

**MINUTES  
LAMOTTE SCHOOL DISTRICT 43  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES SPECIAL MEETING  
September 1, 2022 5:00 p.m.**

The special meeting of the Board of Trustees, LaMotte School District #43 was held on September 1, 2022 at LaMotte School for the purpose of considering business to come before the Board of Trustees. Board Chair Torres called the meeting to order at 5:06 p.m.

**Trustees Present:** Marci Torres, Collin Duneman, Birgen Knoff, Alex Prentiss, Kasey Cummings  
**Staff Present:** LeeAnn Burke-Superintendent, Sue Becker-District Clerk/Business Manager  
**Public Present:** Scott Hedglin

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Presiding Trustees Explanation of Procedures**

*The LaMotte Board of Trustees welcomes public comment on issues and concerns. Members of the community are given an opportunity to make brief comments to the board on any matter not included in the agenda. Comments on agenda items will be accepted when that item comes up during the meeting. Public comment submitted in written form to the Board prior to the meeting will be shared with the Board but not read at the Board meeting.*

**Staff Discussion & Reports**

- Superintendent's Report
  - Superintendent Burke reported a great first PIR day today (September 1, 2022) with staff orientation and a Sheriff's Department active shooter training drill. The teachers will be working in their classrooms tomorrow with the ice cream social scheduled for 3:00 p.m.

**Trustee Discussion and Reports**

None.

**Public Input on Non-Agenda Items**

None.

**Agenda Action/Discussion Items**

**1. Construction Project**

**a. Variance or Redesign**

**Superintendent and Architect Discussion:** Superintendent Burke discussed the construction project options: 1) variance request; 2) 76-2-402 MCA exemption request; or 3) redesign building within the 25-foot setback. Mr. Hedglin, Architecture 118, explained that the LaMotte variance is on the September 8, 2022 Planning and Zoning Commission meeting agenda and packets have been sent out. Packets can be pulled if the Board decides to go a different direction.

**Board Discussion:** Board Chair Torres recounted the 9/1/22 Board meeting discussion. She discussed the meeting that she and Vice Chair Duneman had with the concurrent land owners to discuss their concerns. The Board then discussed the three construction project options. Superintendent Burke explained that it is important to understand that 76-2-402 MCA changed with the last legislative session and it is now very vague which is why the Montana School Boards Association (MTSBA) recommended hiring legal counsel who is familiar with this law if this option is taken. This will be an additional expense. Mr. Hedglin indicated that a redesign will be approximately \$50,000 and construction costs will possibly go up as well. He needs a decision on how to proceed by the beginning of November. The Board discussed the importance of updating the community on the status of the building project. Board consensus was to hold a Town Hall meeting on September 29, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. to update the community on the building project and to get community input on the steps going forward. It was also Board consensus to pull the variance from the September Planning and Zoning Commission meeting agenda and add the variance request to the October Planning and Zoning Commission meeting agenda.

**Motion** to host a Town Hall meeting on September 29, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. to update the community on the building project and to postpone the variance request until the October Planning and Zoning Commission meeting.

**Motion:** Trustee Knoff

**Second:** Vice Chair Duneman

**Public Comment:** None.

**Motion passed unanimously.**

## 2. Approval of Personnel Actions

### a. Hiring PE Teacher, Custodian

**Superintendent Discussion:** Superintendent Burke recommended hiring Danielle Linehan as a 2022-2023 school year PE paraprofessional and discussed her background/qualifications. Superintendent Burke recommended hiring Julen Idoate as a 2022-2023 school year custodian and discussed his background/qualifications.

**Motion** to approve hiring Danielle Linehan as a PE paraprofessional for the 2022-2023 school year at \$24.04/hr and to approve hiring Julen Idoate as a custodian for the 2022-2023 school year at \$20.00/hr.

**Motion:** Trustee Knoff

**Second:** Trustee Cummings

**Public Comment:** None.

**Board Discussion:** None.

**Motion passed unanimously.**

### b. Contract Rate Change

**Business Manager Discussion:** District Clerk/Business Manager Becker explained the hourly rate increase for the Art Paraprofessional. Superintendent Burke explained how LaMotte can use paraprofessionals in these certified positions.

**Motion** to approve the Art paraprofessional contract rate change from \$23.36 to \$24.04 for Ken Jones for the 2022-2023 school year.

**Motion:** Trustee Knoff

**Second:** Trustee Cummings  
**Public Comment:** None.  
**Board Discussion:** None.  
**Motion passed unanimously.**

**3. Adjournment**

**Motion** to adjourn at 6:45 p.m.  
**Motion:** Trustee Knoff  
**Second:** Trustee Cummings  
**Public Comment:** None.  
**Board Discussion:** None.  
**Motion passed unanimously.**

The next regular meeting of the Board of Trustees is scheduled for September 21, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.



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Marci Torres, Board Chair



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Sue Becker, District Clerk/Business Manager