MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF ST. MARIES
JOINT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 41 held in the Board Room at the District Office, 240 S. 11th
Street, St. Maries, Idaho, Friday, March 24, 2017, at 8:00 a.m.

TRUSTEES PRESENT: Chair Christine Ashmead, Vice-Chair Jody Hendrickx, and
Trustees Devon Barta, Sandy Kennelly, and Mark Reynolds

TRUSTEES ABSENT:

STAFF PRESENT: Board Clerk Karen Robinson

OTHERS PRESENT: Christine Donnell – Idaho School Boards Association

The meeting was called to order at 8:09 a.m., at the District Office, 240 S. 11th Street, St. Maries, Idaho, on Friday, March 24, 2017, by Chair Ashmead. Silent roll call was taken.

A motion was made by Trustee Barta and seconded by Trustee Reynolds that pursuant to Idaho Code Section 74-204, the Board of Trustees approves the Agenda for the meeting. Chair Ashmead called for discussion, and none was presented. The Agenda stood approved with five affirmative votes.

Trustee Hendrickx led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chair Ashmead declared it was necessary to go into executive session to discuss personnel pursuant to Idaho Code Section 74-206(1)(a).

Trustee Hendrickx moved that the Board, pursuant to Idaho Code Section 74-206(1)(a) convene in executive session to:

(a) To consider hiring a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent, wherein the respective qualities of individuals are to be evaluated in order to fill a particular vacancy or need. This paragraph does not apply to filling a vacancy in an elective office or deliberations about staffing needs in general;

Further, that following executive session, the Board will reconvene in public session for conducting further business or for adjournment.

Trustee Barta seconded the motion, and the roll call vote for the motion was:

Chair Christine Ashmead Aye
Vice-Chair Jody Hendrickx Aye
Trustee Devon Barta Aye
Trustee Sandy Kennelly Aye
Trustee Mark Reynolds Aye

The meeting convened in executive session at 8:10 a.m.
Persons present were Chair Christine Ashmead, Vice-Chair Jody Hendrickx, Trustees Devon Barta, Sandy Kennelly, and Mark Reynolds, Board Clerk Karen Robinson, and Christine Donnell, Idaho School Boards Association.

Discussion was held related to personnel.

Board Clerk Robinson was dismissed from executive session at 8:13 a.m.

Further discussion was held related to personnel.

Interim Superintendent John Cordell joined executive session at 11:28 a.m., and acknowledged that the Board was in executive session.

Mr. Cordell was excused from executive session at 11:43 a.m.

Board Clerk Robinson joined executive session at 12:23 p.m.

Chair Ashmead called for a motion to come out of executive session. A motion was made by Trustee Reynolds to come out executive session, with a second by Trustee Barta. The motion carried with five affirmative votes, with the Board convening in open session at 12:24 p.m.

Chair Ashmead opened the discussion regarding the superintendent candidates and advised that the Board would review the candidates’ credentials, experience, and qualifications in the Board’s efforts to select the District’s next Superintendent.

Vice-Chair Hendrickx shared that Trustees have interviewed Candidates 7, 12, 15, and 18, reviewed the results from the on-line community survey, public input, and extensive reference checks on the Candidates. He was impressed with all of the candidates, including the information that was presented during each Candidate’s personal interview.

Trustee Barta indicated that she appreciated hearing about Candidate 18’s experience with different school districts and the management of those budgets which are different than District 41’s budget. Further, Candidate 7 had done research on the District and was knowledgeable about the District’s test scores and other tangible aspects. Further, she noted that she liked Candidate 15’s energy level and ability to communicate ideas. Lastly, she acknowledged Candidate 12’s knowledge of the St. Maries and surrounding areas, as well as the Candidates extensive background in public education.

Trustee Kennelly shared that all candidates presented a variety of credentials that were impressive and considered by Trustees. She noted that the Board had expended many hours as they moved through the process, including reviewing the Candidates’ applications, resumes, reference checks, and other information that came forward. As a Trustee, she appreciated each Candidates’ interaction with the community, staff, and patrons through the Meet and Greet process that took place on March 23. Trustee Kennelly further stated that the Board needs to weigh all factors in making their decision as to which Candidate is the best fit for the District and the communities which the next Superintendent will serve.

Trustee Reynolds stated that he was comfortable with the long process undertaken by the Board in its search for the District’s Superintendent. Specifically, the consultation with the Idaho School Board’s
Association, as well as the on-site interview process and the Community Meet and Greet activity was valuable to the Trustees as they moved through the Superintendent Search process.

Following discussion, Chair Ashmead called for a motion. Trustee Hendrickx, moved to offer a one-year Superintendent Contract to Superintendent Candidate Alica Holthaus, with a second by Trustee Reynolds. Chair Ashmead called for further discussion, and none was forthcoming. The motion carried with five affirmative votes.

A motion was made by Trustee Hendrickx, with a second by Trustee Barta to appoint Board Chair Ashmead to negotiate a one-year Superintendent Contract with Alica Holthaus. Chair Ashmead called for discussion and none was forthcoming. The motion carried with five affirmative votes.

A motion was made by Trustee Reynolds, with a second by Trustee Barta to approve the employment of Daniel Thomas Sheppard as a part-time food services employee. Chair Ashmead called for discussion and none was forthcoming. The motion carried with five affirmative votes.

Idaho School Board Association Representative Christine Donnell commended the Board and thanked them for the opportunity to be involved in the District’s Superintendent Search process. Trustees also thanked Mrs. Donnell and the ISBA for their services.

There being no further business for which the meeting was called, Chair Ashmead called for a motion to adjourn. A motion was made by Trustee Hendrickx, with a second by Trustee Barta, to adjourn the meeting at 12:53 p.m., Friday, March 24, 2017. The motion carried with five affirmative votes.

/s/ CHRISTINE ASHMEAD
Christine Ashmead, Board Chair

/s/ KAREN M. ROBINSON
Karen M. Robinson, Board Clerk