

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD OF
TRUSTEES MEETING OF NORTHERN GATEWAY
REGIONAL DIVISION NO. 10 HELD IN THE BOARD
ROOM OF THE DIVISION OFFICE IN WHITECOURT,
ALBERTA ON JANUARY 25TH, 2011**

OPENING

A. OPENING

**CALL TO ORDER
AND ROLL CALL**

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The January 11th, 2011 meeting was called to order by Chair Muir at 10:04 a.m.

Trustees Peter Gilchrist, Albert Schalm, Jim Hailes, Terry Slemko, Cheryl Miner, Anne Nichol, Barbara Maddigan and Administrators Kevin Andrea, Superintendent, Michelle Brennick, Deputy Superintendent and Michael Gramatovich, Secretary-Treasurer, were present when Chair Muir called the meeting to order.

Trustee Govenlock was absent from the meeting.

**ADDITIONS/DELETIONS
TO THE AGENDA**

2. ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

- E.8.a) YRL Orientation
- E.8.b) Town of Valleyview Letter
- E.8.c) North Central Alberta Governance Board Meeting

ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

3. ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

2078-11

Moved by Trustee Schalm – that the agenda for the January 25th, 2011 Regular Board Meeting be adopted as amended.

Motion Carried

**APPOINTMENTS &
DELEGATIONS**

B. APPOINTMENTS & DELEGATIONS

No appointments

**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE
JANUARY 11TH, 2011
REGULAR BOARD
MEETING**

2079-11

**C. DRAFT MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 11TH,
2011 REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

Moved by Trustee Nichol– that the draft minutes of the
January 11th, 2011 Regular Board Meeting be adopted.

Motion Carried

**P.S.B.A.A. SCHOOL
DIVISION
EXPANSION**

2080-11

P.S.B.A.A. SCHOOL DIVISION EXPANSION

Moved by Trustee Maddigan – that the in-camera
item No. 2 – “P.S.B.A.A. School Division Expansion”
be moved under section E. Information/Reports.

Motion Carried

ACTION ITEMS

D. ACTION ITEMS

**ONOWAY HIGH SCHOOL
INTERNATIONAL FIELD
TRIP**

2081-11

**ONOWAY HIGH SCHOOL INTERNATIONAL
FIELD TRIP**

Moved by Trustee Slemko – that the Board approve
in principle the Onoway High School European
international field trip scheduled for April 5th – April 16th,
2012.

Motion Carried

**ONOWAY HIGH SCHOOL
OUT OF PROVINCE
FIELD TRIP**

2082-11

**ONOWAY HIGH SCHOOL OUT OF PROVINCE
FIELD TRIP**

Moved by Trustee Gilchrist – that the Board approve in
full the Onoway High School SADD students’ field trip
to Oakville, Ontario to participate in the 22nd Annual
CYAID (Canadian Youth Against Impaired Driving)
Conference being held on May 8th – May 14th, 2011.

Motion Carried

**HILLTOP HIGH SCHOOL
INTERNATIONAL FIELD
TRIP**

**HILLTOP HIGH SCHOOL INTERNATIONAL
FIELD TRIP**

2083-11

Moved by Trustee Maddigan – that the Board approve in full the Hilltop High School international field trip to Germany from April 20th – April 30th, 2011.

Motion Carried

**POLICY 8 “COMMITTEES
OF THE BOARD”**

POLICY 8 “COMMITTEES OF THE BOARD”

2084-11

Moved by Trustee Nichol – that Policy 8 “Committees of the Board” receive first reading by the Board as amended.

Motion Carried

2085-11

Moved by Trustee Maddigan – that Policy 8 “Committees of the Board” receive second reading by the Board as amended.

Motion Carried

2086-11

Moved by Trustee Gilchrist – that the Board approve to conduct the third reading of Policy 8 “Committees of the Board” as amended.

Motion Carried Unanimously

2087-11

Moved by Trustee Slemko – that amended Policy 8 “Committees of the Board” receive third and final reading by the Board.

Motion Carried

2088-11

Moved by Trustee Schalm – that the Board approve the sum of \$36,324.50 generated from 2009/10 Interest Revenue to be allocated for the new office Supernet installation.

Motion Carried

INFORMATION ITEMS/ REPORTS

A.S.B.A.

P.S.B.A.A.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

E. INFORMATION ITEMS/REPORTS

A.S.B.A.

Trustee Slemko provided the following information:

The A.S.B.A. Zone 2/3 General Meeting is scheduled for January 28th, 2011 at the St. Anthony Centre. The Minister of Education will be speaking at 8:00 a.m., with the Business meeting to follow. Administration and trustees will be attending.

P.S.B.A.A.

Chair Muir provided the following information:

Chair Muir received a letter from Patty Dittrick, President, P.S.B.A.A. sharing details of a Separate School District expansion meeting held on January 13th, 2011. Jeff Willan, Alberta Education, presented an overview of the proposed *Framework for Establishing a Separate School District*.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- Further to the meeting held with the M.D. of Greenview to discuss transportation issues, the M.D. has requested more information from the Division. Administration will provide the 2010 Audited Financial Statement, how we mitigated our deficit last year, and the day in the life of some students showing their daily bus ride times.
- Administration provided to the Board copies of letters/comments from stakeholders on the possibility of school closures.
- Administration advised the finance department will have to do a dual budget for the 2011-2012 school year, taking into consideration the possibility of school closures.

- The staffing cycle deadline may have to be realigned because of possible school closures.
- The person injured at Mayerthorpe High School has obtained legal counsel, and administration will keep the Board informed.
- Northern Gateway received a letter from Northwest Alberta Regional Skills Canada seeking financial support. Administration recognizes that we benefit from these programs and will check with our schools to see if Northern Gateway has any participants, and will then make a decision on the donation.

DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- Kaitlyn Pas, a special needs student from our Division, passed away on January 19th, 2011. Northern Gateway was well represented at the service, with Trustee Slemko officiating.
- Lisa Becic, Communications Officer, has returned from Maternity Leave effective January 4th, 2011. A farewell luncheon was put on for Elaine Peterson, on January 24th, 2011. Elaine had been covering Lisa's position while she was on leave.
- The Human Resources department has received a significant amount of Impassable Road requests this year, along with some other unusual requests. Staff is keeping a record of these, and will look at where we need to make changes or clarify areas of the Terms of Employment and Collective Agreement.
- The Guide to Schools publication should be ready to go to print towards the end of January 2011.
- Lisa Becic, Communications Officer, and Marion Brouillette, Communications Designer, will be looking at ways to enhance the Northern Gateway website.
- Deputy Superintendent Brennick and Assistant Superintendent Crane have principal evaluations well underway.
- Northern Gateway administration attended the Northern Tier meeting on January 21st, 2011. Deputy Superintendent Brennick reported how Northern Gateway Public Schools is doing compared to the other nine Divisions being reviewed.

**EARLY CHILDHOOD
EDUCATION AND CARE
CASS POSITION PAPER****EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION AND CARE CASS
POSITION PAPER**

Superintendent Andrea reported this has been accepted by CASS as their position:

1. We support fully funded full-time kindergarten programs for jurisdictions that see the benefit for their children. This was a recommendation of the Learning Commission and is a position, supported by the majority of the provincial governments in Canada.
2. We support the ECD Mapping Initiative and are willing to contribute to the data collection, be involved in planning emerging from the data, and will be ready to work on the implementation of the plans, provided there is government funding available to do so.

CASS Position Paper provided for information.

MLA MEETINGS**MLA MEETINGS**

Northern Gateway administration and trustees met with Mel Knight, MLA for Grande Prairie-Smoky on January 24th, 2011 and are scheduled to meet with George VanderBurg, MLA for Whitecourt-Ste. Anne on January 25th, 2011, to talk about the Provincial Tripartite Discussions that are taking place. At the meeting with MLA Mel Knight, administration shared with him all the information they had. MLA Mel Knight was unaware of some of the changes being proposed, but understood the long term effects these changes could bring.

**COUNTY MEETING
REPORTS****COUNTY MEETING REPORTS**

Lac Ste. Anne and Woodlands County:

Northern Gateway administration and trustees met with the Lac Ste. Anne County and the Woodlands County to discuss the following issues which are currently impacting this jurisdiction:

- transportation in general;
- the proposed motion being taken to the AAMDC which reads: "Therefore, be it resolved that the AAMDC encourage the provincial government to provide rural school districts with sufficient transportation funding to ensure that no child rides a school bus for more than 2.5 hours per day." and
- the meetings being held with school staffs and school councils in the Sangudo area regarding the notice of motions for closure of the Sangudo Junior/Senior High School (Grades 10, 11 and 12) and David Ovans Elementary (building only).

Alexis Meeting:

Northern Gateway administration and trustees met with the Alexis Board of Education on January 19th, 2011. Agenda topics included the following:

- coding of students and the stigma it creates;
- inadequate INAC funding;
- transportation;
- invoicing process;
- prorated fees for students;
- an Alexis member on Northern Gateway's Board; and
- the tuition agreement.

Alexis would like to meet with the whole Northern Gateway Board on February 14th, 2011 at the Casino in Whitecourt, scheduled for noon.

**BOARD ANNUAL
WORK PLAN**

BOARD ANNUAL WORK PLAN

The Board Annual Work Plan was reviewed, with the following changes to be made:

May

Move the 4th bullet: "Approve the Board Advocacy Plan" to October

TRUSTEE REPORTS**TRUSTEE REPORTS**Terry Slemko

Trustee Slemko handed out an article regarding the Enbridge Northern Gateway proposed pipeline. Alexis wants to have the pipeline on their property. The pipeline would cross the Alexis Nakota Sioux First Nation, pass directly in front of their new Whitecourt, Alberta casino and traverse some 250 kilometres of their traditional territory. Alexis believe it is worth it if Enbridge builds a community recreation centre they have been hoping for.

Trustee Slemko gave an update on the decommissioning of the Old Onoway Elementary School property being transferred to the Onoway and District Historical Guild. The Town of Onoway has two outstanding issues they want dealt with before the process is complete. The first issue is they want Northern Gateway to have the swale enhanced. The second issue is they want Northern Gateway to sign a waiver stating that the Town of Onoway will not be held responsible for any drainage problems on the Old Onoway Elementary site, if such should occur. This waiver will be included in a letter from the Town of Onoway.

Barbara Maddigan

Trustee Maddigan attended the morning session of the Yellowhead Regional Library (YRL) Orientation on January 24th, 2011. The first presenter was Ms. Kerry Anderson, Library Consultant, Public Library Services Branch, Alberta Municipal Affairs. Items she discussed included:

- the revised *Standards for Member Libraries within Alberta's Regional Library Systems* is on the Minister's desk, awaiting his signature
- new libraries website: www.albertalibraries.ca
- the Alberta government has set aside \$2 million in order to implement a Provincial Public Library Technology Plan

The second presenter was Kevin Dodds, Director, YRL. Items of note were:

- YRL's goal to remain responsive and flexible to member needs – funding levels are not an excuse for denying members the services they require
- a discussion as to whether alternates will be appointed to the Executive Committee

- the YRL School Library Needs Assessment is nearly complete – expecting a final report in the next 6 weeks
- Alberta Education's (AE) revised *Policy, Guidelines, Procedures and Standards for School Libraries in Alberta* is expected to be made public this spring; should it become AE's 9th underlying policy, it will change the face of school libraries in Alberta (school libraries are not a requirement in Alberta at this time)

Albert Schalm

Trustee Schalm attended the New Chairs & Trustees Conference on January 16th – 18th, 2011. Mr. Schalm participated in the "Critical Thinking at the Board Table" and the "Parliamentary Procedures" sessions.

Trustee Schalm also attended the School Council meeting at Elmer Elson School and met with the Mayerthorpe Town Council on the Notice of Motions issued on possible school closures.

Judy Muir

Chair Muir attended the New Chairs & Trustees Conference on January 16th – 18th, 2011, and participated in the "Board Chairs and Superintendents: Leadership Institute" session. Chair Muir has been busy attending school council meetings where information was presented regarding the Notice of Motions issued on possible school closures.

Anne Nichol

Trustee Nichol advised the Board that the Hillside Parent Council currently has no executive and not enough members to form a council. They want to know if there is no parent council in place, how do the existing members still have a voice about what happens in their school.

Trustee Nichol advised the Valleyview community is concerned as to what is happening with their schools and would like a community meeting for more information if any grade reconfiguration will be made.

Jim Hailes

Trustee Hailes attended the New Chairs & Trustees Conference on January 16th – 18th, 2011. Mr. Hailes participated in the “Critical Thinking at the Board Table” and the “Savvy Networking for Politicians” sessions, and advised this was a very good conference.

**ADDITIONAL REPORT
ITEMS****ADDITIONAL REPORT ITEMS****YRL ORIENTATION****YRL ORIENTATION**

This was discussed under Barbara Maddigan’s trustee report.

**TOWN OF VALLEYVIEW
LETTER****TOWN OF VALLEYVIEW LETTER**

Administration received a letter from the Town of Valleyview regarding the possible closure of Sunset House School and the reconfiguration of grades within the Valleyview School system. Letter provided for information.

**NORTH CENTRAL
ALBERTA GOVERNANCE
BOARD MEETING****NORTH CENTRAL ALBERTA GOVERNANCE BOARD
MEETING**

Superintendent Andrea and Trustee Slemko attended the North Central Alberta Governance Board meeting on January 20th, 2011, in Westlock, AB.

Trustee Slemko reported that 14 districts are on the Board also, on the agenda was an address by Minister Hancock. Other items discussed on the agenda was the “Success in Schools” initiative to improve school outcomes and Education Successes for Youth in Care.”

BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

F. BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

The following items will be communicated to our communities:

1. MLA Meetings
2. County Meetings
3. Provincial Tripartite Discussions
4. Policy 8 – Committees of the Board
5. School Field Trips Approved

IN-CAMERA ITEMS

IN-CAMERA ITEMS

2089-11

Moved by Trustee Maddigan – that the Board go in-camera at 2:46 p.m. and that Kevin Andrea, Michelle Brennick and Michael Gramatovich be invited to remain.

Motion Carried

2090-11

Moved by Trustee Miner– that the Board come out of in-camera at 3:03 p.m.

Motion Carried

ADJOURNMENT

I. ADJOURNMENT

2091-11

Moved by Trustee Maddigan- that the meeting be adjourned at 3:04 p.m.

Motion Carried

Board Chair

Secretary-Treasurer