

**SUNBURST SCHOOL DISTRICT #2  
SPECIAL BOARD WORK MEETING**

**BOARD MINUTES**

**January 24, 2017**

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1. **CALL TO ORDER:** The special scheduled work meeting of the Board of Trustees was called to order at 7:02pm by the Chairman, Lisa Kearns with the *pledge to our flag*. The School District No. 2. Trustees present to constitute a quorum were:

*Lisa Kearns, Chairman*

*Jonette Johannsen, Vice-Chairman*

*Lisa Samsal, Trustee*

*Scott Griffin, Trustee*

*James Nagy, Trustee*

Guests and staff in attendance were:

*Christina Barbachano, Superintendent*

*Dan Nau, Principal K-6*

*Peggy Tobin, Business Manager*

*District Staff – See attached list*

2. **INTRODUCTION OF VISITORS** Lisa K. welcomed approximately 145 staff and community members in attendance including Toole County Commissioner, Deb Brandon, and thanked Christina for putting the meeting together. She explained her regular meetings with Christina, which some had been questioning the legality of, and explained that our by-laws actually recommend weekly meetings between the chair and superintendent. The meetings have not been weekly but they have been regular. She also addressed comments that had been made since the last regular board meeting which accused the board of illegally negotiating Christina's contract, explaining that the board and Christina went into executive session per the agenda, and came out of executive session prior to contract negotiations. Lisa opened the door and observed that no one was still waiting in the hallway. The motion was made to offer a 3-year contract to Christina and it passed unanimously. She told the attendees that she looked forward to a solution oriented process and turned the meeting over to Christina.

Christina welcomed the all in attendance and introduced several guests starting with Mike Redburn, her mentor from the MTSBA leadership program who offered to facilitate the listening and idea generating work session further down the agenda. A representative from Chevron had been invited but wasn't in the audience. She also invited representatives from NatureEner (Wind Farm) to answer any questions regarding the protested taxes situation and introduced CEO Jose-Maria Seara-Sandrez & COO Candace Newfeld. She introduced them as our neighbors who have children in our school system and whose parents are employed by NatureEner. She introduced James Taylor from GPD consulting (who hadn't yet arrived), Adam Ansett & Martin Byer from CTA, Wade Johnson, Superintendent from Cut Bank, and asked members of the Town Council to stand (Mike Tobin, Holly Hovland & Shane Bethelote were in attendance).

3. **APPROVE/REVISE/AMEND AGENDA** Action 1  
Jim moved to accept the agenda as written. Jonette seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

4. **BUSINESS MANAGER'S REPORT** Presentation  
Peggy provided a presentation updating the audience on District Funding and Finances, reviewing the General Fund budgeting process including historical information about how the budget is now set based on an equalization process established in 1989, providing four-year trends of both actual enrollment and Average Number Belonging (ANB) used to calculate the General Fund budget, a four year trend of the General Fund budgets adopted by the district and how they were funded which included some historical information about cash reserves. She also provided information on recent protested taxes by NatureEner and the down turn in Oil & Gas revenues used in the past to supplement several of our budgeted funds including General Fund. She then asked for and responded to several questions about the presentation.

5. **HS FACILITIES AND MAINTENANCE UPDATE** Facilities committee members Jim and Lisa S. reviewed a 20 slide presentation which included pictures and descriptions of a myriad of issues with the current High School facility which was followed by another question and answer period.

6. **STAFF/COMMUNITY LISTENING & IDEA GATHERING WORK SESSION**

Due to the large turnout (originally planned on 60), the facilitating process was not feasible. The audience was asked what the Top Priorities were for the Community.

#1 – Safety - especially fixing the gas line in the science lab.

#2 – Drainage around the building

#3 – Need to replace teachers when they leave.

Further discussion followed which included suggestions such as having those community members who are willing and qualified to come in and do some of the necessary repairs. Mike Tobin felt that without specific options and dollar amounts that the community members couldn't really make recommendations. The invited guests were offered the microphone and reported that the building is structurally sound and won't fall down even though we do have settling issues. Marty indicated that he felt the board was looking for direction from the community on what they felt the vision would be for the school long term. Christina indicated that windows and roof weren't looked at during the various walk-throughs and that her main concern was drainage because of the damage that water can do. She also feels that being proactive is less expensive than being reactive. Our next step would be to schedule another meeting with Mike R. to develop a long-range vision.

The question was posed to NatureEner representatives to explain their reason for the protested taxes. Candace spoke to the group and explained the communication that they have had with the state since 2012. They had not been in communication with the county. She feels that they do understand the impact to the community and met with the county commissioners in Shelby. NatureEner feels that they have been improperly accessed. They are a revenue generating company, have had a complete collapse of the energy market and are now paying to move their product. They don't want to cripple the project – they want to keep their people here employed. The state hadn't offered any changes so they are now following the legal process allowed by the state in the form of protested taxes. Deb Brandon reported on the meeting with Toole County and Shelby schools that occurred early in the day and lasted for about 3 ½ hours. Their argument is with the state so there isn't much that can be done at the county level. Candace noted that they want to figure out a method of communication and that they want a healthy balance – they are part of the county too. She'll pass on the comments that were received and would like contact information from the Sunburst School District so that we can be in the loop of communication as well.

Lisa commented that the board will go back to the table and come back with options for the community to respond to.

7. **PUBLIC COMMENTS FOR ITEMS NOT ON AGENDA**

Discussion

Annie Dunk stated that hopefully we can keep all of our staff positions and that they and our programs will be the last thing we cut.

8. **NEXT REGULAR BOARD MEETING—February 21, 2017 at 7:00 PM**

9. **ADJOURN**

Action 2

Lisa called for a motion to adjourn when there were no further public comments. Jim moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:18pm. The motion was seconded by Lisa S. and passed unanimously.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
LISA KEARNS, CHAIRMAN

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
PEGGY TOBIN, CLERK

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

2/23/17

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

2/21/17

**SUNBURST SCHOOL DISTRICT 2**  
**SPECIAL BOARD MEETING**  
**January 24, 2017 - 7:00PM**  
**GUEST LIST**  
**PLEASE SIGN IN!!**

NAME	REPRESENTING
Mater Byri	CTA
David Tomcho	
Dan Gliko Jr	
Lynette Gliko	
Ashley Kolve	BW
Harriet Beithelote	
Jason Hanna	
JM	
Unsooy Mann	
Dennis Dettfrid	
Kashie Dettfrid	
Pamela Bergstrom	
Trish Bergstrom	
Nancy Skinner	
John Skinner	
Nancy Lowell	
Debra Faugere	
Pamela Faugere	
Charlotte Whiteford	
Jim Whiteford	

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NAME	REPRESENTING
Jim + Franne Hagif	Fields of Gold, Inc
Jason + Lisa Samsal	Samsal Farms / Plentywater
MTT CLARK	
Brandi Faulstich	
Terry + Connie Alme	
Vivico Burley	
Leah Scarborough	
Lori Christian	
Megan Jaeger	
James Smith + Tammy Smith	
Ray + Shawn Christians	
Val McAlpine	
Jodi Griffin	
Kathleen Rankin	
James R. Bjorkman	
Dave Ryan	
Chris Ryan	
Stacy Wood	
Chad Wood	
Grant Brown	

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NAME	REPRESENTING
Kyle Watterud	
Terry Kimmet	
Susan Kimmet	
Jeanne Furhurat	
Patricia Kestrot	
Jelley Aschinn	
Tasha Deir	
Shane Berthelote	
Brittany Blair Tomshack	
Terry Tomshack	
Wen McLean	
Deb Brandon	
Kortnee Pace	
Nana Pace	
Mike Ornduff	
John Ornduff	
Jessie Hantge	
Alta Hantge	
Ortha Dunk	
Dick DUNK	

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NAME	REPRESENTING
Dean & Carrie Krumm	Rocky Ridge Angus
Jamie + Clayton Hawschke	
Wade Johnson	Cut Bawn
Dina Sandoz	D
Paul Sander	
Alan Ansett	CTA
Mary Jo Aschman	
Paul Aschman	
Ronnie Watterud	
Colleen Hilland	
Lisa Hovland	
Scott W Hurland	
Jeff + Amanda Nix	
MIKE O'BRIEN	
Alex Bolotsky	
Raine Reed	BW
Jared Reed	
Blair Homan	
Korey Fangle	

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NAME	REPRESENTING
Holly Horland	<i>MS</i>
Crystal McAlpine	
Don Wood	
Jeff + Elaine Collins	
Judy Ruppard	
Ron Ruppard	
Sue Ehlers	
Mike Ehlers	
Karenthy Moss	
Bill Moss	
Don Wood	
Jay Berk	
Clearence Berk	
Kim Bloch	
Annie Dunk	
Shannon Dunk	
Robin Johannsen	
Chelsea Taylor	
Blue Jackson	
Jay Berk	

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NAME	REPRESENTING
Jenora McEwen	
<del>John Dwyer</del>	
Mike Wallew	
Patricia Robinson	
Susan Kimmet	
Don Kimmet	
Shawn Simmes	
Rick Asch	
Chris Seymour	
Janna Tomstock	
Lynn Kimmet	
<del>John Dwyer</del>	
Nate + Alex Aschim	
Roy Tomstock	
Page Noy	
Allen Marshall	
Wiana Barnes	
<del>John Dwyer</del>	
Jay Noy	
<del>John Dwyer</del>	



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Jeanette Rankin	
Kyle Benjamin	
Nancy Wallace	
Cristel Embrey	
Mark Embrey	
Duane Embrey	
Candace Newell	Waterbury
Shannon Newer	" "
Elizabeth Smith	
Michele	
James Taylor	