/Discussion Regarding Superintendent Search

A call to Misty Swanson at the ISBA Office in Boise was made. She continued discussions about the superintendent search. The results of the staff and community survey were discussed at length. She also discussed open meeting laws and important employment practices regarding the superintendent search. Idaho Code 74-202 says that a board must be in open session to discuss anything that has to do with the superintendent search process in general i.e. the survey results, qualifications, dates, etc. Idaho Code 74-206(a) says that in executive session particular candidates and their qualities can be discussed i.e. reference check results, interviewing the candidates, and picking finalists. When the board is ready to make a decision, that will be in open session. No decisions will be made in executive session. The process was discussed and many questions were asked. Mrs. Swanson also discussed the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission who enforces federal laws prohibiting discrimination. If there is anything that is mentioned regarding religion, race, age, etc., she will stop the discussion, which is part of her role in the superintendent search. Confidentiality Agreements were signed by the board.

b. Discussion of Retaining Legal Counsel

Superintendent Kerns presented his recommendation for retaining legal counsel. He recommended the firm of Anderson, Julian, and Hull, whose services are reimbursable through our liability insurance, which would be cost effective for the district. Discussion was held and a decision will be made at the next board meeting.

c. Discussion on Superintendent Evaluation

Superintendent Kerns started the discussion on the superintendent evaluation and the timeline.

d. Upcoming Events:

1. The Riverside Christmas Program December 19th at 12:30 and 2:30 p.m.
2. Christmas Break will be from December 20th to January 5th, students return on January 6th
3. Teacher Inservice is January 10, 2020.
4. Next Board Meeting/Annual Meeting will be January 15th at 5:30 p.m. at the District Office
5. Day on the Hill will be February 17-18, 2020.

**8. ACTION ITEMS—POLICY READINGS
SECOND READINGS:**

Policy 8160, “Placement of Secondary Students at Independence High School” The regulations governing placement of secondary students at an alternative school were updated in 2017. This policy is updated to reflect the current state of the law. No further changes were made.

Policy 8655, “Student Surveys and Medical Exams” This policy and form are updated to include additional language in the definition of “eligible student.” Discussion held, no further changes were made.

Lon Harrington moved and Carol Hepworth seconded to approve the second readings of Policy 8160, “Placement of Secondary Students at Independence High School” and Policy 8655, “Student Surveys and Medical Exams;” All board members present voted aye. Motion passed 5-0.

FIRST READINGS:

Policy 2230, “Board Meetings” This policy is updated to reflect the most current agenda requirements under the Idaho Open Meetings Act. In addition, we have added a reference to the specific section of the Idaho Open Meetings Act referenced in the policy. Discussion was held, no further changes were made to the policy.

Policy 2390, “Waivers of State Board of Education Rules” This policy is new and clarifies in the optional language that a local school district board of trustees has the option to seek waivers from the State Board of Education; it is not required to seek waivers under the law. No further changes were made.

Policy 3090, “Superintendent Appointment” This policy has been updated to reflect current legal references. Discussion held. No further changes were made to the policy.

Carol Hepworth moved and Lon Harrington seconded to approve the first readings Policy 2230, “Board Meetings;” Policy 2390, “Waivers of State Board of Education Rules;” and Policy 3090, “Superintendent Appointment.” All board members present voted aye. Motion passed 5-0.

9. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Under Idaho Code 74-206 [1a] Superintendent Evaluation and [1b] personnel, Carol Hepworth motioned and Lon Harrington seconded to go into Executive Session. A roll call vote was taken: Kent Miller, aye; Lon Harrington, aye; Marci VanOrden, aye; and Carol Hepworth, aye; Bill Martin aye. Motion passed 5-0.

The board went into Executive Session at 8:10 p.m. The superintendent’s evaluation was discussed from 8:10 p.m. until 8:20 p.m. Personnel was discussed from 8:20 until 8:45 p.m.

10. RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION

It was moved by Lon Harrington and seconded by Marci VanOrden to return to Regular Session. All the board members voted aye. Motion passed 5-0.

The Board returned to Regular Session at 8:45 p.m.

11. ADJOURN

Carol Hepworth moved and Kent Miller seconded to adjourn.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

ATTEST:

Terisa Coombs
Clerk

Kent Miller
Chairman

01/15/2020
Date