

## **COOKE CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT 9**

### **BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

The Board of Trustees of Cooke City School District 9 met for the annual budget meeting on **August 13, 2025** at the school.

Trustees present: Tim Short (via Zoom), Alix House

Trustees absent: Marie Carpenter

Visitors present: Lara Belice

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

Trustee Tim Short called the meeting to order at 6:16 p.m.

No public comments.

#### **Business**

A motion was made (TS) and seconded (AH) to approve the minutes of the 6/11/25 board meeting. No comments. Motion passed with all in favor.

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

The Board reviewed the FY25 Trustees' Financial Summary. Lisa confirmed that Tim as Vice Chair can sign it and the budget since Marie is away. A motion was made (AH) and seconded (TS) to approve the Trustees' Financial Summary as presented. No comments. Motion passed with all in favor.

The Board reviewed the FY26 Budget. Laura gave a brief summary and said that the Building Reserve Fund levy is the same as last year but the State match is higher. A motion was made (AH) and seconded (TS) to approve the FY26 Budget as presented. No comments. Motion passed with all in favor.

Lisa gave an overview of the MOU for Rural Resilience. Tim will also need to sign this if the Board approves it. A motion was made (AH) and seconded (TS) to approve the Rural Resilience MOU for FY26. No comments. Motion passed with all in favor.

Tim spoke briefly about the need to have a plan to increase enrollment. It was decided to table this discussion for now and have it on the agenda again in September.

The van windshield is damaged and needs to be replaced. Lara has a quote for a total of \$710+tax to replace the windshield and perform the necessary calibrations. A motion was made (TS) and seconded (AH) to approve the cost of replacing the van windshield. No comments. Motion passed with all in favor.

## **COOKE CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT 9**

### **BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

The trustees have not had a chance to review the updated policies and so this item was tabled until September. The trustees would like to have eight policies for first review per meeting between September and December until we have reviewed all recommended updates.

#### **Teacher Report**

Lara reported that we will be starting the school year with five students.

Lara attended the Lodge Approach educator conference with the Northern Cheyenne; it was informative and she made some good connections.

Lara's graduate classes have continued to go well throughout the summer.

Lara asked if repairs could be made to the playground and the septic tank could use pumping again. It was discussed whether these items can be paid for using Resort Tax funds and will be included on the agenda in September.

Lara asked about the policy updates and whether MTSBA did not provide updates. Laura said that MTSBA did provide updates but Lisa obtained updates from Bea Kaleva at no charge that Lisa thought would fit better.

#### **Clerk Comments**

The Clerk had a professional development request for payroll training through MASBO in September. The cost would be a portion of \$130 + mileage to Helena if she decides not to do the Zoom option. A motion was made (AH) and seconded (TS) to approve expenses for payroll training for the Clerk. No comments. Motion passed with all in favor.

#### **Board Comments**

No comments.

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

Lisa reported that she is preparing for State testing. Cooke City received the highest overall rating in the Spring on accreditation. We do not need to go through this again until 2028-2029 but there are a few minor items we need to do this year including IEFA reporting and Infinite Campus data.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:52 p.m.

The next regular meeting will be held on September 17, 2025.