

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE BATTLE RIVER REGIONAL DIVISION #31, HELD ON JUNE 8, 2006, COMMENCING AT 9:35 A.M.

PRESENT

REBECCA HEIBERG
BRENDA HERDER
GERRY OBERG
KEN OFFORD (joined the meeting at 9:45 a.m.)
VICTOR PETRUK (joined the meeting at approximately 10:00 a.m.)
PATRICIA ZENIUK
CHERYL SMITH
HAMEED SYED

ABSENT

ALSO PRESENT

WARREN PHILLIPS, Superintendent of Schools
RAY BOSH, Deputy Superintendent
BILL SCHULTE, Secretary-Treasurer
DIANE HUTCHINSON, Communications Officer
SYLVIA LAUBER, Recording Secretary

B. HERDER IN THE CHAIR

WELCOME TO NEW DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE

Chairman Herder welcomed Percy Roberts to the Division as the new Director of Operations and Maintenance for Battle River School Division #31.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

- #101/06 P. ZENIUK – That the agenda be approved with the following changes:
- The appointment scheduled for 3:30 p.m. be rescheduled for June 22, 2006; and
 - The appointment scheduled at 3:45 p.m. be changed to 2:30 p.m. today.

CARRIED

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

- #102/06 C. SMITH – That the minutes of the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees held on May 11 and 25, 2006 be approved as presented.

CARRIED

PRE-AUDIT DISCUSSION

Mr. Greg Wood, Harberg, Nikiforuk and Wood; and Ms Imogene Walsh, Finance Manager, joined the meeting at 9:40 a.m.

Mr. Wood reviewed background information leading to the formation of an audit committee of the Board and explained the concept of having an audit committee.

BOARD CAUCUS

#103/06 C. SMITH – That the regular meeting recess to permit the Trustees to caucus and that all persons except Trustees and Mr. Wood be excluded.

CARRIED

Mr. Wood left the meeting during the Board caucus.

The caucus session recessed at 10:21 a.m. and the regular meeting reconvened at 10:21 a.m.

FORMATION OF AN AUDIT COMMITTEE

#104/06 G. OBERG –That the Board strikes an Audit Committee and that this Committee consist of three trustees, an external auditor, and a member at large.

CARRIED

2006-07 SCHOOL YEAR BUDGET

Ms Walsh reviewed the revised 2006-07 school year budget.

#105/06 K. OFFORD – That the Board sends a letter to the Minister of Education, copied to the MLAs, expressing concerns about the level of funding received this year and how this has impacted the budgeting and level of services being provided by Battle River School Division #31.

CARRIED

#106/06 H. SYED – That the Board approves the 2006-07 school year budget as presented.

CARRIED

MEETING RECESS

The regular meeting recessed at 11:01 a.m. and reconvened at 11:19 a.m.

IN-CAMERA SESSION (11:19 a.m.)

#107/06 P. ZENIUK – That the regular meeting recess to permit Trustees to meet in-camera, and that all persons except Trustees, Superintendent of Schools Phillips, Deputy Superintendent Bosh, Secretary-Treasurer Schulte and Recording Secretary Lauber be excluded.

CARRIED

The in-camera session recessed at 11:33 a.m. and the regular meeting reconvened at 11:33 a.m.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

At 11:33 a.m., Chairman Herder welcomed Max Lindstrand, Principal at Camrose Composite High School, to the meeting. Mr. Lindstrand outlined possibilities with respect to recruiting international high school students. Dr. Phillips noted that some funds have been budgeted for exploration of this initiative.

Mr. Lindstrand left the meeting at 11:59 a.m.

MEETING RECESS

The regular meeting recessed at 11:59 a.m. and reconvened at 1:04 p.m.

IN-CAMERA SESSION (1:04 p.m.)

#108/06 G. OBERG – That the regular meeting recess to permit Trustees to meet in-camera, and that all persons except Trustees, Superintendent of Schools Phillips, Deputy Superintendent Bosh, Secretary-Treasurer Schulte, and Recording Secretary Lauber be excluded.

CARRIED

The in-camera session recessed at 1:27 p.m. and the regular meeting reconvened at 1:27 p.m.

Brenda Johnson, Director of Transportation, joined the meeting at 1:30 p.m.

APPOINTMENT – TRANSPORTATION APPEAL

At 1:30 p.m., Chairman Herder welcomed Dawn Stauffer to the meeting and invited her presentation. Ms Stauffer requested that the Board consider changing the attendance area of the Tofield School to accommodate her family move to an area that is just outside of what she perceived to be the Tofield School attendance area. Her residence is in the Holden/Ryley School attendance area. Her children attend school in Tofield and Ms Stauffer outlined her reasons for the request.

The delegation left the meeting at 2:04 p.m.

It was noted that the boundary Ms Stauffer wished to have extended is not that of Tofield School, but rather that of Round Hill School, and that the bus entering that attendance area traveling to Tofield School is one that was established as a 'grandfathering' route when the Round Hill School boundaries were changed in 2002.

- #109/06 G. OBERG – That the request for an attendance area boundary change or for the Tofield-bound bus to provide gate service to accommodate the children of Dawn Stauffer to attend Tofield School be denied. CARRIED

Ms Johnson left the meeting at 2:25 p.m.

APPOINTMENT – FINOLA HACKETT AND MARIA SCHAADÉ

At 2:30 p.m., Chairman Herder welcomed Finola Hackett, student at Tofield School and speller extraordinaire, and Ms Maria Schaade, teacher at the Tofield School. On behalf of the Board, Chairman Herder expressed congratulations and pride in the accomplishments of Ms Hackett. Ms Hackett and Ms Schaade outlined the activities in which each participated during the spelling bee in Washington DC. Chairman Herder presented Ms Hackett with a gift of appreciation from the Board.

Ms Herder expressed congratulations to Ms Schaade on being selected as a finalist in the Excellence in Teaching Awards.

Ms Hackett and Ms Schaade left the meeting at 2:48 p.m.

MEETING RECESS

The regular meeting recessed at 2:48 p.m. and reconvened at 3:01 p.m., at which time Ms Johnson rejoined the meeting.

PER KILOMETER RATE – FIELD TRIPS

Ms Johnson reviewed the actual road costs of field trips, noting that the cost is \$.89/kilometer.

- #110/06 H. SYED – That, for the 2006-07 school year, the rate to be charged to schools for buses used for field trips be set at \$.80/kilometer. CARRIED

RATES FOR CHARTER TRIPS

- #111/06 G. OBERG – That the Board establishes a minimum flat rate of \$50.00 per bus per occurrence for charter groups to use school buses for non-school related activities. CARRIED

TENDER FOR SCHOOL BUSES

- #112/06 K. OFFORD – That the Board directs administration to tender for the purchase of ten new school buses. CARRIED

Ms Johnson left the meeting at 3:20 p.m.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE ‘EMPLOYEE SUPERVISION WHERE PERFORMANCE MAY BE UNSATISFACTORY’

#113/06 C. SMITH – That the Board accepts the administrative procedure ‘Employee Supervision Where Performance May Be Unsatisfactory.’
CARRIED

POLICY IEB ‘ENTRANCE AGE’

#114/06 H. SYED – That the Board accepts the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, which reads:

The student entrance age cutoff be changed from “on or prior to December 31st” to “prior to March 1st”.

That the Board develops a four-year program that encompasses the knowledge, skills and attributes expected for kindergarten, grade one and grade two. This program would be designed for students who may not be ready to begin a kindergarten program, but whose developmental and educational needs would be better served in a structured school program than in an alternative setting.

That the Board annually promotes the belief that most students are better served by starting school later rather than earlier and it is the belief of the Board that most students, and boys in particular, are better served if they are older when they begin school.

CARRIED

BUILDING FOR BASHAW CORPORAL PROGRAM

Secretary-Treasurer Schulte noted that Percy Roberts, Director of Operations and Maintenance, will be meeting with the architect to determine where the building for the CORPORAL program at the Bashaw School will be located on the school grounds and that more detailed drawings will be drawn up.

SUBSTITUTE TEACHER ACCIDENT INSURANCE 2006-07

#115/06 K. OFFORD - That the Board provides a basic fee of \$1.20/substitute teacher for basic accident insurance for each substitute teacher during school hours or at any school approved/supervised activity, and further that in addition to the basic coverage, the insurance coverage provides an additional \$0.10 per insured substitute teacher for the Enhanced Option Package.

CARRIED

ALBERTA HOME AND SCHOOL COUNCILS' ASSOCIATION INITIATIVE

Trustees reviewed a letter received from the Alberta Home and School Councils' Association (AHSCA) with respect to an initiative for a two-year jurisdictional membership. Trustees determined, by consensus, not to access a jurisdiction membership in the AHSCA at this time.

USE OF TOWERS BY MUNICIPAL AND COMMERCIAL GROUPS

Secretary-Treasurer Schulte informed Trustees that the towers at Strome, Forestburg and Heisler will be used by the County of Flagstaff for 911 service.

Mr. Schulte noted that the Beaver County has requested commercial for-profit use of some of the towers owned by Battle River School Division #31 for the purpose of providing internet service to residents in the Beaver County. The County wishes to use the towers at no cost to the County, but would provide reduced internet rates for staff of Battle River School Division #31 that reside in the Beaver County.

The Board directed administration to research the legalities involved in the use of the towers in Battle River School Division #31 and develop guidelines for possible use.

BOARD ORGANIZATIONAL/REGULAR MEETING

The organizational meeting will be held on August 24, 2006, followed by the first regular meeting of the 2006-07 school year.

REPORT ON MEETING WITH RED DEER COLLEGE OFFICIALS

Chairman Herder reported on her attendance, and that of Dr. Phillips and Mr. Schulte, at a meeting with the President and several other officials of Red Deer College on June 1, 2006, noting that they spoke about the expanded vision for Camrose Composite High School in partnership with Red Deer College. Ms Herder noted that the meeting went well and the possibilities for partnership were well received by Red Deer College. Initial plans were requested and will be drawn up.

APPROVAL OF INFRASTRUCTURE MAINTENANCE RENEWAL (IMR) AND CAPITAL PROJECTS

#116/06 G. OBERG – That the Board approves the Infrastructure Maintenance Renewal and Capital Projects list as presented, and further that this list be attached to, and forms a part of, these minutes.

CARRIED

MEETING RECESS

The regular meeting recessed at 4:45 p.m. until Thursday, June 22, 2006.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

WELCOME TO NEW DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE..... 73

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA..... 73

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES 73

PRE-AUDIT DISCUSSION 74

BOARD CAUCUS..... 74

FORMATION OF AN AUDIT COMMITTEE 74

2006-07 SCHOOL YEAR BUDGET..... 74

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS..... 75

APPOINTMENT – TRANSPORTATION APPEAL..... 75

APPOINTMENT – FINOLA HACKETT AND MARIA SCHAADÉ 76

PER KILOMETER RATE – FIELD TRIPS 76

RATES FOR CHARTER TRIPS..... 76

TENDER FOR SCHOOL BUSES 76

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE ‘EMPLOYEE SUPERVISION WHERE PERFORMANCE
MAY BE UNSATISFACTORY’ 77

POLICY IEB ‘ENTRANCE AGE’ 77

BUILDING FOR BASHAW CORPORAL PROGRAM..... 77

SUBSTITUTE TEACHER ACCIDENT INSURANCE 2006-07 77

ALBERTA HOME AND SCHOOL COUNCILS’ ASSOCIATION INITIATIVE..... 78

USE OF TOWERS BY MUNICIPAL AND COMMERCIAL GROUPS 78

BOARD ORGANIZATIONAL/REGULAR MEETING..... 78

REPORT ON MEETING WITH RED DEER COLLEGE OFFICIALS 78

APPROVAL OF INFRASTRUCTURE MAINTENANCE RENEWAL (IMR) AND CAPITAL
PROJECTS 78