

**COOKE CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT 9**  
**BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

The Board of Trustees of Cooke City School District 9 met in regular session on **May 14, 2025** at the school.

Trustees present: Tim Short, Marie Carpenter

Trustees absent: Alix House

Visitors present: Lara Belice

The Clerk and Superintendent were present via video call throughout the entire proceedings.

Trustee Marie Carpenter called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

No public comments.

**Business**

A motion was made (MC) and seconded (TS) to approve the minutes of the 4/16/25 board meeting. No comments. Motion passed with all in favor.

A motion was made (MC) and seconded (TS) to approve the minutes of the 5/6/25 board meeting. No comments. Motion passed with all in favor.

A motion was made (MC) and seconded (TS) to approve the claims and ACH payments as presented. No comments. Motion passed with all in favor.

A motion was made (MC) and seconded (TS) to pass a resolution requesting the County conduct elections, Marie confirmed this is a routine item in case we have an election next year. No further comments. Motion passed with all in favor.

A motion was made (MC) and seconded (TS) to approve signing the HRLogics/SIDES third party agreement for Montana Schools Unemployment Insurance. No comments. Motion passed with all in favor.

A motion was made (MC) and seconded (TS) to approve the greenhouse electricity reimbursement to Lara in the amount of \$167. No comments. Motion passed with all in favor.

A motion was made (MC) and seconded (TS) to approve the 2025-2026 school calendar as presented. A brief discussion was held between Lisa and Lara confirming the school day would once again be 8:00 – 3:30. Motion passed with all in favor.

The Clerk contract was discussed; Laura highlighted the change in wording regarding vacation and sick pay which is in State law for classified contracts. A motion was made (MC) and seconded (TS) to approve the new contract language. No comments. Motion passed with all in favor.

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#### **Teacher Report**

Lara reported that the community event went well with around 19 people in attendance.

Lara has completed two more graduate classes as well as Leadership 49.

Lara is considering going to Helena on June 30<sup>th</sup> to a meeting related to IEFA.

Lara explained the item on the school calendar on July 8-10 is for a conference with the Northern Cheyenne and the school connection in Ohio.

Lara asked whether we have funds to get the propane tank filled before the end of the year. Laura confirmed that we do have funds and that she will confirm with Quality Propane whether we can prepay for propane and a decision can be made about this at the June meeting.

#### **Clerk Comments**

Laura informed the Board that the STARS Act has passed which means the school will receive more funding next year. We will know the exact amount when the updated preliminary budgets are released by OPI in June.

Laura commented that she will most likely have to start making contributions to the Montana Public Employee Retirement Administration (MPERA) next year due to her hours having increased across her three schools, the school will also have to contribute a percentage which will come from the Retirement Fund.

#### **Board Comments**

Marie asked that the Clerk email last year's bonus amounts ahead of the June meeting, and for employee bonuses to be on the agenda.

#### **Superintendent's Report**

Lisa reported that she thought the County Commissioners would be interested in watching the documentary and they are logging in to view it on Tuesday.

Lisa reported that the REAP application for next year has been submitted.

A motion was made (MC) and seconded (TS) to adjourn the meeting. No comment, motion passed with all in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 5:26 p.m.

The next regular meeting will be held on June 11, ~~2025 at 5:00 p.m.~~ *amended to 5:30 p.m.*