

Proceedings of the Board of Trustees
Lockwood School District No. 26
Yellowstone County, Billings, MT
Regular Meeting of November 13, 2007

[Back to Minutes Home](#)

[Page 2](#) | [Page 3](#) | [Page 4](#) | [Page 5](#)

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Vinton opened the regular meeting, called it to order at 7:00 p.m., and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The following trustees and officers were present: Trustees Jason Hamrick, Tim Sather, Peter Freivalds, Becky Malenowsky, Susanne Vinton, Teresa Stroebe, and Greg Bochy, Superintendent Eileen Johnson and District Clerk Diane Brook.

Staff members present were: Mike Bowman, Dave DeBoer, Mike Sullivan, Art Anderson, Don Christman, Darlene Hess, and Pam Richau.

Registered guests present were: Evelyn Pyburn (Yellowstone County News), Luella Brien (Billings Gazette) and Terry Sukut, AIA (JGA Architects).

Scott Chartier and Shane Flohr of High Tech Construction were also present.

Mrs. Vinton welcomed visitors and advised the following:

If you wish to speak to the Board of Trustees at this meeting about agenda items, please complete a form and give it to the Board Chair or the clerk. Any person present who wishes to address the board or raise any question about public school district matters or governing policies may do so under public participation. **No discussion of personnel or individual students is permitted at this time.** A limit of three minutes is placed on each speaker. Persons who want more time may make arrangements to be placed on a future agenda. The public is also reminded that they may provide input on all motions being considered by the board at this meeting.

INDIVIDUALS, DELEGATIONS, CORRESPONDENCE, DISTRICT NEWS

Public Comment - None

Public Written Request to be Placed on the Agenda - None

Correspondence: Thank you notes from Susan Seilstad and Kim Yasenak.

A. Building Project Update from JGA and High Tech

Shane Flohr said that the construction is going well. They are meeting schedules and are working hard to get slab pours done before the cold weather.

It was noted that students are taking photographs of the progress each day.

The pictures are all taken from the same location.

[Back to Top](#)

Page 2
Regular Board Meeting
November 13, 2007

B. Al Jones from the State Commerce Department provided Trustees with information from the Lockwood Steering Committee about the Tax Increment Finance District.

Mr. Jones discussed the following items regarding creating a Tax Increment Finance District (TIFD) for Lockwood.

1. TIFD funds can be used for any sort of development and additional services, such as police and fire.
2. It is a way to create a local match for federal grants.
3. The proposed TIFD would capture mostly industrial property and very little residential.
4. There was about \$40 - \$45 million of new construction this year.
5. Formation of a TIFD could save ten to twenty percent of the costs of the sewer district. If we don't do something Lockwood will lose \$6 million in federal money.
6. Some of the money, about \$200,000 per year, could be used for local improvements also, such as traffic and safety improvements, sidewalks, and improvements to the Lion's Lair.
7. With the addition of a sewer system, Lockwood could add 3,000 – 5,700 more homes because building can occur on smaller lots when individual drain fields are no longer necessary. This could move Lockwood from the twelfth largest community in the state up to about eighth.
8. A TIFD Board would need to be formed. It logically might be the Steering Committee.

Trustee Tim Sather asked if there was a negative for the school. Al responded that the school district would be giving up some of the new construction increases to their taxable valuation. However, they would be betting that Lockwood and the school would grow and supporting better infrastructure for the community.

Trustee Greg Bochy asked how long the TIFD would exist. The response was 15 years for an industrial area.

Eileen advised that the TIFD would only redirect taxes paid on new construction or improvements made within the area. The core base valuation that Lockwood School district has now remains the same.

Chair Vinton asked how existing Lockwood businesses felt about the formation of a TIFD. Mr. Jones replied that they have been supportive.

Mr. Jones said there has been some hesitation by the county commissioners, and that has been part of the holdup. They would have to approve a

resolution for the TIFD; then it would go to the Department of Revenue.

[Back to Top](#)

Page 3
Regular Meeting
November 13, 2007

ITEMS FOR ACTION

A. Judy Stewart from the Yellowstone City County Health Department will request a presence of the department on our campus next year.

Judy informed those present that she has an opportunity through Deering Clinic to request a grant for a clinic located at Lockwood School. Deering Clinic is a federally qualified health center, and it is a family medicine practice. It serves those with insurance and those that cannot pay. There will be a challenge, because Lockwood is not a defined community. The grant application is due December 18, and notification will be in June. 120 days after notification the clinic has to be up and running, so they must be totally prepared.

Supt. Johnson advised the following: The clinic would be located in the two-story part of the intermediate building. The clinic would pay for necessary remodeling to the space from the grant allocation. It is a good location as it is close to the Family Resource Center and there is an outside door. Eileen said there would be some payment for rent, utilities, etc

Judy noted that the clinic would have two or three exam rooms plus a waiting room. There would be one provider, a nurse practitioner, physician's assistant, or doctor, and possibly a traveling dental unit. She advised that they would be surveying the public about the clinic.

Chair Vinton asked if the grant is renewable yearly. Mrs. Stewart replied that once it is approved, it is ongoing funding.

Copies of the proposed Resolution for Yellowstone City County Health Department were distributed to trustees and others present. (Resolution copy attached to the minutes.) Trustees were advised that a copy of the signed resolution needs to be sent in with the grant application.

Tim Sather moved to accept the Resolution for Yellowstone City County Health Department as written. Jason Hamrick seconded the motion. Jason Hamrick, Tim Sather, Peter Freivalds, Becky Malenowsky, Susanne Vinton, Teresa Stroebe, and Greg Bochy voted aye; the motion passed seven to zero.

B. Approval of Minutes

C. Approval of Bills

The Board received a copy of the summary of paid bills by account. The summary included a detailed statement of all expenditures of money with the name of the person or business to which payment is made, showing the service rendered or goods furnished.

Chair Susanne Vinton asked if there were any objections to the October 9, 2007, Regular Board Meeting minutes, noting on Page 2, Paragraph 1, October 3, was corrected to September 14, 2007, the minutes of the Bid Opening Meeting of October 3, 2007, and bills and wages as presented. There were no objections or other corrections; the minutes, bills, and wages were approved.

[Back to Top](#)

Page 4
Regular Meeting
November 13, 2007

D. Hiring of Coaches

Superintendent Johnson recommended hiring the following coaches, noting they are all current employees.

Scott Felchle, Randall Rice, and Wes Caldwell - 6th, 7th and 8th Boys' Basketball
Vicki Balgua - Dance

Trustee Becky Malenowsky moved to hire Scott Felchle, Randall Rice, Wes Caldwell, and Vicki Balgua for the above-mentioned coaching positions. Greg Bochy seconded the motion. Jason Hamrick, Tim Sather, Peter Freivalds, Becky Malenowsky, Susanne Vinton, Teresa Stroebe, and Greg Bochy voted yes; the motion passed seven to zero.

E. Substitute Hiring

Jason Hamrick moved to hire Letitia Hankel, Jessica Lewis, and Tricia Montgomery as substitute teachers. Tim Sather seconded the motion. Sue asked if they had been fingerprint background checked. Eileen said yes. Jason Hamrick, Tim Sather, Peter Freivalds, Becky Malenowsky, Susanne Vinton, Teresa Stroebe, and Greg Bochy voted aye; the motion passed seven to zero.

F. Letters of Retirement from Cathy Bakker and Shirley Briner

Becky Malenowsky moved to accept letters of retirement from Cathy Bakker and Shirley Briner. Greg Bochy seconded the motion. The trustees wished them well. Jason Hamrick, Tim Sather, Peter Freivalds, Becky Malenowsky, Susanne Vinton, Teresa Stroebe, and Greg Bochy voted aye; the motion passed seven to zero.

Tim Sather asked Eileen if she is still researching the possibility of contracting out the food service program. She responded that she has a meeting the week of November 26, 2007, about this issue. Eileen advised that a food service manager would still need to be hired.

G. Paperless Agenda - Topic is a continuation from the October agenda.

Tim said he spoke to others at MCEL; many schools are paperless and they really like it. Tim reported that whatever is on your laptop is public record, so using your own personal laptop would not be the best choice.

It was noted that the school would provide the laptops for board. It would take two years to re-coup the costs of buying the computers through costs saved for mailing out the paper agendas.

Eileen said if the trustees use First Class, the large files can be sent; other e-mail servers may send back large files. The agendas and attached documents could be projected on a screen during meetings for the public.

[Back to Top](#)

Page 5
Regular Meeting
November 13, 2007

Greg moved to proceed with the necessary steps to become paperless. It was decided that the agendas for regular meetings could be e-mailed Thursday afternoons before the board meetings on Tuesday. Tim Sather seconded the motion. Trustees Jason Hamrick, Tim Sather, Peter Freivalds, Becky Malenowsky, Susanne Vinton, Teresa Stroebe, and Greg Bochy voted aye; the motion passed seven to zero.

Pam Richau advised that they will try to get the computers to the trustees by the December meeting, then she would schedule training for them.

DISTRICT REPORTS ATTACHED TO THE AGENDA

Curriculum

Athletics

Primary School – Principal Mike Bowman provided pictures of the Tony the Tiger Assembly.

Middle School

Superintendent – Eileen advised that the Boys' and Girls' Club Board is looking for a member that is a Lockwood resident.

Intermediate - Report was sent electronically.

Technology – Distributed at the meeting

TRUSTEE REPORTS ON MCEL

Six trustees went to MCEL in Great Falls; they briefly reviewed the seminars they had attended.

MQEC reported there was concern and calls for action about 2008-09 school year funding.

ADJOURN

Becky Malenowsky moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:46 p.m. Peter Freivalds seconded the motion. Jason Hamrick, Tim Sather, Peter Freivalds, Becky Malenowsky, Susanne Vinton, Teresa Stroebe, and Greg Bochy voted aye; the motion passed seven to zero.

Sue Vinton, Chairperson

Diane M. Brook, District Clerk

[Back to Top](#)