

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE BATTLE RIVER SCHOOL DIVISION, HELD ON FEBRUARY 27<sup>TH</sup>, 2020, COMMENCING AT 9:00 A.M.**

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**PRESENT**

LYLE ALBRECHT  
KAREN BELICH  
NORMAN ERICKSON  
ZSUZSANNA HEMPERGER  
JEFFREY KIMBALL  
KENDALL SEVERSON  
VALERIE SIMS  
LAURIE SKORI

**ABSENT**

**ALSO PRESENT**

IMOGENE WALSH, Assistant Superintendent – Business  
NATASHA WILM, Assistant Superintendent – System Supports  
DIANE HUTCHINSON, Director of Communication  
SHIRLEY FAIRALL, Executive Assistant – Superintendent

CHAIR ERICKSON IN THE CHAIR

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Erickson called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

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Cheryl Kropinske, Director of Finance, together with public attendees joined the meeting at 9:00 a.m.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

#20\20      K SEVERSON – That the Board of Trustees approves the Agenda as amended with the following addition:

9.b      ADMINISTRATOR REPORTS

9.b.2      International Travel Trips – Imogene Walsh

CARRIED

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

#21\20 V SIMS – That the Board of Trustees approves the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2020 as presented.

CARRIED

**FISCAL MONITORING REPORT**

Chair Erickson welcomed Ms Kropinske and invited her review of the Interim Financial Statements for the period ending January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020.

Ms Kropinske left the Meeting at 9:13 a.m.

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**POLICY REVISIONS**

#22\20 Z HEMPERGER - That the Board of Trustees approves the revisions to the following Policies as presented:

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|---------------------|--|
| Policy 4            | Trustee Code of Conduct                  |
| Policy 4 Schedule A | Trustee Code of Conduct, Complaints;     |
| Policy 15           | School Program Closure;                  |
| Policy 16           | Recruitment, Selection of Personnel; and |
| Policy 25           | Board Innovation Fund.                   |

CARRIED

**ROUND HILL COMMUNITY PRESENTATION – HUMPHREY BANACK**

Chair Erickson welcomed Humphrey Banack and invited his presentation. Mr Banack shared his view of how the community values Round Hill School, is invested in it, and why it should not be closed.

**ROUND HILL COMMUNITY PRESENTATION – DENNIS JOHNSON & JORY MACCAN**

Chair Erickson welcomed Dennis Johnson and Jory Maccan and invited their presentation. Mr Johnson and Mr Maccan request the Board of Trustees to reconsider the possible closure of Round Hill School and possible alternative utilization of the building to offset operating costs.

**ROUND HILL SCHOOL COUNCIL PRESENTATION – KARMEN BOWAL & LEAH RASMUSON**

Chair Erickson welcomed Karmen Bowal and Leah Rasmuson and invited their presentation. Ms Bowal and Ms Rasmuson shared their reasons why they feel Round Hill School is successful, due to the parents and community investment in it, and that the school should remain open.

**ROUND HILL COMMUNITY PRESENTATION – KYLE NAHIRNIAK**

Chair Erickson welcomed Kyle Nahirniak and invited his presentation. Mr Nahirniak presented his proposal on the viability of keeping Round Hill School open to start a student-run agricultural based program.

**ROUND HILL COMMUNITY PRESENTATION – JAIDAN BURNSTAD & ETHAN CARR**

Chair Erickson welcomed Jaidan Burnstad and Ethan Carr and invited their presentation. Ms Burnstad and Mr Carr shared with Trustees their view of the passion of the students for Round Hill School to remain open.

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Public attendees left the meeting at 10:46 a.m.

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**MEETING RECESS**

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees recessed at 10:46 a.m. and reconvened at 11:01 a.m.

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**IN-CAMERA SESSION (11:01 A.M.)**

#23\20 Z HEMPERGER – That the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees recess to permit Trustees to meet in-camera, and that all persons, except Trustees, Assistant Superintendent – Business Walsh, Assistant Superintendent – System Supports Wilm, Director of Communications Hutchinson, and Executive Assistant – Superintendent Fairall, be excluded.

CARRIED

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Ms Wilm left the meeting at 11:08 a.m.

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**OUT OF IN-CAMERA SESSION (12:12 P.M.)**

The in-camera session concluded and the regular meeting reconvened.

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**MEETING RECESS**

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees recessed at 12:12 p.m. and reconvened at 1:14 p.m.

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Public attendees joined the meeting at 1:14 p.m.

**HARDISTY COMMUNITY PRESENTATION – OMAR SAIF & KRISTEN NEUNDORF**

Chair Erickson welcomed Omar Saif & Kristen Neundorf and invited their presentation on the impact the possible closure of Allan Johnstone School could potentially have on the company’s ability to recruit staff.

**ALLAN JOHNSTONE SCHOOL COUNCIL PRESENTATION – KRISTIE FOSTER**

Chair Erickson welcomed Kristie Foster and invited her presentation. Ms Foster requested more time to seek assistance from the community and local businesses, as well as the adjoining School Division, before making a decision of the possible closure of Allan Johnstone School.

**HARDISTY & DISTRICT DEVELOPMENT GROUP PRESENTATION – BLAKE MOSER**

Chair Erickson welcomed Blake Moser and invited his presentation requesting Battle River School Division to postpone any decision to close Allan Johnstone School until additional alternatives can be considered and a dialogue started with Buffalo Trail Public Schools.

**ALLAN JOHNSTONE SCHOOL COMMUNITY COMMITTEE, STEM EDUCATION – MELISSA & TRAVIS SCHMIDT & AMANDA HENRY**

Chair Erickson welcomed Melissa and Travis Schmidt and Amanda Henry and welcomed their presentation addressing the possible sustainability of Allan Johnstone School by introducing STEM Education to the school and community.

**TOWN OF HARDISTY PRESENTATION – SANDY OTTO & DOUG IRVING**

Chair Erickson welcomed Sandy Otto and Doug Irving and invited their presentation on postponing the consideration of closing Allan Johnstone School to allow additional time for conversation regarding possible alternatives and partnerships to make the school viable.

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**MEETING RECESS**

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees recessed at 2:39 p.m. and reconvened 2:46 p.m.

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**VILLAGE OF RYLEY PRESENTATION – GLEN HAMILTON-BROWN & TERRY MAGNESON**

Chair Erickson welcomed Glen Hamilton-Brown and invited his presentation. Mr Hamilton-Brown is requesting the Board to defer its decision allowing additional time to seek alternatives by working with communities to keep the schools open.

**HOLDEN & RYLEY SCHOOLS PARENT COUNCILS – LINDA HUNT & CARRIE HRABREC**

Chair Erickson welcomed Linda Hunt and Carrie Hrabec and invited their presentation. Ms Hunt and Ms Hrabec shared their views on the importance of keeping the schools as they are currently until the new funding model is released.

**BEAVER COUNTY PRESENTATION – KEVIN SMOOK**

Chair Erickson welcomed Kevin Smook and invited his presentation. Mr Smook shared Beaver County Council’s perspective to delay or reconsider the decision regarding possible closure or reconfiguration of Holden and Ryley Schools.

**VILLAGE OF HOLDEN PRESENTATION – STEVE MARUSIAK**

Chair Erickson welcomed Steve Marusiak and invited his presentation recommending the vote for the potential closure of Holden School be deferred in order to allow more time to look at alternative options with municipalities.

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Public attendees left the meeting at 3:45 p.m.

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**MEETING RECESS**

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees recessed at 3:41 p.m. and reconvened at 3:54 p.m.

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**ADJOURNMENT**

All items of business being completed and there being no dissent, Chair Erickson adjourned the meeting at 4:16 p.m.

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NORM ERICKSON, CHAIR

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IMOGENE WALSH, ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT – BUSINESS

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