

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

THE REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING OF THE HARDING COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 31-1 WAS HELD SEPTEMBER 10, 2025, AT 5:30 PM. AT THE HARDING COUNTY SCHOOL COMMONS.

Members Present: Taz Olson, Billy Clanton, Dillon Lermeney, Clint Doll, and Tawni Cordell. Administration Present: Superintendent Josh Page, Business Manager Elizabeth Henderson, Principal/A D Kelly Messmer.

Visitors Present: Jesse Glines, Casey Olson, Tim Brown, Nel Giannonatti, BJ Padden, Wally Stephens, Kathy Glines, Jason Latham, Bill Clarkson, John Helms, Charles Verhulst, Hunter Kalisiak, Jeremy Humbracht, David Wickstrom, Tabitha Tetrault, Jaylene Stirling, Lisa Wendt, Jewel Lyons, Jamie Brown, Andrea Clanton, Tonja Montgomery Hansen, Matt Gilbert, Carmen Gilbert, Jay Wammen, Lynnette Stugelmeyer, Tammy Bruha.

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

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

26-040 Consent Agenda. Motion by Clanton, second by Doll to approve the consent agenda as follows:

Approve Agenda with the addition of "Brett Garland, School Safety".

Approve the Minutes of the August 13 Regular Meeting

Approve the Financial Report.

Motion carried.

	GENERAL	CAPITAL OUT.	SPECIAL ED	BOND RED.	FOOD SERV.
Beginning Balance	363,484.09	2,497,579.77	336,066.68	147,886.76	(1,372.78)
Receipts:					
Local sources	9,817.48	7,085.31	1,512.90	721.60	7,170.43
County sources	184.00				
State sources	85,170.00				
Federal sources					
Accounts Receivable	71,820.20				789.40
Total Revenue	166,991.68	7,085.31	1,512.90	721.60	7,959.83
Disbursements	117,118.23	122,093.00	8,079.92		5,503.95
Acct Payable	105,778.61		25,601.68		5.10
Total Disbursements	222,896.84	122,093.00	33,681.60		5,509.05
Ending Balance	307,578.93	2,382,572.08	303,897.98	148,608.36	1,078.00

AUGUST PAYROLL AND BENEFITS

General	108,018.23
Superintendent & Secretary	17,086.54
Principals and Secretary	14,635.61
Business Manager	8,885.96
Custodians	27,045.05
X-Cur	2,036.23
Bus Driver	0.00
Special Education	30,960.85

26-041 Approve Bills for Payment. Motion by Doll, second by Clanton to approve the bills. Motion carried.

GENERAL FUND

AMAZON	SUPPLIES	1,018.04
ASBSD	CONFERENCE REGISTRATION	1,025.00
BUFFALO HARDWARE	SUPPLIES	1,198.06
BUFFALO RANCH SUPPLY	SUPPLIES	84.99
CENTRAL DISTRIBUTION	CUSTODIAL SUPPLIES	13,089.61
CENEX FLEETCARD	FUEL	44.03
ELAN FINANCIAL	TRAVEL/SUPPLIES/FUEL	6,064.49
ETSYSTEMS	REPAIRS & MTNCE	1,180.00
GINSBACH, RAY	REIMBURSE COACHING DUES	93.60
GLINES ELECTRIC	REPAIR & MTNCE	4,346.62
GRAND ELECTRIC	UTILITIES	5,562.20
H&L SUPERVALU	SUPPLIES	60.27
HC WEED AND PEST	CONTRACT SERVICE	106.66
HEALTH EQUITY	FEES	11.55
HENDERSON, ELIZABETH	REPAIR FB JERSEYS	100.00
HUDL	SUPPLIES	2,400.00
IMPREST/PIONEER BANK	PER DIEM	342.00
IMPREST/JAY WAMMEN	REIMBURSE COACHING CLASS	35.00
IMPREST/WEX BANK	FUEL	61.99
IMPREST/ROLLIN IN THE DOUGH	INSERVICE	95.58
IMPREST/DAVID DOUGLAS	REIMBURSE SUPPLIES	21.61
IMPREST/BRAD TUCKER	FB REFEREE	317.50
IMPREST/TANNER TUCKER	FB REFEREE	228.50
IMPREST/SCOTT LANGE	FB REFEREE	195.00
IMPREST/STEVE HILTON	FB REFEREE	187.80
IMPREST/ETHAN DSCHAAK	FB REFEREE	182.40
IMPREST/BOWMAN SCHOOL	XC FEE	60.00
IMPREST/ADVANCE TO IMPREST	INCREASE PER AUG MTG	3,000.00
LMC	LMC DUES	500.00
LYONS, JEWEL	REIMBURSE NHD TRAVEL (2)	1,715.58
MONUMENT HEALTH	DOT PHYSICAL	100.00
NCN	PUBLISHING/ADVERTISING	219.94
NWAS	FALL ASSESSMENT	59,686.00
OLSON FUELS	FUEL	978.36
PITNEY BOWES	POSTAGE	249.83
RAS	WORKERS COMP AUDIT ADJ	3,097.00
SASD	DUES	956.00
SDBCA	DUES	96.00
SHERATON SIOUX FALLS	TRAVEL	417.00
TMS	FEES	72.00
TG REPAIR	EXPEDITION/TRANSIT VAN	188.00
TOWN OF BUFFALO	WATER / GRAVEL	940.29
US FOODS	INSERVICE/OPEN HOUSE	1,068.12
WEX BANK	FUEL	159.46
WRCTC	PHONE SERVICE	645.50

	TOTAL GENERAL FUND	112,201.58
GRANTS		
NAVIGATE 360	TRAINING	1,684.35
	TOTAL GRANTS	1,684.35
CAPTIAL OUTLAY		
ABM	COPIER LEASE	1,731.19
AMAZON	NOVELS	563.17
BLUUM	DDN EQUIPMENT	3,832.19
BUFFALO HARDWARE	CARPET SUPPLIES	73.14
ELAN FINANCIAL	EQUIPMENT	2,747.43
EXPLORELEARNING	SOFTWARE SUBSCRIPTION	1,184.76
GRAND ELECTRIC	WASHING MACHINE	1,140.56
HOUGHTON MIFFLIN	ELEM MATH SUBSCRIPTION	10,392.60
IXL	SOFTWARE SUBSCRIPTION	6,570.00
QUAVER	ELEM MUSIC SUBSCRIPTION	1,800.00
SCHOOL OUTLET	LUNCHROOM TABLES	19,130.90
STERLING COMPUTERS	ADMIN EQUIP (HVAC SYS)	856.00
	TOTAL CAPITAL OUTLAY	50,021.94
SPED		
ELAN FINANCIAL	SUPPLIES	3.12
HEALTH EQUITY	FEES	5.85
PRAIRIE PERFORMANCE	PT SERVICES	3,006.00
TMS	CONTRACT SERVICE	3.25
SMALL TALK SPEECH	SPEECH SERVICES	1,245.00
STUGELMEYER, KYLEE	OT SERVICES	509.25
	TOTAL SPED	4,772.47
FOOD SERVICE		
AMAZON	SUPPLIES/EQUIPMENT	188.90
BUFFALO HARDWARE	SUPPLIES	188.82
ELAN FINANCIAL	EQUIPMENT/SUPPLIES	1,279.99
H&L SUPERVALU	FOOD	31.24
SYSCO	FOOD/MILK	1,396.98
US FOODS	FOOD/MILK	5,163.98
	TOTAL FOOD SERVICE	8,249.91
	TOTAL EXPENDITURES	176,930.25

OPEN FORUM: Mrs. Hansen shared that there would be a bridge dedication ceremony in the gym on Wednesday, September 17. The high school social studies classes work each year learn the history of local veterans and nominate them to the state for a dedication.

26-042 County Commissioners – Mineral Severance. The Harding County Commissioners met with the School Board to discuss the future of the mineral severance revenue. All commissioners confirmed that there would be no change to any revenues received by the school for the current fiscal year. The commissioners are seeing a continued decline in revenue each year and wanted to discuss how this would affect the future of the school share of the severance.

The school board and staff shared how the funds are used for staff and programs that benefit all students including dyslexia services, math and reading interventions. Members of the community shared how their children have excelled in the district and business owners shared the importance of having a quality school to retain employees. It was requested that the commissioners exhaust all avenues

including a road and bridge or wheel tax before they consider cutting the schools' mineral severance funding. The commissioners agreed that more conversations would be held before any proposed change was implemented in the future.

It was noted that Grand Electric plans to sell electricity through the upgraded substation, but the increased revenues from gross receipts/utility taxes are considered local effort through the funding formula, and would decrease state aid. It was also noted that all mineral severance monies received by the school are utilized in the general fund for salaries, benefits, and day-to-day expenses. The possibility of a CTE building due to the closure of NWS would be funded through capital outlay or other sources.

President Olson declared at recess at 6:12pm. The board reconvened at 6:17pm.

26-043 Offer ½-time Music Contract. Motion by Lermen, second by Doll to offer and approve a ½-time contract to Kelcee Vroman for Music for \$22,800. Motion carried.

26-044 Extra-Curricular Contracts. Motion by Clanton, second by Lermen to offer and approve the following extra-curricular contracts:

Jewel Lyons, Librarian, \$5,000.00

Tammy Bruha, Yearbook, \$4,060.50

Tonja Hansen, History Day Advisor, \$1,622.00

Tonja Hansen, Student Council Advisor, \$1,862.00

Erin Wammen, FFA Advisor, \$4,860.25

Erin Wammen, National Honor Society Advisor, \$2,122.00

Jen Anders, Prom Advisor, \$509.00

Jay Wammen, Prom Advisor, \$509.00

Motion carried.

26-045 Approve Volunteer Coaches. Motion by Cordell, second by Doll to approve the following volunteer coaches: Grey Gilbert – wrestling, Gus Buchanan - wrestling. Motion carried.

26-046 MS/HS Handbook Amendment. Principal Messmer shared an amendment to the handbook regarding the Attendance and Semester Test Policy for grades 6-12. Motion by Doll, second by Clanton to amend the 2025-26 MS/HS Handbook as follows:

*No Semester Tests at Christmas (Everyone will come to school through Friday, December 19).

*Semester/Final Tests 2nd semester only on May 11-12.

*Absences will accrue throughout the year, not per semester.

Students will not need to take the May semester/final test if they meet the following criteria.

1. Students have 10 Absences or less (For the school year) and an A in the class.

2. Students have 4 Absences or less (For the school year) and an A or B in the class.

Notes: *Students will not be able to "make-up" time to lower number of days.

*Family Funerals and School Activities will be the only "exempt" days.

*On the May semester/final test days, students only need to be in attendance at school for the period in which they need to take a test. If they don't need to take any tests at all, they will be done with school on May 7th.

Motion carried.

26-047 Budget and Tax Levy Approval. Supt Page reviewed the 2025-26 budget with the board. There are no major changes since the July Budget Hearing. Motion by Clanton, second by Doll to approve Resolution #2026-1 as follows:

Let it be resolved, the School Board of Harding County School District, after duly considering the proposed budget and its changes thereto, and in accordance with SDCL 13-11-2 hereby approves and adopts its proposed budget and thereto, to be its Annual Budget for the fiscal year July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026. The adopted annual budget levy requests are as follows:

General Fund	
Ag Property	\$1.125/1000 AV
Owner Occupied	\$2.518/1000 AV
Other Property	\$5.211/1000 AV
Capital Outlay Fund	\$1,350,000 (equivalent to Max Levy)
Special Education Fund	\$480,000
Bond Redemption Fund	\$250,000

Motion carried. The final approved budget will be published separately.

26-047B Brett Garland / Safety & Emergency Plan. Principal Messmer shared that there will be staff and student training on the “I Love U Guys” emergency protocols. It is an easy-to-use program for all types of emergency situations. Brett Garland will also be here in December to do Bullying and Social Media Safety trainings with students and staff.

26-048 NWAS. Supt Page and President Olson discussed the NWAS report. It now appears that NWAS will be done at the end of the school year due to funding and staffing shortages as well as loss of course approval after this school year. All members of the board were in agreement that it wouldn’t be cost effective to offer additional funding for courses that were no longer approved CTE credits. Supt Page will take the feedback to the next NWAS meeting.

26-049 Business Manager. Henderson gave the Business Manager report. Auditors are scheduled to be at the October Meeting to review the audit. Henderson shared that she had received a very late mileage voucher. The board denied paying the claim as it needed to be received by the end of the fiscal year.

26-050 K-12 Principal Report. Principal Messmer gave the Principal/AD report. Mrs. Vroman and the middle school students will be using some of their study hall to prepare for performing at the Veterans Day and Christmas Concert. Thank you to them for choosing to do this. Homecoming is the week of September 22-27. Parent-teacher conferences are scheduled for three nights this week to avoid missing staff due to other activities. Congratulations to Jen Anders for being nominated for SD Teacher of the Year. The award ceremony is September 11 in Pierre.

26-051 Superintendent Report. Supt. Page gave the Superintendent report. Supt Page is currently working on the annual reports for Title I, Personnel Record Forms, and working with Principal Messmer for the five-year Accreditation process. There are two Continental Funding the Future grants available this year with the district will be applying for. Thank you to BJ Padden and Tabitha Tetrault for stepping up and helping to cover the Reva bus route until additional driver(s) can be found and thank you to parents and staff for their flexibility. The first Hall of Fame inductions will be on Friday, September 26. The first inductees are Ab Penn, Wally Stephens, Tanna Negaard Zabel, and Don Ostensen.

Tawni Cordell, Billy Clanton, and Principal Messmer will meet with the Town of Buffalo Board on Monday, September 15 regarding the use of the rec center for winter sports.

26-052 Executive Session. Motion by Clanton, second by Lermeny to enter into executive session at 6:57pm in accordance with SDCL 1-25-2(2) for a student matter. Motion carried. The board was declared out of executive session at 7:23pm.

President Olson declared the meeting adjourned at 7:23 pm.

Submitted By:

Elizabeth Henderson
Business Manager

The approximate cost of this publication is \$115.00.

Taz Olson
Board President