

May 12, 2015
REGULAR MEETING

The Board of Trustees of School District #4 and Forsyth High School District held a Regular Meeting on May 12, 2015, at 7:00 p.m. in Room 9 of the Middle School Building with the following in attendance:

Layton Salsbery, Chairman, School District #4 & Forsyth High School District
Dennis Kopitzke, Vice-Chair “ “
Gerald Killen, Trustee “ “
Ginger Roll, Trustee “ “
Donald John Cameron, Trustee (7:05 p.m.) “

Absent:

Jerry Hagadone, Trustee “ “

Also Present:

Dinny Bennett, Superintendent
Robert J. Martelle, District Clerk/Business Manager
Dixie Seleg, K – 6 Principal
Shelly Weight, 7 – 12 Principal

Guests: Eli Wright, Cindy Wright, Steve Pulver, Stephanie Schnug, Jan Banks

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

The Chairman led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Participation: None

Revise/Review Agenda

It was suggested to move item V.2.a (Business Manager Evaluation) to the end of the meeting. The agenda was revised as suggested.

Consent Agenda

Dennis Kopitzke moved, seconded by Ginger Roll, to approve the consent agenda consisting of the following:

- May bills in the amount of \$184,079.65 including warrants #43256 through #43331.
- Minutes for the April 7, 2015 regular meeting.
- Warrant lists from 04/01/15 through 04/30/15 including the following:
 - Claims 43179 – 43255 \$382,046.71*
 - Payroll 310362 – 310418 \$ 72,115.90
 - [*Includes direct deposit check 43248 \$ 91,033.49]
- Activity Cash Report

Upon call for a vote, all trustees present voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.

Donald John Cameron arrived at 7:05 p.m.

District

Old Business

Sports Survey - Continued

Chris Hess reported that he had contacted the Miles City Schools regarding cooping the tennis program. He has received no response. The Superintendent stated that in light of the repairs that were made to the tennis courts, the tennis program could continue.

Canvass Levy Elections

The District Clerk/Business Manager presented the following election results to the Board of Trustees. He recommended that the Board review the results and accept the elections judges' tallies.

HIGH SCHOOL GENERAL FUND LEVY			
	Number of Votes		
	For	Against	Turnout
High School (\$31,034.75)			
Forsyth/Area	214	99	313
Ingomar	5	4	9
Total	219	103	322
	Voter Turnout		
	Registered	Voted	Percent
Forsyth/Area	1451	313	21.57%
Ingomar	51	9	17.65%

Gerald Killen moved, seconded by Donald John Cameron, to accept the judges' tallies regarding the High School General Fund levy election. All trustees present voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.

Trustee Election by Acclamation

The Business Manager reported that one nomination petition was received for each trustee position up for election and that no declarations of intent to be a write-in candidate were received. He recommended that the Trustees confirm the election of the following individuals by acclamation:

Elementary/High School Trustee	Gerald Killen
Outlying High School Trustee	Donald John Cameron

Both positions are three year terms.

Ginger Roll moved, seconded by Dennis Kopitzke, to confirm the election of the listed individuals by acclamation. All trustees present voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.

Swearing-In New Trustees

Stephanie Schnug, a Notary Public, gave the oath of office to Gerald Killen and Donald John Cameron. Certificates of Election were signed.

New Business

Board Reorganization

Chairman

Donald John Cameron moved, seconded by Gerald Killen that the organization of the board remains the same. There being no discussion, a vote was taken. All trustees present voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried. Layton Salsbery is the Chairman and Dennis Kopitzke is the Vice-Chairman.

Appoint District Clerk/Business Manager

The Superintendent discussed the requirement to appoint a District Clerk/Business Manager and recommended that Robert J. Martelle be appointed to that position. Gerald Killen moved, seconded by Dennis Kopitzke, to appoint Robert J. Martelle to the position of District Clerk/Business Manager. All trustees present voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried. The oath of office was given at this time by Stephanie Schnug. All trustees present signed the Certificate of Appointment.

Board Committee Assignments

A list of the current committee assignments was presented to the trustees. The trustees reviewed the list. It was the consensus of the Board that the committee assignments remain the same.

Appoint Representative to Big Country Educational Cooperative

The Superintendent recommended that Robert Martelle be appointed as the District's representative to the Big Country Educational Cooperative. Dennis Kopitzke moved, seconded by Ginger Roll, to accept the recommendation. All trustees present voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.

Accreditation Report

The Superintendent reported on the most recent accreditation report received from the Office of Public Instruction. The issues noted in the report will be corrected during the 2015 – 2016 school year.

Parking Lot Repairs

The Superintendent presented a proposal for repairs and resurfacing of the High School parking lot. Steve Pulver explained the process and the life expectancy of the project. The project in the amount of \$18,454.70 will be paid from the Interlocal Fund. Dennis Kopitzke moved, seconded by Donald John Cameron, to approve the project as presented. All trustees present voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.

Lunch Prices

The Business Manager reported that lunch prices had not been addressed since the 2011 – 2012 school year. Costs have gone up and the Districts’ support of the program has also increased. He recommended the following increases:

	From	To
K – 6 Lunch	\$2.15	\$2.25
7 – 12 Lunch	\$2.25	\$2.50
Adult Lunch	\$3.50	\$3.75
Extra Milk	\$.35	\$.40

Donald John Cameron moved, seconded by Gerald Killen, to increase the lunch prices as recommended. All trustees present voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.

Personnel

Appoint Curriculum Directors

The Superintendent noted the requirement to appoint a Curriculum Director. For the past two years, Dixie Seleg and Shelly Weight have been sharing that position. He recommended that the two individuals be appointed as Curriculum Directors for the 2015 – 2016 school year. Dennis Kopitzke moved, seconded by Donald John Cameron, to appoint Mrs. Seleg and Mrs. Weight as the Curriculum Directors as recommended. All trustees present voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.

Hire Certified Staff for the 2015 – 2016 School Year

The Superintendent reported that based on the Principals’ recommendations, the following individuals be hired as teachers for the 2015 – 2016 school year.

Tenured

Tara Anderson	Molly Fay	Craig Knoche
Erica Bidwell	Deani Goyette	Kim Knoche
Kathleen Birkle	Steffani Grogan	Susan Quinlan
Cass Cole	Beth Hall	Jayme Sievers
Kaybree DeCock	Karen Harms	Susan Treible
Joan Engle	Karilea Hutchins	Mark Wanner
Robert Engle	Dana Icopini	Carolyn Wilson

Tenure Year

Jan Banks
Amy Jones

Non-Tenured

Kelsey Bird Kayla Stevenson
Shane Cole Cindy Wright
Sarina Menosky

Ginger Roll moved, seconded by Gerald Killen to hire the above listed certified staff for the 2015 – 2016 school year. All trustees present voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.

Hire New Staff

The Superintendent discussed six teacher openings and the difficulty in filling them. He made the following recommendations, subject to the results of fingerprint and background checks.

Counselor – Amanda Bundy
English/Spanish – Tonya Wetherelt

Gerald Killen moved seconded by Donald John Cameron to hire the listed individuals as recommended. All trustees present voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.

Hire P.E./Health

The Superintendent discussed the open 7 – 12 P.E./Health position and made the following recommendation and further recommended that the individual be given credit for 7 years prior experience, subject to the results of fingerprint and background checks.

P.E./Health – Ryan Gatch

Dennis Kopitzke moved, seconded by Donald John Cameron, to hire Ryan Gatch as recommended. All trustees present voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.

Hire Activities Director

The Superintendent presented the following recommendation, subject to the results of fingerprint and background checks.

Activities Director – Ryan Gatch

Gerald Killen moved, seconded by Ginger Roll to hire Ryan Gatch as Activities Director as recommended. All trustees present voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.

Hire Head HS Football Coach

The Superintendent presented the following recommendation, subject to the results of fingerprint and background checks.

Head HS Football Coach – Ryan Gatch

Dennis Kopitzke moved, seconded by Donald John Cameron, to hire Ryan Gatch as the Head HS Football Coach as recommended. All trustees present voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.

Hire Summer Weight Room Supervisor

The Superintendent presented the following recommendation:

Summer Weight Room Supervisor – Brandon Heberle

Donald John Cameron moved, seconded by Ginger Roll, to hire Brandon Heberle as the Summer Weight Room Supervisor as recommended. All trustees present voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.

Resignation – Jensen

The Superintendent presented the resignation of Jeanne Jensen, the Elementary School Office Manager effective the end of the current school year. Mrs. Jensen has worked for the District for 31 years. He recommended that the resignation be accepted with thanks for all of her loyal, dedicated service to the staff and students of Forsyth Public Schools. Ginger Roll moved, seconded by Gerald Killen, to accept the resignation as recommended. All trustees present voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.

Hire Elementary School Office Manager

The Superintendent asked Dixie Seleg to address this issue. Mrs. Seleg recommended that Michele Ayers be hired as the Elementary School Office Manager for the 2015 – 2016 school year. Mrs. Ayers will begin training with Mrs. Jensen at the end of this year. Gerald Killen moved, seconded by Ginger Roll, to hire Michele Ayers as recommended. All trustees present voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.

Hire Head HS Boys’ Basketball Coach

The Superintendent presented the following recommendation:

Head HS Boys’ Basketball Coach - Shawn Hollowell

Dennis Kopitzke moved, seconded by Gerald Killen, to hire Shawn Hollowell as recommended. All trustees present voted in favor of the motion except Donald John Cameron who “abstained”. Motion carried.

There was discussion regarding the search process for all candidates.

Resignation – DeCock

The Superintendent presented the resignation of Kaybree DeCock from her position as Head MS Volleyball Coach and recommended that it be accepted. Ginger Roll moved, seconded by Donald John Cameron to accept the resignation as recommended. All trustees present voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.

Administrative Team Reports

K – 6 Principal

Dixie Seleg presented the K – 6 Principal’s report. She reported on several areas of interest and activities that the students and staff participated in. Among them were the Science Fair, Earth Day, Arbor Day, FFA Farm Safety, Spelling Bee, Summer Reading and Bikes for Books. Students also went on various field trip and participated in mandatory testing. Grades 3, 4, 5 and 6 completed the Smarter Balance Test.

7 – 12 Principal

Shelly Weight presented the 7 – 12 Principal’s report. She reported on several areas of interest and activities that the students and staff participated in. Among them were the ACT Aspire Test, the Smarter Balance Test, FFA Banquet, One Montana, track meets and other events. Mrs. Weight traveled to job fairs in Missoula and Bozeman searching for candidates for the math position.

District Clerk/Business Manager

Robert Martelle reported on the following items: The Compensation Report in MAEFAIRS is complete. This is part of the OPI reporting requirements. The Master Contract has been updated and will be distributed to all teachers with their contracts for the 2015 – 2016 school year. He observed the final speeches for the Senior English classes. Work has been done on the Swede Schlesinger Scholarship.

Superintendent

Dinny Bennett asked for a trustee to assist with distributing diplomas at graduation. The Chairman will attend. He discussed the process followed in determining recommendations for the various vacancies. He congratulated the staff on completing the Smarter Balance Test in spite of all of the technology problems. He has been asked to service on the MQEC Board of Directors. The Business Manager was nominated as Business Manager of the Year.

Executive Session – Personnel

The Chairman moved the meeting into Executive Session at 8:33 p.m. to discuss the Business Manager’s Evaluation after determining that the right of individual privacy exceeded that of the public’s right to know. The meeting returned to regular session at 8:40 p.m.

Next Meeting

The next regular meeting will be held Tuesday, June 9, 2015. The meeting will be held in Room 9 of the Middle School Building at 7:00 p.m.

Adjournment

The Chairman declared the meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert J. Martelle
District Clerk/Business Manager

Layton Salsbery
Chairman of the Board