

MISSOULA COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF TRUSTEES SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, June 26, 2018
5:30 p.m. - Business Building Boardroom

1. Call to Order - Vice-Chair Diane Lorenzen called the special meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.
Trustees Present: Michael Beers, Mike Smith, Vicki McDonald, Diane Lorenzen, Grace Decker, Heidi Kendall, Jennifer Newbold and Ann Wake
Others Present: Mark Thane, Pat McHugh, Hatton Littman and Dave Rott
2. Introduction – Superintendent Mark Thane welcomed all. The school trustee election was held on May 8, 2018 and there were no candidates for the HS Trustee District “B” seat. Trustees declared the seat for HS District “B” vacant on May 17, 2018. The position was advertised and posted on the district website. Mr. Thane introduced Sharon Sterbis as the only applicant for the position, and invited her to the table for the interview.
3. Interview Applicant for Board of Trustees Vacancy – Vice-Chair Diane Lorenzen welcomed Sharon Sterbis and invited her to provide a background history of herself for the trustees. Sharon Sterbis addressed the board reporting that she moved to Missoula in 1998 from the East coast, the mother of three children and currently is a stay at home mom. She has volunteered at Target Range School in the classrooms and the library. She has been involved in the Target Range School Board for many years.
Board Discussion/Direction: Trustee Lorenzen opened the interview and asked trustees to present the questions provided in the agenda packet to Ms. Sterbis.
Trustee Ann Wake asked Question #1 – Ms. Sterbis responded that she feels that education is important. Personally, she likes to stay busy and challenged. She likes to have an impact on education. Her experience has been service on the Target Range Board of Trustees. Ms. Sterbis noted that her traits are that she is open-minded, very detailed oriented and a good listener. She noted that she has never volunteered at the high school. Trustee Newbold asked Question #2 - Ms. Sterbis reported that she does not have the most up to date information on high school curricular programs as her youngest daughter graduated in 2015, so she is not familiar with the International Baccalaureate or Health Sciences Academy programs. She has concern about equity in the high schools’ curriculum, and noted there are more advanced placement (AP) classes at Sentinel. Ms. Sterbis is interested to know what changes have been made since her daughter graduated in 2015. Trustee Kendall asked Question #3 - Ms. Sterbis noted that she is representing a feeder school to see that their efforts are recognized, and see that students receive a good education. She would like to reach out to the Superintendent at Bonner School so that their interest is also represented. Trustee Decker asked Question #4 - Ms. Sterbis felt she did not have a lot of experience with MCPS to be familiar with strengths, weaknesses, nor areas requiring review. She noted that as a new trustee she would like to be informed prior to voting on issues. Trustee McDonald asked Question #5 - Ms. Sterbis felt her role over the next year would be to learn as much as possible to be able to evaluate action items presented to the board to make an informed vote. Vice Chair Lorenzen noted this concluded the prepared questions, and entertained board discussion. Trustee Kendall noted that Ms. Sterbis also serves on the Target Range board, will this present a conflict of interest. Mr. Thane noted that technically that is not an issue as several of our own trustees represent two different districts. He did background research on this question and found there is no conflict as long at the Target Range

board is not making decisions that would affect MCPS. Mr. Thane also noted that the Target Range holds their board meetings on Monday night so that does not present a conflict. Vice Chair Lorenzen asked for a motion. Trustee Decker made a motion to accept Sharon Sterbis' application and appoint her to the MCPS Board of Trustees High School District "B" seat. Trustee Wake seconded the motion. There was no public comment. Trustee Decker noted that it is great that Ms. Sterbis has valuable experience as a school trustee, but disappointed that more people did not run for the position leading to the question of whether the seat was not advertised enough. Vice Chair Lorenzen noted that Ms. Sterbis plans to run for the trustee seat in the May 2019 school election. The vote was unanimous by all trustees present.

4. Issue Certificate of Appointment and Administer Oath of Office - Pat McHugh, District Clerk issued a Certificate of Appointment and administered the Oath of Office to Sharon Sterbis for the MCPS High School Trustee – District B seat.
5. Conflict of Interest and Code of Ethics – Pat McHugh, District Clerk, summarized the Code of Ethics, and had newly appointed Trustee Sterbis signed the Code of Ethics.
6. Public Comment – There was no public comment.
7. Adjourn: Vice Chair Lorenzen adjourned the special board meeting at 5:52 p.m.

As recording secretary for this Board meeting, I certify these minutes to be a true and correct copy of what was taken at the meeting.

Lenora Jacobs, Minutes Recorder
Diane Lorenzen, Board Vice Chair
Pat McHugh, District Clerk