December 13, 2010

The regular meeting of the Sidney Public Schools Board of Trustees was held on Monday, December 13, 2010, at 7:00 PM on published notice by the Clerk. Trustees present were Todd Hermanson, Dennis Lorenz, Kelly Dey and Virginia Oraw. Also in attendance were Superintendent Farr, Clerk Beyer, Federal Programs/Testing Coordinator- Gary Arnold, High School Assistant Principal- Sue Andersen, Middle School Principal- Kelly Johnson and High School Principal- Dan Peters. Absent were Trustee Luann Cooley, Sidney Elementary Principal- Bill Nankivel and Student Representative Hailee Tighe.

Chairman Hermanson called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. He began by welcoming the visitor in attendance (Louisa Barber with the Sidney Herald), reminded her to sign in and stated that an opportunity for community comment on non-agenda items would be provided at the end of the meeting. Anyone wishing to address the board is asked to fill out the Audience Participation form and give it to the clerk to be recognized.

November 2010 claim warrants 218982 to 219057 in the amount of $258,049.47 and the minutes of November 8th and December 6th, 2010 were approved 4 to 0 on a motion by Ms. Dey and a second by Mrs. Oraw.

Clerk Beyer presented an accounts payable warrant #218975 to Universal Awards in the amount of $47.58 to be cancelled and ASB Checks # 16511 ($2222.43)16544 ($527.75) and 16616 ($272.98) to EastMont Enterprises as all contained duplicate payments. ASB checks 15164 10/8/2009 to Tess Finnicum ($21.00) and 16228 10/14/09 to Hinsdale High School ($71.50) are more than one year old and 15365 11/18/2009 to Stacey Collins (12.00) was lost and will be re-issued. The warrants were canceled 4 to 0 on a motion by Mr. Lorenz and a second by Ms. Dey.

November ASB transfers were approved 4 to 0 on a motion by Ms. Dey and a second by Mr. Lorenz.

From Trading Cards to Friends of Rachel (FOR) $300.00 – Funds to help program get started

From FOR Club to Close-Up $ 50.00 – Purchase Eagle Apparel

**SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT:**

Superintendent Farr apprised the Trustees on the following items:

- Copies of correspondence received from Dan Villa, the governor’s policy advisor regarding the governor’s budget and plans to fund education were provided. Mr. Farr will be replying;

- Addition of Petra Candee to the hires on the consent agenda as a Middle School special education aide;

- Superintendent Farr will be in attendance at the MQEC meeting scheduled in Helena for December 20th;

- Class A Caucus interactive video conference will be in this office on December 21st at 4:00 PM;

- Screenings for the Middle School general contractor through the alternative process delivery are scheduled for Wednesday the 22nd with interviews to be the week of December 27th;

- Relocation of the District server to facilitate the 100 wing remodel is slated to take place over the Christmas break. Depending on length of time, the office may be closed as computer work will not be possible;

- Sidney Community Education Foundation is working on a playground fundraiser to be done during four of the home basketball games. It involves shooting with a time limit and a grand prize of $15,000.00 if criteria are met;

- Upcoming meetings and activities include:

*Sidney Community Education Foundation- Tuesday, January 11, 2011 @ 5:30 PM*

*Labor Management Committee- Thursday, January 6, 2011 @ 5:30 PM*

*Early Release for Christmas break – Wednesday, December 22, 2010 @ 1:00 PM*

*No School – December 23, 2010 through January 2, 2011*

*Administration Office will be closed on Christmas Eve.*

**STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT:**  Hailee Tighe was absent due to participation in Renaissance Night

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

***PUBLIC RELATIONS AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE: December 7, 2010***

Mrs. Oraw outlined committee discussions:

- The committee met with three teachers new to the District this year, as well as Rick Verhasselt, Transportation Supervisor and Steve Yockim, Technology Supervisor for quarterly updates;

- Vacancies were reviewed; Resignations and New Hires are on the consent agenda;

- Mr. Gear presented fall sports contract renewal recommendations- also on the consent agenda;

- Food service staffing and salaries continue to be an issue and were discussed by the committee;

- A cursory review of secretarial salary information received via surveys with other Districts was completed;

- 2011 negotiations were discussed- Mark Halvorson provided a brief report on the extra-curricular review committee;

***TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE: No Meeting***

***BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE: December 6, 2010***

Mr. Lorenz highlighted Building and Grounds topics:

- Roger Byer of B&B Builders reported on current projects under his jurisdiction;

- Dennis Deutsch presented preliminary plans

*- Preliminary plans on the Middle School 2nd floor project and the High School 100 wing;*

*- Reported that no figures are ready on the high school ventilation system; and*

*- Reviewed timelines on proposed projects with regards to choosing an alternative project delivery general contractor for the projects in question;*

- Correspondence was received from Brian Milne, Interstate Engineering updating trustees on the time frame for completing the high school parking lots; and

- Big Sky Custodial will be here over Christmas break to correct refinishing on the Middle School gym floor; and

- Materials have been ordered to fix the gate damage done to the fence at the high school. No suspects have been arrested in connection with this act of vandalism.

***FINANCE COMMITTEE: December 6, 2010***

Mr. Lorenz presented the following committee recap:

- Monthly clerk’s reports for October were received at Tuesday night meetings. October claims were reviewed;

- The Montana Quality Education Coalition will meet in Helena on the 20th in preparation of the start of the legislative season;

- Copies of health insurance usage by Sidney Schools for the last 12 months were reviewed. Usage is 123.9%;

- The insurance committee met and will be sending out Requests for Proposals in February;

- Budget Amendment proclamations were perused and suggested changes entered. These are on the consent agenda;

- Setting a hearing for the proposed interdistrict agreement is also on the consent agenda; and

- A request to set up a new elementary ASB account for Pre-School is on the consent agenda.

***CURRICULUM AND POLICY COMMITTEE: December 7, 2010***

Ms. Dey summarized the following information:

- Committee began in executive session to discuss a parent graduation request. The Superintendent was directed to follow his recommendation;

- Nine staff members are interested in teaching dual enrollment classes through Dawson Community College. Work in this area will continue to develop with the hope to be able to offer classes to students second semester;

- The District Safety Committee is preparing for annual building checks;

- The 2010-2011 calendar committee will conduct a preliminary meeting next week to look are requested changes in the school calendar – including possible full PIR days situated on days it is difficult to get subs; and

- January will begin board policy review with sections 1000-2000 as well as MTSBA new policy recommendations.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

**Resignations**

McKenzie Smith – Special Education Aide

William Nankivel – Elementary Principal (Effective June 30, 2011)

Tom Verhasselt – Custodian

Gloria Brost – High School Office Manager (Effective in June 2011)

Sheila Hartl – High School Administrative Secretary (Effective May 27, 2011)

Caryn Fehilly – HS Varsity Volleyball Coach

**New Hires**

Leigh Ann Sifuentes – Co-Assistant Girls Basketball Coach

Vanessa Stevens – Co-Assistant Girls Basketball Coach

Misty Miller-Fahrnow – Food Service Worker

**2011-2012 Fall Co-Curricular Responsibility Agreements**

Jay Frank Head Golf Coach Deb Prevost Assistant Golf Coach

Katie Haase Head Cross Country Coach Mike Gear Head Football Coach

Guy Melby Assistant Football Coach Roger Merritt Assistant Football Coach

Jon Skinner Assistant Football Coach Ruben Moreno Assistant Football Coach

Steve O’Toole Assistant Football Coach Ty Graves Middle School Football Coordinator

Chris Volk Middle School Football Coach Jim Thogersen Middle School Football Coach

Chad Quilling Middle School Football Coach

Volleyball coaches will be recommended pending a selection of a new head coach.

**Associated Student Body (ASB) Account Authorization**

- Establish Pre-School ASB Account

- Establish a Middle School Cheerleading Account

**2010-2011 Elementary District #5 Budget Amendment Proclamation**

Proclaim the need for a budget amendment in Sidney Elementary District #5 in the amount of $1,000,000.00 for the purposes of: *replacement/repairs to the heating system at Central School, West Side and Sidney Middle Schools and all associated costs, contributions to eligible employees health reimbursement arrangement accounts (HRA); reconstruction of the West Side entryways and all associated costs; parking lot renovation; video surveillance additions & replacement, replacement of athletic/activity equipment/supplies; remodel Middle School second and first floor and all associated costs; asbestos abatement and all associated costs; school food supplies & equipment, classroom supplies, equipment & furniture, computers, computer equipment & software, textbooks; and custodial equipment –* to be financed with greater than anticipated oil and gas revenues; hearing to be held January 10, 2011 at the regular meeting of the Trustees.

**2010-2011 High School District #1 Budget Amendment Proclamation**

Proclaim the need for a budget amendment in Sidney High School District #1 in the amount of $3,800,000.00 for the purposes of: *high school 100 wing remodel and all associated costs; equip the new commons area; 500 wing ventilation system; parking lot renovation & additions; video surveillance system additions & replacement; contributions to a Health Reimbursement Arrangement for eligible employees; costs associated with the Alternative Ed and after-school tutoring programs to help students meet the requirements of No Child Left Behind; textbooks; computers, computer equipment, and software; and operations and maintenance costs to include but not limited to: utilities, classroom supplies & equipment, office supplies & equipment, custodial supplies & equipment, food service supplies & equipment, instructional staffing & professional development–* to be financed with greater than anticipated oil and gas revenues; hearing to be held January 10, 2011 at the regular meeting of the Trustees.

**Interdistrict Agreement Hearing between Sidney Public Schools High School District #1 and Elementary District #5 to be held at the regular Board Meeting – January 10, 2010**

**School Board Vacancy**

Declare the seat of Jay Pfau vacant upon his passing and instruct the superintendent and clerk to conduct the necessary advertisements and secure letters of interest from interested individuals.

Mr. Lorenz moved to accept the consent agenda as presented. Ms. Dey seconded the motion. Mr. Hermanson asked if all custodial needs are covered by the budget amendment proclamations. Superintendent Farr said the references to supplies and equipment as well as maintenance and operations should cover this department. The motion passed 4 to 0.

With no further business to come before the Trustees, the meeting was adjourned at 7:27 PM.

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Board Chair

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Attest:

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District Clerk