I. The meeting was called to order at 5:30 PM by Danielle Corti, Chair. She welcomed those present and reviewed the protocols of a Zoom meeting. The agenda was reviewed.

II. Board Business

A. Motion by Angela Colbeth, seconded by Maegan Ballou to approve the minutes of the July 8th Board meeting. Motion approved with one abstention (Chelsey Perry)

B. Motion by Chelsey Perry, seconded by Maegan Ballou to approve the Board minutes of August 11, 2021. Several changes and additions were made by D. Corti. Motion voted on and the minutes were approved unanimously with the corrections noted below

1. Add Sukie Knight to members of the public present.
2. Section II, B, 3, 2: add “School Taxes would be $435.72”.
3. Section III, I: add Tim Woodward and Sukie Knight as the members of the public whom the Chair encouraged to provide the Board with a list of questions.

III. Correspondence

a. Letter from Timm Judas resigning his position as a Board member.

IV. Committee Reports

A. School and Community Engagement Committee: will be meeting after the school year starts

B. Strategic Plan Committee (Carol Cottrell): Presentation for schools was to be on August 23rd. Because in-service was moved to being held remotely, the presentation will be postponed. The October in-service day is now the hoped-for date, if they can meet in person. Because they want to speak to the schools first, the public presentation for survey results on September 8th has been postponed.

V. Public Comment—None

VI. Superintendent’s Report (Randy Gawel)

A. Schools in the District will be starting school tomorrow. They have been getting the buildings ready, following the recommendations of the Dept. of Health, to open school safely. We are looking forward to the parade on the first day of school in Newbury. This is year 25 for R. Gawel. He is excited about the beginning of the school year.

B. Statute pertaining to resignation of a Board member: The Board has 30 days to appoint a new Board member. He/she should be able to serve until the next election.
1. D. Corti: encouraged Board members to be thinking of potential candidates, who would serve until April, at which time they can run for election if they wish.

VII. Principals’ reports
   A. Bradford: Marla Ianello: Facilities report: fuel costs are expected to be high again, due in part to the need for sufficient ventilation.
   B. Loretta Cruz: The ramp cost more than expected, but it is ready for students tomorrow. Money for facilities is pretty much gone.

VIII. Public meeting: The Chair thanked Oxbow for pivoting to an outdoor venue, Loretta Cruz for scrambling around for a solution to the sound system, and BMU for providing the sound system and a person to run it. The vote result was 50-38 in favor of purchasing the Checkerberry property.
   A. Approved by a simple floor vote was the article to use the unassigned surplus funds from FY19.
   B. The Board has received communication from a community member, Sukie Knight, that they are working to get a revote. D. Corti reached out to the Secretary of State as to the process to be followed, if we get to that point.
   C. D. Corti received several emails the evening following the vote from excited teachers and parents of children, looking forward to being outside in the forest classrooms.

IX. Asst. Supt. Gawel: Two Communications have gone out to the community, as well as communications from teachers in each building, regarding further guidance on contact tracing. The Leadership Team met with the COVID coordinator today, who has met with school nurses. As far as precautions, we are about where we were at the end of last school year. Last night, the OESU Board granted authority to the Supt. to set those guidelines and protocols for schools in the OESU. This will streamline things.

X. Discussion
   A. Angela Colbeth will think about serving on the Facilities Committee, to fill the spot held by Timm Judas. Timm Judas was a rep on RAB for River Bend, so a replacement will be needed.
   B. District Nickname.
      1. Maybe this can dovetail with the Strategic Plan.
      2. Perhaps this could be talked about at a Leadership Committee meeting.
      3. It was suggested that hopefully students and community members can be involved.
   C. Student Representative on the Board from the Oxbow or RBCTC student body.
      1. Maybe the Leadership Team can talk about this.
      2. Randy Gawel: Feels it is nice to have a student rep on the Board. Perhaps having two is even better, so if one is unavailable, the other can attend.
      3. Angela Colbeth: There are even students on the State Board. She thinks it’s a good idea. It gets high school students involved and is good leadership training.
      4. Danielle Corti: thinks there should be a River Bend connection, as well. She will reach out to Jean Wheeler.
      5. Ted Pogacar: will be happy to bring the matter to the student Council.

XI. Future agenda items:
A. Articles of Agreement (Article 3), which would need to be voted on by Australian ballot.

B. Location of where the District is supposed to warn meetings. There is some confusion as to where warnings should be posted.
   1. Town Offices, post offices in both towns, as well as West Newbury PO. School buildings?

C. Solar usage and maximizing our value from solar

XII. Motion by Chelsey Perry, seconded by Angela Colbeth to accept Timm Judas’ resignation with regret and thanks for all he has done for the district. Motion voted on and approved unanimously

XIII. Public Comment: none

XIV. Motion by Chelsey Perry, seconded by Meagan Ballou to adjourn the meeting at 6:05 PM. Motion voted on and approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted:

Nancy Perkins, Minutes Clerk

The minutes are in draft format and are unofficial until formally approved by the Board at a subsequent meeting.