

COOKE CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT 9
BOARD MEETING MINUTES

The Board of Trustees of Cooke City School District 9 met in regular session on **September 17, 2025** at the school.

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

Trustees absent:

Visitors present: Lara Belice

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

Chairman Marie Carpenter called the meeting to order at 5:04 p.m.

No public comments.

Business

A motion was made (MC) and seconded (AH) to approve the minutes of the 8/13/25 board meeting. No comments. Motion passed with all in favor.

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

A motion was made (MC) and seconded (AH) to have the septic tanks at the school and teacherage pumped using resort tax funds. Comment was made regarding splitting the truck cost with another person or business, Lara said that the two tanks would take a full truck, no further discussion. Motion passed with all in favor.

Lara said the playground needs some repairs and she has had someone out to look at the work. A motion was made (MC) and seconded (AH) to approve the playground repairs using resort tax funds for materials and fair compensation for labor. No further discussion, motion passed with all in favor.

There are no more requests at this time for purchases using resort tax funds.

The Clerk informed the Board about Bridged Health Alliance and asked if the school would like to request a proposal. The Board asked Lara and she happy with the current arrangement.

The Board and Lara discussed if anything more can be done at this time to help with future student enrollment. Lara is beginning to work on her thesis which looks at the shortage of affordable housing in Cooke City and what measures can be taken to improve the situation. It was agreed that nothing actionable can be done at this time.

The Board completed the first reading of the policies as follows:

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1111: School Board Elections (updated); *first reading complete, no changes*;
2100: School Year Calendar and Day (updated); *first reading complete – no optional wording*;
2132: Student and Family Privacy Rights (updated); *first reading complete, no changes*;
2135: Human Sexuality Instruction and Identity Instruction (new); *Board queried final paragraph, Clerk to look into whether it can be removed*;

2150: Suicide Awareness and Prevention (updated); *first reading complete, no changes*;
2165: Early Targeted Intervention Programs (new); *policy not required*.
2334: Release Time for Religious Instruction (new); *first reading complete, no optional wording*;
2450: Indian Education for All (updated); *first reading complete, no changes*.

Teacher Report

Lara reported that the new students are settling in well. The school has received another donation for Lara's help during the Prospector Race and a general donation which can be used towards anything.

Clerk Comments

Laura reported that the Title IIA application has been submitted and we have received notification of the REAP grant award.

Board Comments

No comments.

Superintendent's Report

No comments.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

The next regular meeting will be held on October 8, 2025.