# Trout Creek School District #6

# Meeting Minutes

10/12/2021

**In Attendance:** Mike Linderman, Board Chair; Carolyn Nesbitt, Board Member; Zach Hannum, Board Member; Eric Viviano, Board Member; Scott Rasor, Board Member; Preston Wenz, Principal/Superintendent; Jennifer McPherson, District Clerk; Staff Members: David Sorenson, Craig Barrus, Donn Morris, Sarah Bohorquez, Taylor Etienne, Jennifer Adair; Community Members: Doug Ferrell, Kathleen & Art Hassan, Bev Brumlaugh, and Mariam Stonehocker.

1. Call to order

Mr. Linderman called to order the regular meeting of the Trout Creek School Board at 7:00 pm on 10/12/21 at Trout Creek School.

1. Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Linderman led the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Recognition of Visitors/Public Comment

Mr. Linderman asked for public comment and read Policy 1420F. Kathleen Hassan expressed her concern to the Board re: AG Garland’s memorandum about “nationalizing school board meetings” and asked the Board, should the Director of Montana Federation of Public Employees issue an edict for the Montana Teachers Association to carry out AG Garland’s memorandum, if they were going to comply or continue to follow MCA 2-3-203 Open Meetings Law. Mr. Linderman assured the public that Trout Creek School District has Local Control and will be following MCA 2-3-203.

1. Motion to Approve the Agenda as Presented

Action Read By: Mr. Linderman; Motion Made By: Mrs. Nesbitt; 2nd: Mr. Rasor

**On the poll of the Board, the motion carried unanimously.**

1. Motion to Approve Warrants

Action Read By: Mr. Linderman; Motion Made By: Mrs. Nesbitt; 2nd: Mr. Rasor

On the poll of the Board, the motion carried unanimously.

1. Approval of Minutes from 8/10/21 and 8/19/21 after corrections made to Scott Rasor’s name spelling in both documents.

Action Read By: Mr. Linderman; Motion Made By: Mr. Viviano; 2nd: Mrs. Nesbitt

**On the poll of the Board, the motion carried unanimously.**

1. Administrative Update

Mr. Wenz reported on and discussion took place regarding the following:

* Attendance is at 92% - Plan of improvement for Chronic Absenteeism requested by Board
* State Assessment Summary – Needs some improvement, Covid gap in scores is apparent, Board would like to see trends.
* Classroom Observations – Meeting with teachers, looking to maximize instructional time, possible training and tutoring.
* National School Lunch Program grant opportunity for new freezers.
* Upcoming White Pine Grange visit, October 19, 2021 @ 7 pm.
* Upcoming Basketball Season – 3 boys committed, expecting 8. No girls team is likely. Attempting to schedule more games, waiting to hear back from other ADs.
* Christmas Bazaar – Gaby has done a great job organizing and it is fully booked.
* Bids coming in on HVAC, Flooring, Roof, not carpet yet.
* Budget – is reviewing with the District Clerk.
* Extending ½ to full day preschool, known as “Kindergarten and Under” for ages 3-4 years. Can collect ANB, put position on salary schedule.

1. Custodial & Maintenance Update

Mr. Barrus reported on and discussion took place regarding the following:

* Mr. Barrus presented his report for the summer projects. Mr. Linderman reminded him of an item not on his list that Mr. Barrus had completed.
* Teacherage Electrical work scheduled for October 26, 2021.
* Work Mr. Barrus has completed on the Teacherage and the upcoming plans for additional work to be completed.
* Tree removal on hold due to Contractor injury.
* Broken fence behind school due to past plow job. When and how it happened and the plan to have repaired.
* Pole barn possibility to house mower, garden supplies, district vehicles, etc. Location, accessibility, and need was also discussed. Mr. Hannum stated the District’s buildings, including pole barn, are not for storing personal property.

Mr. Hannum requested a plot map of District property, to include the property next door that was gifted to the school, that show resources (power, water, etc.). Community member, Doug Farrell, stated that he would like to be of assistance in this and would be in contact with Mr. Wenz to create a plot map. The Board thanked Mr. Farrell.

1. District Clerk Update
   1. Financials – Clerk answered questions regarding current financials.
   2. Debrief given on trainings Clerk has attended and plans for future trainings.
   3. P-Cards were introduced and discussion had. Clerk to provide more information to start the process of obtaining P-Cards at the next Board meeting.
   4. Transportation TR-1s have been submitted to the County and OPI.
2. Information and Discussion Items
   1. Discussion – Staff Insurance, will be looking into different health insurance for next fiscal year.
   2. Discussion – Facilities Rental Policy Update – copies for Board Members.
   3. Discussion – Kitchen Appliances: Dishwasher and freezers to be purchased with input from Renna. Outgoing equipment has no value. ESSER III (E3) monies to fund purchases. Dishwasher will require some remodel and plumbing update. 18K for the three items, will stay within ESSER II and ESSER III budget. Praise was given to Renna and Cindy for working wonders with subpar equipment these past many years.
   4. Discussion – Teacherage: Inspection report discussed, repairs discussed. Repairs that need to be inspected will be done by a licensed contractor. Board asked to be kept appraised of the repairs and costs. May become a “selling point” to hiring a SpEd teacher for next year if the Teacherage is available to rent out. Mr. Wenz to provide a “Priority List” for repairs and renovation on Teacherage.
   5. Discussion – Letter to Former Tenants of 6 School Lane. Letter was reviewed, no changes recommended by the Board.
   6. Discussion – Wenz Staff Housing MOU – Rental Agreement needed. Public concern with farm animals. Board discussed various rental agreements from different sources. Mrs. Nesbitt will send the Clerk the Montana rental agreement. Clerk can draft with modifications to agreement. TABLED
   7. Discussion – Teacherage Rental Amount Change to $750.00 – TABLED
   8. Discussion – Annual Goals and Objectives: Board to set dates to work on Staff Goals, Board Goals, Principal/Superintendent Goals, and Vision Statement.
   9. Discussion – Trout Creek Teacher Association: Teacher Taylor Etienne provided MOA that the State Union has distributed. Mr. Wenz recommended that TCS does not adopt the MOA. The Board reminded the Staff that these types of items must go to Mr. Wenz first and he decides if something needs to be submitted to the Board.
   10. Discussion – Activities Van: Mr. Wenz presented the opportunity. Board would like to see financial considerations prior to a vote. Mr. Wenz to gather financials re: insurance, prices, to present at a later date. TABLED
   11. Discussion – Teacher Request: Teacher Sarah Bohorquez thanked the Board for their time. Ms. Bohorquez stated her plan to relocate to California at the end of this school year due to family needs. She stated that while she loves the school, staff, and students, she cannot find anywhere to rent. Ms. Bohorquez also requested permission from the Board to be allowed to spend the night during inclement weather conditions should roads be rendered unsafe to travel to and from Heron in the hope of reducing possible detrimental missed time with her students. Board advised her that they need to check with MTSBA, OPI, and insurance but they feel that it would be disallowed. TABLED
   12. Discussion – Time of Board Meeting Change: Mr. Wenz requested changing the time of Board meetings from 7 pm to 6 pm to allow attendees to get home earlier during the winter months.
3. Action Items
   1. Action – Approve Kitchen Appliances Purchase:

Action Read By: Mr. Linderman, Motion Made By: Mrs. Nesbitt, 2nd: Mr. Viviano.

On the poll of the Board, the motion carried unanimously.

* 1. Action – Facilities Rental Policy Update, knows as 4330F:

Action Read By: Mr. Linderman, Motion Made By: Mr. Hannum, 2nd: Mr. Viviano.

On the poll of the Board, the motion carried unanimously.

* 1. Action – Kitchen Appliances Purchase – Repeat of a)
  2. Action – Teacherage – none, keep posted
  3. Action – Send Final Bill Letter, as is, to Former Tenant

Action Read By: Mr. Linderman, Motion Made By: Mr. Hannum, 2nd: Mr. Viviano.

On the poll of the Board, the motion carried unanimously.

* 1. Action – Wenz Staff Housing MOU - TABLED
  2. Action – Teacherage Rental Update Amount Change to $750.00 - TABLED
  3. Action – Trout Creek Teachers Association - TABLED
  4. Action – Activities Van - TABLED
  5. Action – Teacher Request - TABLED
  6. Action – Time of Board Meetings Change from 7 pm to 6 pm

Action Read By: Mr. Linderman, Motion Made By: Mr. Rasor, 2nd: Mr. Viviano.

On the poll of the Board, the motion carried unanimously.

1. New Business
   1. Dates for work session to be decided via email.
   2. Possibility of starting a Booster Club/Athletics Club
2. Adjournment – Meeting was adjourned at 9:01 pm.

Next Meeting: Regular Board Meeting Tuesday, November 9, 2021 @ 6 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

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Jennifer McPherson, District Clerk Date

Approved on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, 2021.

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Michael Linderman, Board Chair Date