

New Paltz Central School District Board of Education  
**Minutes – March 1, 2017 Workshop Meeting – High School 7:00 PM**

**CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Michael O'Donnell, Board Vice-President.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

QUORUM CHECK

- Brian Cournoyer
- Alison Easton
- Steven Greenfield-excused
- Aimee Hemminger-arrived at 6:05 PM
- Michael O'Donnell
- Sophia Skiles
- Matthew Williams

**ALSO PRESENT:**

- Maria Rice, Superintendent of Schools
- Michelle Martoni, Assistant Superintendent for Educational Programs-arrived 6:09 PM
- Richard Linden, Assistant Superintendent for Business-arrived 6:09 PM

**ROLL CALL**

ROLL CALL

The roll was called as reflected above.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion made by Alison Easton and seconded by Brian Cournoyer that the Board of Education move into Executive Session at 6:00 PM for the purpose of discussing the school history of particular students in accordance with their FERPA rights discussing matters made exempt by FERPA, discussing the employment history of a particular person, and discussing matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal, or removal of a particular person or corporation. Motion carried 5 to 0 with 5 members voting.

**DISTRICT CLERK PRO-TEMPORE**

DISTRICT CLERK PRO-TEMPORE

Board Vice-President, Michael O'Donnell appointed Maria C. Rice as District Clerk Pro-Tempore for the Executive Session portion of the meeting.

Out of Executive Session - Motion made by Matthew Williams and seconded by Sophia Skiles that the Board return to Public Session at 6:59 PM. Motion carried 6 to 0 with 6 members voting.

**CALL TO ORDER**

CALL TO ORDER

The Public Meeting was called to order at 7:06 PM by Aimee Hemminger, Board President.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

QUORUM CHECK

- Brian Cournoyer
- Alison Easton
- Steven Greenfield-excused
- Aimee Hemminger
- Michael O'Donnell
- Sophia Skiles
- Matthew Williams

**ALSO PRESENT:**

- Maria Rice, Superintendent of Schools
- Michelle Martoni, Assistant Superintendent for Educational Programs
- Richard Linden, Assistant Superintendent for Business
- Barbara Clinton, Principal, New Paltz Central High School
- Richard Wiesenthal, Principal, New Paltz Middle School
- Audrey Wood, Principal, Lenape Elementary School
- Debra Hogencamp, Principal, Duzine Elementary School
- Ann Sheldon, Assistant Principal, Middle School
- Antonia Woody, Director of Physical Education, Health, Athletics & Health Services
- Michael Robinson, Director of Food Services
- Stephen J. Callahan, Director of Facilities & Operations

Dusti Callo, District Clerk  
Student Representative  
Members of the Public and Press

**ROLL CALL** The roll was called as reflected above.

**ROLL CALL**

**PLEDGE TO THE FLAG**

**PLEDGE**

**AGENDA CHANGES**

**AGENDA CHANGES**

Motion made by Matthew Williams and seconded by Alison Easton to move the Capital Project Update to follow the Student Representative Report.

**SPOTLIGHT ON PROGRAM**

**SPOTLIGHT ON PROGRAM**

Duzine Elementary School-Creating Story Quilts in Art honoring author and artist Faith Ringgold: First Grade Students from Ginger King's class and Art Teacher Susan Gruschow's class.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Regina Moerikofer, New Paltz resident-commented on policy for home-schooled students.

**STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT**

**STUDENT REP**

- Lea Maney-High School Senior

Lea Maney reported on the conclusion of Winter Sports, the start of Spring Sports, Mock Trial, Interact Club, Youth for Unity Women's History project, Black History Month, PTSA Book Fair, Parent/Teacher Conferences, Macroeconomics, Health Advisory Committee and the Dress Code, Scholarship Concert, Ulster County Career Conference Day and rehearsals for the drama show *Working*.

**BOARD COMMUNICATIONS**

**BOARD COMMUNICATION**

- Capital Project Update: Bill Wisbauer, Tetra Tech Architects

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORTS & DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**SUPT REPORT**

- SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS

- Congratulations
- Indigenous Peoples Day
- Start Time Update

- SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORTS

- Town of New Paltz Community Youth Programs: Jim Tinger, Youth Program Director and Phoenix Kawamoto, Community Outreach Coordinator
- Program Report-Middle School Literature Circles, Grades 6-8: Richard Wiesenthal-Middle School Principal, Sixth Grade Teachers-Kelly Costello, Heather Hopper, Mitchell Mead, and Barbara Sunshine, Seventh Grade Teachers-Valerie Hughes, Randi Rosen, and Eighth Grade Teachers-Jenny Denman and Nicole Sullivan.
- 2017-2018 Budget: Maria Rice, Superintendent and Richard Linden, Assistant Superintendent for Business

**BOARD COMMUNICATIONS**

**BOARD COMMUNICATION**

- Board Letter on Transgender Student Rights to Students, Faculty, Staff, and Community

Motion made by Brian Cournoyer and seconded by Alison Easton to approve the following statement:

On February 22, 2017, the Civil Rights Division of the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) and the Office of Civil Rights of the U.S. Department Education (DOE) rescinded previous guidance regarding schools’ Title IX obligations to provide a non-discriminatory environment for transgender and gender nonconforming students.

In the letter the DOJ and DOE specifically roll back guidance instructing schools to allow students to use bathroom and locker room facilities consistent with their gender identity or expression.

We would like to make clear that this action by the Federal government -- an abdication of moral responsibility that targets some of the nation’s most vulnerable students -- will have no effect on the New Paltz Central School District. We will continue to protect and defend the rights of **all** of our students, faculty, and staff with a commitment to advance our positions and policies in the direction of inclusivity.

By friendly amendment, motion carried 6 to 0 with 6 members voting.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**CMTE REPORTS**

- FACILITIES COMMITTEE-Steven Greenfield
- POLICY COMMITTEE-Brian Cournoyer
- LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE-Michael O’Donnell

**MINUTES OF MEETING**

**MINUTES**

Motion made by Alison Easton and seconded by Michael O’Donnell that the Board of Education approve the following resolution: **BE IT RESOLVED:** that the New Paltz Central Schools Board of Education accept the minutes of the Regular Business Meeting of February 15, 2017. Motion carried 6 to 0 with 6 members voting.

**PERSONNEL (CONSENT AGENDA)**

**PERSONNEL**

Motion made by Alison Easton and seconded by Brian Cournoyer that the Board of Education approve the following personnel (consent agenda) resolutions, items 11.1 through 11.11:

**11.1 Instructional Appointment-Substitutes**

Recommendation that the New Paltz Central School District Board of Education, upon the recommendation of Maria C. Rice, Superintendent of Schools, does hereby appoint the following substitute teachers with remuneration as per rates established at the July 13, 2016 Organizational Meeting:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Effective Dates</b>
Alison Sagliocca	3/2/17 – 6/30/17
Constance Klosterman	3/2/17 – 6/30/17
Anthony DiCerbo	3/2/17 – 6/30/17
John Binaso	3/2/17 – 6/30/17

**11.2 Home Tutor**

Recommendation - that the New Paltz Central Schools Board of Education, upon the recommendation of Maria C. Rice, Superintendent of Schools, does hereby appoint the following employee for the 2016-2017 school year:

**Name**  
William A. Parks (retroactive as of February 14, 2017)

**11.3 Non-Instructional Appointments - Substitute**

The New Paltz Central Schools Board of Education, upon the recommendation of Maria C. Rice, Superintendent of Schools, does hereby appoint the following employee:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>	<b>Salary</b>
Lynn Sissel	Substitute Registered School Nurse	02/14/2017	\$100/day
Jessi Ronk	Substitute Teacher Aide	02/15/2017	\$11.00/hr
Cheryl Gildersleeve	Substitute School Bus Attendant	02/15/2017	\$11.00/hr

**11.4 Non-Instructional Appointments**

The New Paltz Central Schools Board of Education, upon the recommendation of Maria C. Rice, Superintendent of Schools, does hereby appoint the following employees:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>	<b>Salary</b>
Paula Jarbeau	School Bus Attendant	03/02/2017	\$13.50/hr
Kimberly Brill	Payroll (Account Clerk/Typist)	03/02/2017	\$50,000 (pro-rated)
Kimberly Brill	Central Treasurer	03/02/2017	\$ 1,000 (pro-rated)

**11.5 Coaching Appointment**

The New Paltz Central Schools Board of Education, upon the recommendation of Maria C. Rice, Superintendent of Schools, does hereby appoint the following coach for the 2016/2017 school year, with remuneration as per NPUT contract:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Stipend</b>
Lauren O'Malley	Modified Girls Softball	\$2,340
Jeffrey Salt	Modified Girls Softball	unpaid
Krista Pachomski	Varsity Girls Lacrosse	\$3,860
Joanne Metzger	Varsity Girls Lacrosse Assistant	unpaid
Jason Bonagura	Varsity Baseball Co-Coach	\$1,930

**11.6 Non-Instructional Resignation**

The New Paltz Central Schools Board of Education, upon the recommendation of Maria C. Rice, Superintendent of Schools, does hereby accept the resignation of the following non-instructional employee:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>
Deborah Long	Payroll/Personnel Assistant	03/17/2017

**11.7 Request for Approval to Recertify Lead Evaluator of Building Principals Pursuant to Education Law Section 3012-c**

Recommendation – that the New Paltz Central School District Board of Education approve the following resolution:

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the requirements of Education Law Section 3012-c and Part 30-2.9 of the Rules of the Board of Regents, the individual named below has completed all the necessary training to be recertified as lead evaluator of building principals;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the New Paltz Central School District Board of Education hereby recertifies Michelle Martoni as lead evaluator of building principals, effective October 1, 2016.

**11.8 Instructional Leave of Absence**

Recommendation that the New Paltz Central School District Board of Education, upon the recommendation of Maria C. Rice, Superintendent of Schools, does hereby approve an unpaid leave of absence for the following instructional employee:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Effective Dates</b>
Kari Williams	Special Education Teacher	2/21/17 – 6/30/17

**11.9 Instructional Leave of Absence**

Recommendation that the New Paltz Central School District Board of Education, upon the recommendation of Maria C. Rice, Superintendent of Schools, does hereby approve an unpaid leave of absence for the following instructional employee:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Effective Dates</b>
Jessica Fredericks	Social Studies Teacher	3/8/17 – 4/30/17

**11.10 Correcting Resolution - Non-Instructional Appointment - Salary**

The New Paltz Central Schools Board of Education, upon the recommendation of Maria C. Rice, Superintendent of Schools, does hereby correct from Personnel Item 11.4 approved on November 2, 2016 the salary of the following employee:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>	<b>Salary</b>
Cynthia Velez	Substitute Clerical	10/24/2016	\$10.66/hr
Cynthia Velez	Substitute Teacher Aide	10/24/2016	\$10.66/hr

**11.11 Recall from Preferred Eligibility List**

**WHEREAS**, there is a vacancy in the Physical Education tenure area and Nicole Vitale is the most senior individual on the Physical Education tenure area preferred eligibility list;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that Nicole Vitale is hereby recalled from the Physical Education tenure area preferred eligibility list to the full-time position of Physical Education teacher effective April 3, 2017.

Motion to approve items 11.1-11.11 carried 6 to 0 with 6 members voting.

**OLD BUSINESS**

OLD BUSINESS

Motion made by Brian Cournoyer and seconded by Sophia Skiles to approve second reading of Policy 8470.

**12.1 Second Reading of Policy 8470 Home-Schooled Students**

~~2009~~ 2017

8470

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Instruction

**SUBJECT: HOME-SCHOOLED STUDENTS**

~~From time to time, parents will choose to instruct their children at home. Although~~ New York State law does not recognize home schools as private elementary or secondary schools, however, the School District will attempt to cooperate with parents who wish to provide home schooling for their children. ~~realizing that~~ The child who is ~~educated at home~~ **home-schooled** should receive an education in a manner consistent with an educational plan and at least substantially equivalent to that given to students of like age and attainments in the local public schools. The required subjects should be taught in a competent, systematic, and sequential manner, specifically in relation to the required courses as enumerated in Commissioner's Regulation Section 100.10.

Primary responsibility for determining compliance with Commissioner's Regulations addressing home instruction rests with the Superintendent of Schools of the school district in which a home-schooled student resides.

**Provision of Services to Home-Schooled Students**

**Home-schooled** students ~~instructed at home~~ are not awarded a high school diploma. A high school diploma may only be awarded to a student enrolled in a registered secondary school who has completed all program requirements set by the Board of Regents, the school or the District.

a) Extracurricular Participation

**Home-schooled** students ~~instructed at home~~ are *not* eligible to participate in interscholastic sports. Commissioner's Regulations mandate that only students enrolled in the public school are allowed to participate in interscholastic sports. However, the School District *does* permit **home-schooled** ~~instructed~~ students to participate in intramural and other school-sponsored extracurricular activities **that are held entirely after the academic school day. Home-schooled students are not permitted to participating in any school-sponsored intramural or extracurricular activity that holds all, or some will not be able to attend any meetings, practices or other gatherings during the academic school day.**

b) Textbooks and Materials

The District *shall not* provide textbooks and other materials to **home-schooled** ~~instructed~~ students.

c) Health Services

The School District is *not required* to furnish health services **to home-schooled students.**

d) Remedial Programs

The District *is not responsible* for providing remedial programs **to home-schooled students.**

e) Occupational and Vocational Education Programs

The District is not authorized to provide, by law, Occupational and Vocational Education programs or programs for the gifted to **home-schooled** ~~instructed~~ students.

f) Special Education Services

**Home-schooled** ~~instructed~~ students *may not participate* in the instructional program of the School District except for special education programs and services the District is required to offer.

The District *shall offer* a home-schooled ~~instructed~~ student with disabilities the special education services as addressed in the approved Individualized Education Program (IEP) by the Committee on Special Education. *However, there is no requirement that such services be provided in the student's home.* Further, the District shall conduct a census and register of students with disabilities who reside in the District in accordance with Education Law and Commissioner's Regulations.

For school-aged home-schooled students with individualized home instruction plans (IHIP) determined to be in compliance with the Commissioner's Regulation who are students with disabilities, the Committee on Special Education (CSE) will develop an individualized education services program (IESP) for the home-schooled student. The IESP will be developed in the same manner and have the same contents as an individualized education program (IEP). An IESP is developed in consideration of the parents' decision to home school their child.

In order to receive services, the parent must request special education services in writing to the Board of Education of the school district of location by June 1 preceding the school year for which the request for services is made. However, for a home-schooled student who is first identified as a home-schooled student with a disability after the first day of June preceding the school year for which the request is made and prior to the first day of April of such current school year, the parent must submit the written request for services within 30 days after the home-schooled student was first identified. A request may also be submitted within 30 days of a change in the home-schooled student's school district of residence. Home-schooled students may receive such services during the regular school year only.

Special education services will be provided to home-schooled students on an equitable basis as compared to special education programs and services provided to other students with disabilities attending public or nonpublic schools within the district.

Parents of home-schooled students who disagree with the IESP recommendation of the CSE will be entitled to due process pursuant to Education Law section 4404. ~~just as parents of nonpublic students are.~~

The location where special education services **are delivered** will be determined by the CSE/CPSE and could include the site of home schooling.

g) Use of School Facilities

**Home-schooled** students ~~instructed at home~~ shall not be allowed to use school facilities, except as provided for community organizations in Policy #3280 -- Community Use of School Facilities, Materials and Equipment.

Ref: Chapter 217 of the laws of 2008 8NYCRR 100.10  
Education Law Sections 3204, 3205, 3210(2), 3212(2),  
3240-42, 3602-c and 4402  
8 New York Code of Rules and Regulations (NYCRR)  
Sections 100.10, 135.4(c)(7)(ii)(b)(2) and 200.2(a)

Adopted: 7/16/08

Revised: 10/21/09

**Revised:**

By friendly amendment, motion to approve the second reading of Policy 8470 carried 6 to 0 with 6 members voting.

Motion made by Matthew Williams and seconded by Brian Cournoyer to approve the second reading of Policy 1511.

**12.2 Second Reading of Policy 1511 Board Member Communications**

2008 2017 1511

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By-Laws

**SUBJECT: BOARD MEMBER COMMUNICATIONS**

The Board of Education acknowledges the importance of clear lines of communication and authority to promote transparency, consistency and responsiveness among themselves and with the public. Board of Education members will communicate primarily through the Board President and Superintendent of Schools.

The Board further acknowledges that effective communication requires knowledge of the means and methods of communication and how to use them responsibly. Along with traditional media and print communication tools, communication may be made through video, electronic/digital means, and Internet-based vehicles (e.g., social media).

In recognition of the myriad and changing communication platforms, technologies and on-line communities available, and the changing behavioral norms they bring, this policy will provide Board members with the tools to communicate effectively and responsibly on behalf of the District.

- 1. Communication as an Individual, not as a Representative of the Board.** Members of the Board have legal authority only when acting as a body at a properly convened meeting. Individual Board members have no authority over District affairs unless the Board has explicitly delegated such authority. The Board President shall have the authority to speak on behalf of the Board. This authority may be delegated to another Board member on a specific issue. Individual Board members are free to speak publicly about District matters but must not divulge confidential information and must clarify that their statements reflect their own views and not necessarily the official position of the Board. The Board will not be bound in any way by an individual's statement or action unless the Board, through an adopted policy or by a majority vote of Board membership, has delegated this authority to the individual member. Without the above statement, any individual Board member's statements would be deemed as outside the scope of his/her their office and the individual Board member may be denied statutory defenses and indemnification.

- 2. Quorum of the Board.** The Board of Education shall conduct its deliberations and voting upon resolutions and policies only during a duly convened public meeting, except as provided by law. Board members may confer with one another regarding School District business by telephone, via mail or electronic mail as long as such communications do not result in a collective decision. The use of telephone conference calls, instant messaging, e-mail communications, or on a social media platform in a chat room among a quorum or more of members of the Board of Education for deliberation or decision making regarding School District business is strictly prohibited.

~~The Board of Education shall review this policy, and examples of compliance and non-compliance, with all newly elected members and, from time to time, the Board shall evaluate communication practices for consistency with this policy.~~

- 3. Board Members Email/Digital Conduct. Communications** Board members must should assume that all email/digital communications are subject to disclosure under the Freedom of Information Law, may be subject to disclosure in litigation and are subject to the records retention requirements of the District. Board members, therefore, are required to use the District's designated email system, including the District provided email address for all emails regarding District business. Email communications between and among Board members may be used for housekeeping purposes, including but not limited to communicating agenda items, meeting times or dates, requesting or communicating factual information, analyzing information, etc.. ~~The Board prohibits the use of Email by Board members for communicating information or making inquiries regarding District personnel, contractors or students because of the risk of improper disclosure of confidential information~~ is not allowed. Posting information that has not been verified and made public by the District and or outside posting anonymously about District business is prohibited. The Board member's postings would be deemed as outside the scope of his/her their office and the Board member may be denied statutory defenses and indemnification.

**4. Direct Complaints or Concerns.** Complaints about District personnel, programs and operations must be handled and resolved as close to their origin as possible. ~~Therefore, District staff should be given every opportunity to consider issues and attempt to resolve problems prior to Superintendent or Board of Education involvement, if possible.~~ Any complaint or concern made to a Board member, whether verbally, in writing, through electronic/digital means or social media technologies, should be directed to the Superintendent or other appropriate administrator **according to the chain of command (teacher, principal, superintendent).**

**5. Opinions on Pending Matters.** It is expected that the Board of Education, when hearing grievances or other disputes, will be neutral, will listen to all viewpoints and will make a decision based upon all available information. If, for example, a Board member posts comments or opinions on social media or other forms of communication, prior to the Board having deliberated and made a decision, the Board member's neutrality will be called into question. This is particularly important where an appeal to the Board is available to the complainant and would require that the Board member recuse him/herself from the decision making process.

~~6. **Community Input.** Community input is one important facet of communication and information for the Board. When information is presented to or made known to a Board member, including information posted on a social networking site, the information should not be considered as factual. Board members should not react to such comments, statements, or opinions and should follow the chain of command. The Board member should bring the information to the Board President and Superintendent so that it may be investigated. If appropriate, the issue may be deliberated by the Board at a duly convened public meeting.~~

**76. Confidential Matters in Executive Session or Board Packet Materials.** It is imperative that Board members post/share only content that has already been released to the public such as information discussed at or presented at a public meeting or that is posted on the District website. It is appropriate to use links to the District website when posting information. A breach of confidentiality regarding a matter that legitimately may be discussed in executive session could result in the Board member's removal from the Board. **If confidential materials are lost or stolen, it must be reported to the district immediately.**

**87. Official Record of the Board Meetings.** Only the official District video of the Board meeting and the approved Minutes of the Board meeting are official records of the District.

~~9. **Board Members Conduct.** Every interaction and communication by a Board member with the public, whether in person, on the telephone or through electronic/digital communication, may be construed as representing the District and will reflect on the Board and the District. The same standards of decorum and civility that are expected at Board meetings and with interactions with the public apply to social media sites. If behavior is inappropriate at the Board meeting or professional workplace, it is also inappropriate on a social media site.~~

~~10. **Reporting Harassing or Defamatory Communications.** If a community member circulates a potentially offensive, harassing or defamatory comment or depiction The Board member must not republish the comment or depiction, by forwarding the post to any third party. The proper procedure is to first print the screen to document the matter and then remove the content, if possible. The Board member should immediately notify the Board President and Superintendent of Schools. If appropriate, law enforcement authorities will also be contacted.~~

**118. Loss or Theft of a District-Issued or Personal Electronic Device.** Board members must safeguard all electronic devices used to receive or send information related to the District and its operations, whether provided by the District or a personal electronic device, to ensure that all District information received by the Board member is secure. It is imperative that Board members immediately report to the District any potential security breach so that proper steps can be taken to minimize the impact and provide any necessary notification to affected persons.

~~129.~~ **Acceptable Use Policy.** Any use of the District's technology, including but not limited to, the District's network and electronic devices, must be in accordance with the District's Acceptable Use Policy and any applicable laws, regulations and policies.



Cross-Ref: Policy #1110, School District Legal Status  
Policy #1120, Board of Education Authority and Membership  
Policy #3110, News Media Relations  
Policy #3230, Complaints and Grievances  
Policy #6110, Code of Ethics for All District Personnel  
Policy #6111, Board-Staff Communications  
Policy #6471, Computer Network and Internet Acceptable Use Policy

Adopted: 7/16/08

Revised:

By friendly amendment, motion to approve the second reading of Policy 1511 carried 6 to 0 with 6 members voting.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**NEW BUSINESS**

Motion made by Alison Easton and seconded by Matthew Williams that the Board of Education approve the following resolution:

**13.1 Request for Approval of Committee on Special Education Recommendations and Student Placements**

Recommendation - that the following resolution be approved: BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the New Paltz Central School District approve the Committee on Special Education (CSE) and Committee on Pre-School Special Education (CPSE) recommendations and student placements. 14286, 14345, 12180, 12219, 9912, 10417, 11220, 10328, 10032, 10554, 13226, 10346, 12147, 10579, 10060, 14081, 12706, 12833.

Motion carried 6 to 0 with 6 members voting.

**OTHER DISCUSSION**

**OTHER DISCUSSION**

None.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

**ADJOURN**

**ADJOURN**

Motion made by Alison Easton and seconded by Brian Cournoyer that the Board adjourn at 10:34 PM.

Motion carried 6 to 0 with 6 members voting.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dusti Callo  
District Clerk