

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE
BATTLE RIVER REGIONAL DIVISION #31, HELD ON APRIL 3, 2008, COMMENCING
AT 9:36 A.M.**

PRESENT

REBECCA HEIBERG
PETER MILLER
KEN OFFORD
VICTOR PETRUK
KENDALL SEVERSON
CHERYL SMITH
HAMEED SYED
PATRICIA ZENIUK (left the meeting at 4:10 p.m.)

ABSENT

ALSO PRESENT

LARRY PAYNE, Superintendent of Schools
RAY BOSH, Deputy Superintendent
BILL SCHULTE, Assistant Superintendent (Business)
DIANE HUTCHINSON, Communications Officer
SYLVIA LAUBER, Recording Secretary

C. SMITH IN THE CHAIR

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Smith called the meeting to order at 9:36 a.m.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

#42/08 P. MILLER – That the agenda be approved with the addition of the distributed add-on sheet and the following items:

- 6.2 Date Change for School Tours
- 7.8 Board Representative(s) for the Professional Development Committee
- 7.9 ASBA Bulletins – May Board Meeting
- 7.10 Change of June 2008 Board Meeting Date
- 7.11 PSBAA Meeting – April 10-12, 2008

CARRIED

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APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

#43/08 H. SYED – That the minutes from the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees held on March 13, 2008 be approved as presented.

CARRIED

IN-CAMERA SESSION (9:38 a.m.)

#44/08 K. SEVERSON – That the regular meeting recess to permit the Trustees to meet in-camera and that all persons except Trustees, Superintendent of Schools Payne, Deputy Superintendent Bosh, Assistant Superintendent Schulte, Communications Officer Hutchinson, and Recording Secretary Lauber be excluded.

CARRIED

The in-camera session recessed at 10:51 a.m. and the regular meeting reconvened at 10:51 a.m.

MEETING RECESS

The regular meeting recessed at 10:52 a.m. and reconvened at 11:03 a.m.

APPOINTMENT – DUCKS UNLIMITED

At 11:04 a.m., Chair Smith welcomed Mr. Michael Barr, conservation biologist with Ducks Unlimited, to the meeting and invited his presentation.

Mr. Barr spoke on behalf of the Camrose Greenspace and Wildlife Stewardship Project. The Greenspace and Wildlife project includes nine partners and Mr. Barr noted that he would like to include Battle River School Division #31.

Mr. Barr noted that he would like to discuss with the Board the feasibility of an Environmental Education Center, based in Camrose at the Stoney Creek Center (formerly the ski house), and that this would be available to all students, residents, visitors, agencies and industries in the region. This project would enhance a hands-on environmental learning opportunity by collaborating with partners in developing a specialized, centrally-located facility.

Mr. Barr requested that Battle River School Division #31 support, in principle, an initiation for formal discussion with the City of Camrose and partners to explore the feasibility of an Environmental Education Center.

Mr. Barr left the meeting at 11:25 a.m.

#45/08 P. ZENIUK – That the Board approves, in principle, the initiation of a formal discussion with the City of Camrose and partners to explore the feasibility of an Environmental Education Center.

CARRIED

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Chair Smith invited a Trustee to serve on the committee that would explore the possibility of setting up an Environmental Education Center. Trustee Heiberg volunteered to sit on this committee.

IN-CAMERA SESSION (11:30 a.m.)

#46/08 P. MILLER – That the regular meeting recess to permit the Trustees to meet in-camera and that all persons except the Trustees, Superintendent of Schools Payne, Deputy Superintendent Bosh, Assistant Superintendent Schulte, Communications Officer Hutchinson, and Recording Secretary Lauber be excluded.

CARRIED

The in-camera session recessed at 11:39 a.m. and the regular meeting reconvened at 11:39 a.m.

CITY OF CAMROSE CENSUS

Assistant Superintendent Schulte reported that the City of Camrose had previously agreed to hand out a survey for Battle River School Division #31 when the census was done, however this changed and the survey will not be handed out at the time of the census.

Division Office administrators are considering ways of conducting the survey to determine how many parents would be interested in having their children attend a Christian-based school program.

DATE CHANGE FOR SCHOOL TOURS

The date of May 9, 2008 for school tours for Trustees was rescheduled to May 12, 2008.

ASBA (ALBERTA SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION) REPRESENTATION ON THE AISI (ALBERTA INITIATIVE FOR SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT) CONFERENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE

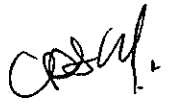
Trustees were notified that ASBA is seeking nominations for a Trustee to consider serving on a committee to plan the annual AISI conference.

MEETING RECESS

The regular meeting recessed at 11:53 a.m. and reconvened at 1:22 p.m.

HEALTHY LIFESTYLES SYMPOSIUM

Vice-chair Zeniuk reported on her attendance at the Healthy Lifestyles Symposium on March 19 and 20, 2008 in Sherwood Park which included health professionals, dietitians, principals, teachers, and others who were each sharing best practices.



APPOINTMENT – HEALTHY LIFESTYLES

At 1:27 p.m., Chair Smith welcomed Pamela Boysen from East Central Health to the meeting and invited her presentation.

Ms Boysen reported that Alberta Health and Wellness provided funding to hire staff to work for healthy weights in children from the ages of infancy to age 18. Ms Boysen's target group is school age children. She will work with schools, summer camp leaders and after school groups who work with children. Her work with schools will involve working with teachers at the schools and workshops. She has developed a list of questions for schools and will do the homework for the schools in researching healthy options for school canteens, cafeterias, vending machines, etc. and where these can be purchased.

Ms Boysen is co-chair of the Alberta Coalition for Healthy Communities, which planned the Healthy Lifestyles Symposium and partnered by ASBA. Ms Boysen noted that representation from 24 school boards out of 66 were in attendance at the Symposium.

At the Symposium, the East Central Group came up with several projects to have a regional health team from each school division, health sector, etc. to look at projects that are currently happening and to seek an opportunity to develop projects based on school health. They also discussed the challenges and next steps.

The results from the Symposium will be tabulated and distributed.

Ms Boysen left the meeting at 2:10 p.m.

PROPOSED MEETING WITH ELK ISLAND CATHOLIC SCHOOL DIVISION

An email was received from the school board chair of the Elk Island Catholic School Division requesting a meeting with our Board and their Board, and the respective Superintendents, to introduce themselves and engage in an informal discussion on mutual issues. Chair Smith will arrange this.

MEETING WITH THE ATA LOCAL LIAISON COMMITTEE

It was noted that, traditionally, there are two meetings per year with the ATA Liaison Committee – one is hosted by the ATA and one by the Board. Chair Smith will contact the ATA Local President to set up a meeting date.

DATES FOR ANNUAL MEETINGS WITH SUPPORT STAFF

The members of the various committees who meet with the Division's support staff will set dates for the annual meeting with the support staff.

HEALTH SPENDING ACCOUNTS

A meeting will be scheduled to determine guidelines for the health spending accounts.

Handwritten initials and a signature in the bottom right corner of the page.

Brenda Johnson, Director of Transportation, joined the meeting at 2:30 p.m.

LETTER OF REQUEST FROM TRAVIS AND GENELLE BUNBURY

Trustees reviewed a letter received from Travis and Genelle Bunbury wherein they requested Board consideration to allow a bus from Clearview School Division to cross the boundary with Battle River School Division #31 to pick up their children to take them from their residence in the Alliance area to attend school in Castor.

#47/08 V. PETRUK – That the Board adheres to the agreement in place with Clearview School Division to not cross jurisdictional boundaries, and that a bus from Clearview School Division not cross into Battle River School Division #31 to pick up students within Battle River School Division #31 boundaries.

CARRIED

Ms Johnson left the meeting at 2:40 p.m.

BOARD REPRESENTATIVE ON PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Chair Smith and Trustee Petruk volunteered to serve as Board representatives on the Professional Development Committee.

ASBA ISSUES, BUDGET AND BYLAWS BULLETIN

The ASBA Issues, Budget, and Bylaws Bulletin will be photocopied and distributed to Trustees at the May Board meeting.

CHANGE OF DATE FOR THE JUNE BOARD MEETING

The June Board meeting date was changed from June 12, 2008 to June 5, 2008.

BUDGET MEETING

A meeting to review the 2008-09 budget will be held on May 14, 2008 at 9:30 a.m.

MEETING RECESS

The regular meeting recessed at 2:43 p.m. and reconvened at 3:04 p.m.

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APPOINTMENT – CONSULTATIVE PROCESS

At 3:04 p.m., Chair Smith welcomed Rick Jarrett, Assistant Superintendent, and Todd Sieben, Division Principal, to the meeting. Mr. Jarrett and Mr. Sieben provided a summary of the 2007-08 consultative process held in Daysland in March 2008.

Dr. Payne complimented Mr. Sieben and Mr. Jarrett for the professional and positive manner in which these meetings were conducted, and Ms Hutchinson for compiling the information.

Mr. Jarrett and Mr. Sieben left the meeting at 3:32 p.m.

PSBAA (PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION OF ALBERTA)

Trustees were informed that the Minister of Education, David Hancock, will be the guest speaker at the breakfast at the PSBAA Council meeting on April 11, 2008.

REQUEST FOR WRITTEN COMMITTEE REPORTS

Trustees were requested to submit their written reports by April 17, 2008 outlining the work of the Committees which each chairs.

CAPITAL PLANNING COMMITTEE

Assistant Superintendent Schulte reported on the work of the Capital Planning Committee. The written report on the work of this Committee is attached to these minutes.

Building Committee Update

Dr. Payne reported that the subcommittee of the Capital Planning Committee met with the Ad Hoc Committee with respect to the Mirror Lake Centre.

POLICY DEVELOPMENT REVIEW COMMITTEE

Trustee Heiberg provided a written report on the work of the Policy Development Review Committee. This report is attached to these minutes.

REPORT ON VISITS TO CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS

Vice-Chair Zeniuk reported on the attendance of a number of Trustees on visits to various Christian Schools in East Central Alberta. Other Trustees also provided their insights on these visits.

Vice-chair Zeniuk left the meeting at 4:10 p.m.

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CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MEETING

Trustee Severson reported on his attendance at the Chamber of Commerce meeting in the City of Camrose at which the Camrose County Reeve provided a presentation.

DATE OF MEETING WITH THE CITY OF CAMROSE COUNCIL

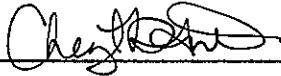
Ms Hutchinson will arrange for a meeting with the City of Camrose Council as part of the consultative process.

REPORT FROM BEAVER COUNTY MEETING

Trustees Heiberg and Petruk reported on their attendance at the consultative process meeting with the Beaver County group.

ADJOURNMENT

All items of business being complete and there being no dissent, Chair Smith adjourned the meeting at 4:21 p.m.



CHERYL SMITH, CHAIR



WILLIAM SCHULTE, ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT (BUSINESS)

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Policy Development/Review Committee Notes

We met on February 19, 2008 with Larry Campbell, Fleet Supervisor, and Brenda Johnson, Director of Transportation, to talk about bus idling and reviewing the transportation policy.

A bus idling policy has been brought to the Board, and the acquisition of some Webasto heaters for buses has been approved.

We are meeting at 1:30 p.m. on April 14, 2008. Bill Schulte, Assistant Superintendent (Business) and Jason Van Hyfte, Safety Coordinator, will be discussing a possible policy for Occupational Health and Safety. At 2:00 p.m. Brenda Johnson, Director of Transportation, will be meeting with us to discuss follow up on the transportation policy and review.

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Capital Planning Committee Notes:

1. We have received an email from Alberta Education / Infrastructure that our annual Capital Plan is due on or before June 22. Percy Roberts and Bill Schulte will attend an information meeting with respect to the Capital Planning Process on Tuesday, April 15.
2. On April 2, the CCHS Sub Subcommittee met with the architect, Rob Rabinovitch to review the CCHS Design Development Report that will be presented to Alberta Education / Infrastructure on April 14. Larry Payne, Percy Roberts and Bill Schulte will be attending that meeting.

The preliminary construction cost estimate for the project is \$8.4 Million which is \$300,000 over the construction budget of \$8.1 Million (\$7.1 M original budget + \$1 M budgeted contingency.)

3. On March 18, Vic Petruk, Rebecca Heiberg, Larry Payne, Bill Schulte met at the Tofield School with members from Town Council and the Town Administrator along with Avi Habinski and Arthur Arruda from Alberta Education. We discussed the future capital needs of the Tofield schools.

Avi Habinski had many good ideas for the Town to consider i.e. joint use buildings and sports fields. He also suggested that as the population grows we should consider adding modular classrooms and when there is the need to apply for a new school.

4. In the afternoon of March 18 Vic Petruk, Rebecca Heiberg and Bill Schulte met with the Ryley Agricultural and Heritage Society (RAHS) to discuss the Ryley Pool subdivision request. Don Cox, who is acting on our behalf with respect to the subdivision application, was also present.

The committee discussed the new coal fired boiler proposal that the RAHS is currently working on. It was agreed by both parties that Percy Roberts would meet with the manufacturers of the new unit to discuss air emissions and their possible affects on the Ryley School.

Bill Schulte was to discuss the coal fired boiler proposal with our insurer to ascertain any of their concerns. Further to that, Bill Schulte has contacted ASBIE, our insurers. Lonnie Lauber from the RAHS is to provide engineering drawings and other information on the coal fired boiler unit to Battle River which we will review and pass onto our insurers.

It was agreed between Lonnie Lauber and Bill Schulte that we would hold off on the subdivision application process until our insurance company has issued an opinion on the coal fired boiler unit.

