MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF SD #4

The trustees met in regular session Monday, January 16, 2012 at 6:30 p.m. in the library. Those present throughout the meeting were Chair Manny Zuniga, trustees Rhonda Hogstad, Mark Berg, Superintendent Brent Lipp, and Business Manager Suzie Zentz. Tom Bradford and Jeff Flaten were absent. There were no visitors.

Manny called the meeting to order and led the group in the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

There were no adjustments to the agenda.

Mark Berg made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented; Rhonda Hogstad seconded the motion. Rhonda asked about the Yellowstone Academy bill for tuition. Suzie explained that this is for a special education student who attended Yellowstone Academy last year. Tuition is paid in arrears and is a permissive levy. All voted in favor of the motion.

Manny shared a thank you note for the staff Christmas party from Erin Pimley.

Superintendent Brent Lipp recapped his administrative report:

- Canyon Creek is going to pilot a program for autistic students with the Special Ed Cooperative. This will give us more tools to serve our students and provide better analysis of their progress. We will pay about $100 per student this year and split the cost with the Coop.
- February 23rd we are holding our science fair, book fair, and curriculum fair. The science fair is for grades 6-8 and is competitive. The PTO is holding the book fair in the library. The curriculum fair will show off what we do in all facets of the district...including our trustees. Suzie will make name tags for the trustees.
- Boy’s basketball is almost finished for this year. We had a big turnout. Volleyball starts soon, as does YMCA basketball.
- We will be holding the workshops this month working on the Common Core. Today was a PIR day talking about rigor and relevance in the classroom...all connected to Common Core. We are sending 3 teachers to ACE workshops as leaders in this area.
- Suzie mentioned that she is going to Helena again for further work with the Multidisciplinary Committee as a representative of the Independent Elementary Caucus.

The Building/Grounds Committee (Mark Berg, Manny Zuniga) met today to discuss the proposal from CTA Architects for an analysis of the building roof system. Our roof is comprised of five different sections, correlated to different construction phases, all of which have different needs. The
committee is comfortable recommending that the board approve this proposal. CTA feels that there are no “red flags” apparent and that this will help us address our needs over time and plan carefully. Tom Bradford said that he felt that CTA was a good choice for this work.

OLD BUSINESS

Rhonda Hogstad made a motion to approve Policy 7515—Fund Balances as presented; Mark Berg seconded the motion. Suzie noted that this is a required policy and that we have to have. The board already adopted a resolution last June which reflects this policy. All voted in favor of the motion.

NEW BUSINESS

Mark Berg made a motion to approve the Audit Report for the year ending June 30, 2011; Rhonda Hogstad seconded the motion. Suzie explained that the only “findings” noted this year are both related to our small district size. The first is “Financial Statement Preparation.” This refers to having a staff member who is qualified to read and interpret the financial statements prepared by the auditor. Having such an employee would be too costly for a district our size. The audit recommendation is that the district continues to read our financial statements thoroughly and ensure their quality and that of the preparer. The second, “Segregation of Duties,” relates to having more than one employee involved in aspects of financial transactions. The district makes a great effort to implement this procedure where at all possible. All voted in favor of the motion.

Mark Berg made a motion to approve the proposal from CTA Architects/Engineers for a roof assessment in the amount of $6,156.00; Rhonda Hogstad seconded the motion. All voted in favor of the motion.

Because the right of privacy clearly exceeds the public’s right to know, Chair Manny Zuniga closed the meeting to conduct the Superintendent’s evaluation at 7:05 p.m. Suzie Zentz left the meeting.

The chair reopened the meeting at 7:50 p.m. Rhonda Hogstad made a motion to renew Brent Lipp as Superintendent; Mark Berg seconded the motion. All voted in favor of the motion.
PUBLIC COMMENT
There was no public comment.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING

Gifted & Talented
Various Board policies

There being no further business, Mark Berg made a motion to adjourn at 7:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Zentz, Clerk

Manuel Zuniga, Chair