

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
BEMIDJI AREA SCHOOLS
FEBRUARY 27, 2017**

The regular meeting of the Board of Education, Bemidji Area Schools, Bemidji, Beltrami/Hubbard Counties, Minnesota, was held on Monday, February 27, 2017 at 6:30 p.m., in the District Office Board Room.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Richard (Bill) Faver, Carol L. Johnson, Ann Long Voelkner, John Gonzalez, Melissa Bahr and Superintendent James Hess

MEMBERS ABSENT: Jeff Haack
Nicole Jensen, Student Representative

CALL TO ORDER: (Time: 6:30 p.m.)

PREVIEW OF AGENDA – SUPERINTENDENT JAMES HESS

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The motion was offered by Richard (Bill) Faver, seconded by Melissa Bahr, and carried by all in attendance to approve the agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA

The motion was offered by Carol L. Johnson, seconded by Richard (Bill) Faver, and carried by consent to approve the following items:

- A. Minutes from the January 23, 2017 and February 9, 2017 School Board Meetings
- B. Current Bills and Special Checks Totaling: \$4,214,257.92
- C. Confirmation of Resignations: Maura Johnson, Pamela Murray, and Jan Wright Lohstreter
- D. Noncertified Staff Resignations: Julee Leffelman, Bonnie Lindquist, Kenneth Stevens, Karen Westlund
- E. Request for Extended Leave: Kathryn St. Germaine
- F. Lane Advancements
- G. Field Trip Request – J.W. Smith Elementary Deep Portage Environmental Learning Preserve

SPECIAL TOPICS

Local Indian Education Committee – Sonia Wadena and Mary Fairbanks

DONATION

The motion was offered by Melissa Bahr, seconded by Carol L. Johnson, and carried by all in attendance to accept the donation of \$500.00 from the First Presbyterian Deacons.

NEW SCHOOL PLANNING

Memorandum of Understanding with Beltrami County for Overlay Project on Division Street (County State Aid Highway 7)

The motion was offered by Carol L. Johnson, seconded by Richard (Bill) Faver, and carried by all in attendance to approve the Memorandum of Understanding with Beltrami County regarding traffic improvements on County State Aid Highway 7 (Division St).

Memorandum of Understanding Between Beltrami County, the City of Bemidji, and Independent School District #31, Regarding Division Street Municipal Water and Sanitary Sewer Utility System Extension Associated with the Gene Dillon Elementary School Project

The motion was offered by Richard (Bill) Faver, seconded by Carol L. Johnson, and carried by all in attendance to approve the Memorandum of Understanding with Beltrami County, the City of Bemidji, and Independent School District #31 regarding Division Street Municipality Water and Sanitary Sewer Utility System Extension associated with the Gene Dillon Elementary School project.

Bids for Gene Dillon Elementary School Roof

The motion was offered by Carol L. Johnson, seconded by Melissa Bahr, and carried by all in attendance to approve the low bid of Horizon for \$834,822 Base Bid and \$81,300 Alt 1, for a total of \$916,122.

Furniture, Fixtures, and Equipment Committee for Gene Dillon Elementary School

Superintendent Hess indicated a Gene Dillon Elementary Furniture, Fixtures, and Equipment Committee is forming with representatives from each elementary school. No action was taken.

Minnkota Power Cooperative Power Lines Update

Superintendent Hess indicated Minnkota Power Cooperative will soon be ready to relocate the power lines on the property for Gene Dillon Elementary School. No action was taken.

EFFECTIVE AND EFFICIENT OPERATIONS

Budget Revision FY 2016-2017

The motion was offered by Melissa Bahr, seconded by John Gonzalez, and carried by all in attendance to approve the FY 2016-2017 Revised Budget with General Fund revenue of \$63,515,900 and expenses of \$63,503,960 as presented.

American Indian Education Transmittal of Resolution and Parent Committee Roster

John Gonzalez introduced the following resolution and urged its adoption:

AMERICAN INDIAN EDUCATION TRANSMITTAL OF
RESOLUTION AND PARENT COMMITTEE ROSTER

WHEREAS, the Bemidji Local Indian Education Committee, Bemidji Area Schools, Independent School District No. 31 provides an opportunity for all of its citizens to participate in district program communities, and

WHEREAS, the Indian Education Parent Committee of the Bemidji Area Schools, Independent School District No. 31 is the duly elected and established Parent Committee comprised of parents of children eligible to be enrolled in American Indian programs, secondary students, representatives from community groups, school administrators, and

WHEREAS, the Parent Committee's current responsibilities are addressed in adopted by-laws and apply to programs specifically designed for American Indian learners implemented through Indian Education Programs, and

WHEREAS, the Parent Committee responsibilities have been expanded to include involvement in and advertisement of all educational programs, programs for elementary and secondary grades, special education programs and support services, and

WHEREAS, the Indian Education Parent Committee of Bemidji Area Schools, Independent School District No. 31 did meet on February 21, 2017 to review, recommend and approve this Resolution, and

WHEREAS, the Parent Committee has found most of the district's educational programs to be adequate in meeting the needs of American Indian students.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Parent Committee of Bemidji Area Schools does concur that the district's programs meet American Indian student needs.

The local Indian Education Committee has voted in favor of the Parent Committee Resolution with the recommendation that the district develop a comprehensive plan to implement systemic changes to address the unmet needs of American Indian students and related achievement gap.

The motion for the foregoing resolution was seconded by Richard (Bill) Faver, and a tabulation of votes is as follows:

AYES: Carol L. Johnson, John Gonzalez, Richard (Bill) Faver, Melissa Bahr,
and Ann Long Voelkner
NOES: None
ABSENT: Jeff Haack

WHEREUPON, the foregoing resolution was duly passed and adopted.

Strategic Planning Process

Superintendent Hess and Ann Long Voelkner provided information regarding Strategic Planning for the District. Representatives from the Minnesota School Boards Association will be available this spring to guide our Strategic Planning process. No action was taken.

First Reading of Revised SBR 400-90-3: 2017-2018 School Calendar

The motion was offered by Richard (Bill) Faver, seconded by Melissa Bahr, and carried by all in attendance to approve the first reading of revised SBR 400-90-3: 2017-2018 School Calendar Option A.

Class Size Report

Superintendent James Hess reported on class size as recommended in SBR 400-30-1: Class Size. Nine elementary classrooms exceed the guidelines. One Bemidji High School classroom exceeds the guidelines. No action was taken.

Approval of Bus Bids

The motion was offered by Carol L. Johnson, seconded by Melissa Bahr, and carried by all in attendance to approve the bid of North Central Bus in the amount of \$457,055.41.

UPCOMING EVENTS

March School Board Meeting – Monday, March 20, 2017, 6:30 p.m.
Bemidji Day at the Capitol – March 1, 2017
Bemidji High School JROTC Military Ball – March 18, 2017

OTHER

Bemidji Area Schools Legislative Handbook

Superintendent Hess distributed the 2016-2017 Legislative Handbooks which will be used to address issues with area legislators. No action was taken.

Boys and Girls Club Request

Board Members approved a request by the Boys and Girls Club for permission to rent space to home school parents/students for games and activities.

School Board Recognition Week

Certificates of recognition were presented to each School Board Member for their dedicated leadership in public education and continuing service to the community.

Once Around the Table

School Board Members shared their observations of events in the district.

ADJOURNMENT

The motion was offered by Carol L. Johnson, seconded by Melissa Bahr, and carried by all in attendance to adjourn. Time: 8:17 p.m.

Melissa Bahr, Clerk

Date Approved

Ann Long Voelkner, Chair

Date Approved