

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

THE REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING OF THE HARDING COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 31-1 WAS HELD JANUARY 17, 2024, AT 5:30 PM. AT THE HARDING COUNTY SCHOOL HEALTH ROOM.

Members Present: Randy Routier, Taz Olson, Billy Clanton, Will Meyer, and Tawni Cordell. Administration Present: Superintendent Josh Page, Business Manager Elizabeth Henderson, Principal/AD Kelly Messmer.

Visitors Present: Traci Routier, BJ Padden, Andi Yearout, Nathan & Erica Wagner, Kathy Glines.

President Meyer called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.
Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Unless otherwise noted, all Board action was by unanimous decision.

24-104 Consent Agenda.

Motion by Clanton, second by Routier to approve the consent agenda:

Approve the Agenda.

Approve the Minutes of the December 13, 2023, Regular Meeting

Approve the Financial Report.

Motion carried.

	GENERAL	CAPITAL OUT.	SPECIAL ED	BOND RED.	FOOD SERV.
Beginning Balance	(127,278.15)	1,725,624.98	304,958.49	824,293.80	(17,825.71)
Receipts:					
Local sources	35,125.79	64,362.30	21,042.00	17,451.91	4,058.31
County sources	71,509.90				
State sources	93,565.00				
Federal sources	18,459.00				4,174.66
Supply Chain Asst					9,244.48
Total Revenue	218,659.69	64,362.30	21,042.00	17,451.91	17,477.45
Disbursements	206,987.63	8,475.86	33,959.47		11,808.02
Acct Payable					
Total Disbursements	206,987.63	8,475.86	33,959.47		11,808.02
Ending Balance	(115,606.09)	1,781,511.42	292,041.02	841,745.71	(12,156.28)

DECEMBER PAYROLL AND BENEFITS

General	107,264.54
Superintendent & Secretary	15,184.77
Principals and Secretary	13,791.96
Business Manager	7,782.65
Custodians	15,032.39
X-Cur	1,585.40
Bus Driver	6,229.16
Special Education	32,766.12
Food Service	6,851.26

24-105 Approve Bills for Payment. Motion by Olson, second by Cordell to approve the bills. Motion carried.

GENERAL FUND

AMAZON	SUPPLIES	784.01
ASBSD	CONTRACT SERVICE	25.00
BUFFALO HARDWARE	SUPPLIES	260.87
CARDMEMBER SERVICES	TRAVEL/SUPPLIES	3,907.63
CONSOLIDATED	PHONE SERVICE	122.06
DOUGLAS, DAVID	REIMBURSE BUS TRAINING	1,000.00
GRAND ELECTRIC	UTILITIES	6,545.47
H&L SUPERVALU	SUPPLIES	510.20
HEALTH EQUITY	FEES	13.55
IMPREST/WEX BANK	FUEL	175.02
IMPREST/BRENT SIMONS	IPAD REPAIR	130.89
IMPREST/JO PIEKKOLA	OFFICIAL	130.00
IMPREST/BELLE FOURCHE SCHOOLS	WRESTLING FEE	30.00
IMPREST/DIV OF CRIMINAL INV	BACKGROUND CHECK	43.25
IMPREST/CHAOS & CO	GBB SHIRTS	294.00
IMPREST/HOLLY COSTELLO	REIMBURSE XC AWARDS	15.92
IMPREST/ADAM NESS	OFFICIAL	508.20
IMPREST/AARON MAILLOUX	OFFICIAL	345.00
IMPREST/CHRIS GOLDSMITH	OFFICIAL	282.00
IMPREST/TODD DAUWEN	OFFICIAL	210.00
IMPREST/SCOTT REEDE	OFFICIAL	210.00
IMPREST/GAGE KRACHT	OFFICIAL	190.00
IMPREST/WAYNE JOHNSON	OFFICIAL	20.00
IMPREST/TRAVIS SMITH	REIMBURSE BUS/DOT	100.00
IMPREST/HETTINGER PUBLIC	WRESTLING FEE	250.00
IMPREST/JUSTO TOBAR	OFFICIAL	256.50
IMPREST/CAIN KOLAR	OFFICIAL	210.00
IMPREST/RON ERICKSON	OFFICIAL	210.00
IMPREST/JOHN LATHAM	OFFICIAL	320.50
IMPREST/BROCK BESLER	OFFICIAL	320.50
IMPREST/BRAD MACKABEN	OFFICIAL	330.70
IMPREST/FRANK PAVICH	OFFICIAL	397.00
IMPREST/WADE BLANKENBAKER	OFFICIAL	340.90
IMPREST/DYLAN KESZLER	OFFICIAL	432.70
IMPREST/SDBCA	BB DUES	32.00
MDU	UTILITIES	170.97
NATION CENTER NEWS	PUBLISHING/ADVERTISING	275.25
NW AREA SCHOOLS	SPRING ASSESSMENT	45,000.00
OLSON FUELS	FUEL	1,977.36
OLSON PROPANE	PROPANE	1,698.41
PAULSON, DARREN	WRESTLING OFFICIAL	527.50
PITNEY BOWES	SUPPLIES	132.79
RCAS	WRESTLING FEE	150.00
RED ROCK SPORTING	BB SUPPLIES	142.15
RUNNINGS	BUS MAINTENANCE	101.88
SANFORD OCC MED	DOT TESTING	35.00
SCHOOL SPECIALTY	SUPPLIES	59.99

TMS	CONTRACT SERVICE	72.00
TOWN OF BUFFALO	UTILITIES	277.63
TOWN OF CAMP CROOK	UTILITIES	177.60
WAMMEN, ERIN	REIMBURSE SUPPLIES	124.78
WRCTC	PHONE SERVICE	623.21
	TOTAL GENERAL FUND	70,500.39
CAPTIAL OUTLAY		
ABM	COPIER LEASE	1,696.70
BUFFALO HARDWARE	WATER HEATER/REPAIRS	58.47
GUNDERSON TRUCKING	BLEACHER REPAIR	800.00
S&T CUSTOM PLUMBING	WATER HEATER/REPAIRS	17,942.10
WEST RIVER SCALE	HS EQUIP	608.00
WRCTC	PHONE LEASE	267.13
	TOTAL CAPITAL OUTLAY	21,372.40
SPED		
HEALTH EQUITY	FEES	3.85
NWAS	ASSESSMENT	17,373.00
TMS	CONTRACT SERVICE	3.25
WAGNER, KYLEE	OT SERVICES	1,417.50
	TOTAL SPED	18,797.60
FOOD SERVICE		
GIANNONATTI, JUSTINE	REIMBURSE SUPPLIES	51.53
H&L SUPERVALU	SUPPLIES	156.04
CARDMEMBER SERVICES	EQUIP	78.10
US FOODS	FOOD	5,368.84
	TOTAL FOOD SERVICE	5,654.51
	TOTAL EXPENDITURES	116,324.90

24-106 Set Election Dates. Motion by Routier, second by Clanton to combine with the county primary and set the regular board election date of June 4, 2024. Motion carried. There are two 3-year terms open this year.

Henderson shared that she had received two petitions (one for each school) to refer the closure of Camp Crook and Ludlow schools to a vote. Petition signatures were confirmed with the county auditor. According to statute, the special election would have to take place before March 1st. Auditor Glines visited with the board about current polling places and precincts.

Motion by Clanton, second by Olson to set polling places as:

- Buffalo, Hilton, and Poplar Grove precincts at the Harding County Memorial Rec Center, Buffalo
- Camp Crook precinct at the Camp Crook Area Community Center
- Fillmore precinct at the Ralph Lutheran Church
- Ladner precinct at the Ladner Lutheran Church
- Ludlow precinct at the Ludlow Hall
- Reva precinct at the Reva Hall

Motion carried.

Motion by Cordell, second by Routier to hold the Special Election regarding the closure of Camp Crook and Ludlow Schools on Tuesday, February 20, 2024. Motion carried. Absentee voting will be at the Harding County Courthouse.

OPEN FORUM –

Taz Olson shared some of his concerns if the rural schools were to remain open:

- There will be the possibility of requesting an opt-out to increase tax revenues. The capital outlay funds that are currently used to fill the gap in the general fund will decrease in the future once the new building debt is repaid. We also have to keep in mind the volatile nature of the oil field and the possibility of losing funds tied to the industry.
- There is a current teacher shortage across the state. Finding qualified teachers has proven to be difficult for the last few years. Even if the schools are open, there is no guarantee of finding a teacher.
- Some estimates believe there will be increasing student numbers in the future. This will require either additional staff to adequately cover the grade levels or reducing the grade levels offered at each building.
- Elementary sports like basketball and wrestling are becoming more popular and parents will be driving their students to town regardless of where they attend school.
- How many students will return to rural schools after this current school year? These students are already acclimated to the new classes and routines.
- If the schools were to reopen, the bus routes would most likely not be offered anymore.

24-107 Offer Contracts. Motion by Olson, second by Cordell to offer the following contracts:

Jewel Lyons – Library Media Specialist Stipend

Tonja Montgomery Hansen – Prom Advisor

Traci Routier – Prom Advisor

Motion carried.

24-108 Approve Contract. Motion by Clanton, second by Cordell to approve contract for Nicole Hurst, ½ year counselor, \$21,500. Motion carried.

24-109 NWAS Report. The NWAS report was discussed. Supt Page attended a meeting in Isabel today, sharing a letter from the board requesting the Director Lenk utilize his time to meet with legislators in Pierre to find additional support for the cooperative.

24-110 Business Manager. Henderson gave the Business Manager report.

24-111 K-12 Principal Report. Principal Messmer gave the Principal/AD report. Thank you to Mrs. Routier and all of the teachers and staff who helped make the Christmas Program a success. Thank you to all of the volunteers who helped with the wrestling tournament on December 29. There were sixteen teams and 190 wrestlers in attendance. Thanks to the PTO and Charlie for their work on Muffins with Moms on December 7th.

23-112 Superintendent Report. Supt. Page gave the Superintendent report. Supt Page is working through the Dept of Homeland Security Grant and has had walk-throughs with several security companies. A letter of recognition from the Associated School Boards of South Dakota was shared congratulating the district on the recent state assessments. All the classes tested above the state average in all three areas – English Language Arts, Mathematics, and Science. Less than half of the districts in the state reach this achievement.

23-113 Executive Session. Motion by Routier, second by Cordell to enter Executive Session at 6:12pm pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2(1) for personnel. Motion carried. The board was declared out of executive session at 6:30pm.

President Meyer declared the meeting adjourned at 6:30pm.

Submitted By:

Elizabeth Henderson
Business Manager
The approximate cost of this publication is \$115.00.

Will Meyer
Board President