

**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 MARCH 22ND, 2011**

OPENING

A. OPENING

**CALL TO ORDER
AND ROLL CALL**

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The March 22nd, 2011 meeting was called to order by Chair Muir at 10:05 a.m.

Trustees Peter Gilchrist, Jim Govenlock, Albert Schalm, Jim Hailes, Terry Slemko, 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 Miner was absent from the meeting at this time.

Lisa Becic, Communications Officer, was present at this time.

**ADDITIONS/DELETIONS
TO THE AGENDA**

2. ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

D.1 Onoway High Field Trip – Encounters with Canada

D.2.a) Hilltop High School Field Trip – National Wrestling Tournament

D.2.b) Mileage Reimbursement

E.8.a) Mayerthorpe Utility By-law

E.8.b) YRL Report

ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

3. ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

2117-11

Moved by Trustee Schalm – that the agenda for the March 22nd, 2011 Regular Board Meeting be adopted as amended.

Motion Carried

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE MARCH 9TH, 2011 REGULAR BOARD MEETING

C. DRAFT MINUTES OF THE MARCH 9TH, 2011 REGULAR BOARD MEETING

2118-11

Moved by Trustee Maddigan– that the draft minutes of the March 9th, 2011 Regular Board Meeting be adopted.

Motion Carried

VIDEO-CONFERENCING REQUEST

VIDEO-CONFERENCING REQUEST

Administration presented a request from the Sangudo delegation, to have as part of their presentation, Rod Phillips, Principal of Alix School (Wolf Creek School Division) video-conference in to the meeting to talk about how video-conferencing works for their small school.

Trustees discussed this request, and as Northern Gateway had sent two staff members to Alix School to see first hand how the V/C works for them and had presented a report to the trustees on this, the request was declined.

ACTION ITEMS

D. ACTION ITEMS

ONOWAY HIGH SCHOOL OUT OF PROVINCE FIELD TRIP

ONOWAY HIGH SCHOOL OUT OF PROVINCE FIELD TRIP

2119-11

Moved by Trustee Slemko – that the Board approve in full the Onoway High School out of province field trip for one student, Tawnee Potts, to participate in “Encounters with Canada”, scheduled from April 3rd – April 9th, 2011.

Motion Carried

ADDITIONAL ACTION ITEMS

ADDITIONAL ACTION ITEMS

HILLTOP HIGH SCHOOL OUT OF PROVINCE FIELD TRIP

HILLTOP HIGH SCHOOL OUT OF PROVINCE FIELD TRIP

2120-11

Moved by Trustee Maddigan – that the Board approve in full the Hilltop High School out of province “National Wrestling Tournament” field trip scheduled for April 6th – April 11th, 2011.

Motion Carried

MILEAGE REIMBURSEMENT

MILEAGE REIMBURSEMENT

Trustee Hailes inquired if the mileage rate reimbursement needs to be adjusted due to the increased gas prices.

Trustees discussed the matter.

Michael Gramatovich will look at what rate other jurisdictions, etc., are paying and report back.

INFORMATION ITEMS/ REPORTS

E. INFORMATION ITEMS/REPORTS

ASBA

ASBA

Trustee Slemko reported:

- The ASBA Zone 2/3 MLA Advocacy Reception is scheduled for March 24th, 2011. All attendee names from Northern Gateway have been sent to Jackie Gilbert.
- The ASBA Zone 2/3 March 25th, 2011 meeting will be held at the St. Anthony Centre, Edmonton.
- Trustee Slemko advised he does not know why the MLAs for this area were not contacted, and this was not his responsibility to do so.
- Trustee Slemko handed out the agenda for the Zone 2/3 March 25th, 2011 General Meeting.

Trustee Miner participated in the meeting by teleconference, commencing at 10:32 a.m.

PSBAA**PSBAA**

There is a PSBC Meeting scheduled for April 14th – 16th, 2011. Meeting will be at the Executive Royal Inn, Leduc, Alberta. Chair Muir and Trustee Nichol will be attending.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S
REPORT****SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

- Court case document – legal counsel did not see any issues with the letter we sent to a contractor. Administration will continue to pursue.
- Administration received a request from the MD of Greenview to attend a meeting to discuss daycare in Valleyview. Administration to gather more information before attending a meeting.
- Administration presented a draft letter written to the Alexis School Board for trustees to review and approve. Copies of the letter will be sent to Chief Cameron Alexis, MLA George VanderBurg, and MP Rob Merrifield.
- The Fox Creek Library Agreement is up for review this year.
- It was recently announced that both the Team Success and CHAMP Mental health Capacity Building projects in Whitecourt and Fox Creek have been extended until 2014, but with reduced budgets.

Tracie Craig, Candance Seweryn and Tayler Seweryn, delegation from Sunset House, entered the meeting at 11:00 a.m.

**APPOINTMENTS &
DELEGATIONS****B. APPOINTMENTS & DELEGATIONS**

Tracie Craig (Community Association Chair)
Candance Seweryn (Parent)
Tayler Seweryn (Grade 5 student)

Tracie Craig, Candance Seweryn and Tayler Seweryn, presented to the Board of Trustees a written copy of their presentation. See attached.

Administration and the Board of Trustees thanked them for their presentation.

Tracie Craig, Candance Seweryn and Tayler Seweryn, delegation from Sunset House left the meeting at 11:20 a.m.

INFORMATION ITEMS/ REPORTS

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

E. INFORMATION ITEMS/REPORTS

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- Teacher induction will be held on May 3rd, 2011 at the St. Joseph's Parish Hall, commencing at 5:00 p.m.
- An ATA Joint Board/Teacher Liaison meeting to be scheduled for May 10th or 24th, 2011, to discuss two items: a) implications of the provincial budget, and b) Easter vs Spring Break.

DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- Staffing process will begin April 13th, 2011.
- Intent Forms – retirements, resignations and leaves were sent out on March 1st, 2011 and are due back on March 31st, 2011.
- Teacher Evaluation reports are due back to the Deputy Superintendent by March 31st, 2011.
- Northern Gateway has received two nomination packages for the Edwin Parr Teacher Award. The Northern Gateway selection committee will review the submissions as per Selection Criteria and forward the package of the Northern Gateway nominated candidate to the Zone 2/3 Chair.
- The Guide to Schools publication is ready to go to print.

- Deputy Superintendent Brennick attended a CASS meeting on March 18th, 2011 where “wrap around services” was discussed and the struggles with the application of this process.
- Artsfest 2011 is scheduled for April 6th, 2011 at Hillside High School and April 7th, 2011 at Elmer Elson Elementary School.
- Northern Gateway’s Human Resources and Payroll departments are reviewing and changing/updating documents on their segment of the web page.

MLA MEETING REPORT

MLA MEETING REPORT

Administration and trustees met with MLAs George VanderBurg and Pearl Calahasen on March 14th, 2011.

Northern Gateway outlined their concerns with the recent Provincial budget announcement. MLA VanderBurg shared information he had regarding school budgets, but did not realize how serious the budget cuts will impact Northern Gateway. MLA VanderBurg advised he cannot do anything to change the budget, but asked administration to provide him with five areas of concern he could take to discuss with the Minister of Education, whom he was meeting with on Thursday. Administration will email these five areas of concern to trustees for their information.

MLA Pearl Calahasen was also surprised with the extent of budget cuts to school boards. Administration sent Northern Gateway’s power point presentation on transportation and the budget cut impacts for her information.

John Lobo, Learning Services (ICT), entered the meeting at 12:45 p.m.

BUDGET 2011

BUDGET 2011

Superintendent Kevin Andrea reviewed his Budget 2011 powerpoint presentation with the trustees.

- Operating Increase of 4.4 per cent: Funding Increase of \$1,365,000
- Transportation: Funding Increase \$63,896
- Small Class Size Initiative: Funding Reduced (\$305,050)

- AISI: Funding Reduced (\$365,507)
- Enhanced ESL: Funding Eliminated (\$7878)
- Enrolment Decline: Funding Eliminated (\$246,035)
- Intra-Jurisdiction Distance: Funding Eliminated (\$335,672)
- RCPA: Funding Reduction (\$91,990)
- Stabilization: Funding Reduction (\$648,464)

Administration and the Board of Trustees will continue with further discussions on how the Division can move forward to provide the best possible education and related services to students.

2121-11

Moved by Trustee Gilchrist – that a “Committee of the Whole” meeting be set for March 31st, 2011 at Division Office, Board Room, Whitecourt, to discuss Budget 2011 implications.

Motion Carried

Trustee Nichol was absent for the vote.

Deana Kastelic, Heather Thompson, Shelly Starman and Lilwen Kolodychuk, delegation representing the Community of Sangudo, entered the meeting at 1:30 p.m.

APPOINTMENTS & DELEGATIONS

B. APPOINTMENTS & DELEGATIONS

Administration advised the Sangudo delegation, the Board had discussed having Rod Phillips, Principal of Alix School video-conference in to the meeting to talk about how video-conferencing works for their small school, as per their request. The Board received a full report from the two Northern Gateway staff members sent to Alix School to review their process and declined the request. Through continuing discussions, the Board accepted the request.

Rod Phillips, Principal of Alix School, entered the meeting by video-conference, commencing at 2:10 p.m.

Life of the V/C Teacher:

- teacher goes out every 4-6 weeks to see students
- students go to biology lab every two months
- class is capped at 22-24 students so as to not increase the teachers workload

- travelling to the schools does take up a portion of the teachers time
- internal coverage is provided for these V/C teachers

Central Tech Support – how much do you rely on them:

- Rod advised they rely on them very much; they work very hard to minimize any tech problems

Supervision:

- certificated staff is available to be in the V/C room but is not required to be there at all times. Students are here for the academics and know there is a zero tolerance policy
- if any issues, we are only a phone call away – internal division VOIP phones are available in all rooms

Student Engagement:

- primarily students are engaged
- we can zoom in with the cameras to see what students are doing; cheating, not on task, etc.

Mr. Phillips advised that video-conferencing is not the best way for students to learn, having a teacher in the classroom is best for students.

Rod Phillips, Principal of Alix School, completed his presentation at 2:34 p.m. and left the meeting.

Deana Kastelic, Heather Thompson, Shelly Starman and Lilwen Kolodychuk, presented to the Board of Trustees a written copy of their presentation. See attached.

Administration and the Board of Trustees thanked them for their presentation.

Deana Kastelic, Heather Thompson, Shelly Starman and Lilwen Kolodychuk, left the meeting at 3:04 p.m.

**INFORMATION ITEMS/
REPORTS**

E. INFORMATION ITEMS/REPORTS

**ASBOA RFI - RESPONSES
TO STABILIZATION
QUERY**

ASBOA RFI – RESPONSES TO STABLIZATION QUERY

Michael Gramatovich reviewed the report for the Board.

Trustee Gilchrist left the meeting at 3:12 p.m.

ENROLMENT REPORT

ENROLMENT REPORT

The Enrolment Report for the period ending February 28th, 2011 was presented to the Board.

SUSPENSION REPORT

SUSPENSION REPORT

Administration presented the Division Cumulative Suspension Report from September 09/10 to June 10/11.

TRUSTEE REPORTS

TRUSTEE REPORTS

Terry Slemko

Trustee Slemko attended the Grade 7 Trimester 2 Band Concert at Onoway High School on March 14th, 2011.

Albert Schalm

Trustee Schalm attended a parent council meeting at Elmer Elson on March 21st, 2011.

Trustee Schalm enjoyed the school tour of Whitecourt Central School. He felt it was an eye opener to see what the staff deals with every day.

Students will be asking trustees questions on Government during their school tour visit to Elmer Elson on April 4th, 2011 and wanted to know if trustees wanted the questions ahead of time. Trustees said they did not need the questions ahead of time to review.

Judy Muir

There is an ATA/Joint Board Teacher Liaison Meeting scheduled for May 10th, 2011, Mountain Steak House, to commence at 5:30 p.m.

Jim Govenlock

Trustee Govenlock attended a parent council meeting at Hilltop High School, where it was reported that NAIT will be making a presentation on the Apprenticeship Program. Administration will contact the principal of Hilltop High School to ask him to extend an invitation to other schools to take advantage of this presentation.

Jim Hailes

Trustee Hailes asked if administration/councillors were aware of the Northern Alberta Development Council's Northern Student Teacher Bursary. This is a return service bursary of \$8,000 per year for two years, and is offered to students in the last two years of a Bachelor of Education degree. It is meant to encourage students to plan to teach in participating northern school divisions upon completion of their degree.

Administration advised we do not have trouble attracting teachers, we have more of an issue attracting administrators.

**ADDITIONAL REPORT
ITEMS****MAYERTHORPE
UTILITY BY-LAW****ADDITIONAL REPORT ITEMS****MAYERTHORPE UTILITY BY-LAW**

Trustee Schalm reported on the Mayerthorpe Utility By-law No. 962 rate that will affect Northern Gateway. There is some confusion as to why the rates were increased and some feel this is designed to draw revenue from those properties that are exempted from paying Municipal Property Taxes. Administration and Trustee Schalm will look into this further and draft a letter of concern to the Town of Mayerthorpe.

**YELLOWHEAD
REGIONAL LIBRARY
REPORT**

YELLOWHEAD REGIONAL LIBRARY REPORT

Trustee Maddigan reported the school library allotment amounts for schools were sent to Northern Gateway. Administration advised this has already been forwarded to the receiving schools.

Trustee Maddigan handed out to trustees the School Library Needs Assessment Report.

Trustee Maddigan advised that Kevin Dodds, YRL Director, and Jocie Wilson, Client Services Librarian, would be willing to come to a meeting to talk about our Plan Services.

BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

F. BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

The following items will be communicated to our communities:

1. Delegations at Board Meeting
2. Budget 2011
3. Onoway High School Field Trip
4. Hilltop High School Field Trip

IN-CAMERA ITEMS

IN-CAMERA ITEMS

2122-11

Moved by Trustee Maddigan – that the Board go in-camera at 3:48 p.m. and that Kevin Andrea, Michelle Brennick and Michael Gramatovich be invited to remain.

Motion Carried

Trustee Maddigan left the meeting at 4:00 p.m.

2123-11

Moved by Trustee Schalm – that the Board come out of in-camera at 4:20 p.m.

Motion Carried

ADJOURNMENT

I. ADJOURNMENT

2124-11

Moved by Trustee Miner - that the meeting be adjourned at 4:21 p.m.

Motion Carried

Board Chair

Secretary-Treasurer