

**Salt Fork CUSD #512
Meeting Minutes**

Date: September 24, 2025	Time: 6:30 pm
Location: Unit Office	Type of Meeting: Regular
Name of person taking the minutes: Robin Johnson (Board Recorder)	
Name of person presiding: Andrea VanLeer (Board President)	
Members in attendance: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Martin Birge 2. Greg Filicsky 3. Jared Fritz 4. Tony High 5. Megan Pierce 6. Seth Smoot 7. Andrea VanLeer 	Members absent:
	Members in attendance remotely:

Revision of Agenda

None

Correspondence to the Board

Mr. Cox presented the correspondence report.

Public Expression

There was no public expression.

Public Hearing regarding FY26 Budget

Item: Andrea VanLeer called the Public Hearing to order at 6:31pm.	
Superintendent Presentation: Mr. Cox explained that there are had been no change to the budget since the budget presentation in August. The budget estimates a \$456,765 deficit. Without the final payment to Reliable for the HVAC project, the estimated deficit is \$181,281.	
Public Input: None	
Seth Smoot motioned to adjourn the Public hearing at 6:36 pm. Martin Birge seconded the motion.	
Voice Vote:	
Ayes: 7	Nays: 0
Action: Passed	

Discussion-South Campus Fire Pump and Storage Tank Project and Fire Alarm Replacement Project

Lucas McGill, President of GHR, was at the meeting and presented four options to resolve the sprinkler issue at the South Campus. The options involved either an aboveground or underground storage tank and either a 15,000 gallon tank or 30,000 gallon tank. The tank would be connected to a fire pump, which would then connect to the sprinkler system. Lucas recommended the 15,000 gallon aboveground option at an estimate cost of \$674,390. He indicated he estimated his costs to be on the high end. Lucas also indicated there could be some cost savings if the old boiler and asbestos could be removed from the old boiler room to house the fire pump and controls. Mr. Cox added that another option would be to build a bus barn to house the fire pump and controls. This would add initial cost to

the project, but would allow the district to recoup the costs in the end but claiming it on the transportation claim. The board engaged in extensive dialogue regarding all of the options. Discussion was held regarding liability, both for the district and for individual board members, if the problem is not addressed. In the end, the board asked Lucas to explore a more cost effective solution to the problem, such as a way to reuse the current 10,000 gallon underground tank that is no longer in use. The board instructed Mr. Cox to explore whether there is any mechanism to request a code variance through ISBE. The board consensus was not to pursue the bus barn option at this time. In regards to the fire alarm system, Mr. Cox recommended that, due to budgetary restraints, the district move forward with just the required items listed in the Health Life Safety report as opposed to replacing the entire fire alarm system at the South Campus. The board overall agreed with Mr. Cox's recommendation.

Business

Item: Recommendation to Approve GHR Fee Proposal for South Campus Fire Pump and Storage Tank Project	
Summary of Discussion: None	
Motion:	Second:
Motion to: Approve GHR Fee Proposal for South Campus Fire Pump and Storage Tank Project	
Roll Call Vote:	
Ayes:	Nays:
Action: No Action Taken Due to Lack of Motion	

Item: Recommendation to Approve GHR Fee Proposal for South Campus Fire Alarm Replacement Project	
Summary of Discussion: None	
Motion:	Second:
Motion to: Approve GHR Fee Proposal for South Campus Fire Pump and Storage Tank Project	
Roll Call Vote:	
Ayes:	Nays:
Action: No Action Taken Due to Lack of Motion	

Closed Session

It was determined there was no need to enter into closed session
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Consent Agenda

Items:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Correction and approval of the minutes of the August 20, 2025 Regular meeting and Closed Session b. Human Resources Recommendations (certified, non-certified, extracurricular) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Employment – Mary Caudill (HS Tabletop Gaming Club Sponsor), Tracey Kelly (SE Yearbook Sponsor) ii. Resignation – Cheyann Alexander (SE/JH Library Aide) iii. Volunteer – Cindy Hunter (HS Swim Coach) 	
Motion: Seth Smoot	Second: Tony High
Motion to: Approve Consent Agenda	
Roll Call Vote:	

Ayes: Seth Smoot, Andrea VanLeer, Martin Birge, Greg Filicsky, Jared Fritz, Tony High, Megan Pierce	Nays: 0
Action: Passed	

Payment of Bills

Item: Payment of the Bills	
Summary of Discussion: None	
Motion: Greg Filicsky	Second: Seth Smoot
Motion to: Pay the Bills	
Roll Call Vote:	
Ayes: Andrea VanLeer, Martin Birge, Greg Filicsky, Jared Fritz, Tony High, Megan Pierce, Seth Smoot	Nays: 0
Action: Passed	

Administrator Reports

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Chambliss, Mr. Allensworth and Mr. Free presented their school reports. • Mr. Cox presented the district report: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Elementary Structure Study Committee was established to study how the elementary grades are structured. There are teacher, parent, SFEA, Board, and admin representatives on the committee. ○ The teachers will attend the County Institute on October 10th at Bismarck-Henning.

New Business

Item: FY26 Budget – Second Reading and Recommendation to Approve	
Summary of Discussion: None	
Motion: Seth Smoot	Second: Martin Birge
Motion to: Approve FY26 Budget	
Roll Call Vote:	
Ayes: Martin Birge, Greg Filicsky, Jared Fritz, Tony High, Megan Pierce, Seth Smoot, Andrea VanLeer	Nays: 0
Action: Passed	

Item: Recommendation to Approve Resolution to Regulate Expense Reimbursements	
Summary of Discussion: Mr. Cox indicated that this is a resolution that is approved annually at the same meeting as the budget.	
Motion: Martin Birge	Second: Jared Fritz
Motion to: Approve Resolution to Regulate Expense Reimbursements	
Roll Call Vote:	
Ayes: Martin Birge, Greg Filicsky, Jared Fritz, Tony High, Megan Pierce, Seth Smoot, Andrea VanLeer	Nays: 0
Action: Passed	

Item: Recommendation to Approve Request for Early Graduation	
Summary of Discussion: Mr. Cox indicated the student is attending Middle College, the alternative program at DACC.	

Motion: Jared Fritz	Second: Seth Smoot
Motion to: Approved Request for Early Graduation	
Voice Vote:	
Ayes: 7	Nays: 0
Action: Passed	

Item: Recommendation to Approve 2026-2027 School Calendar	
Summary of Discussion: Mr. Cox indicated the calendar was created to be done by Memorial Day.	
Motion: Martin Birge	Second: Jared Fritz
Motion to: Approved 2026-2027 School Calendar	
Voice Vote:	
Ayes: 7	Nays: 0
Action: Passed	

Public Expression

None

Date/time for the next meeting

Board meeting Wednesday, October 29, 2025, 6:30 pm in the Unit Office Board Room.

Closed Session

Motion: Seth Smoot	Second: Martin Birge	Time: 8:26 pm
Motion to: Enter into Closed Session for the purpose of personnel and the placement of individual students in special education programs and other matters relating to individual students.		
Roll Call Vote:		
Ayes: Jared Fritz, Tony High, Megan Pierce Seth Smoot, Andrea VanLeer, Martin Birge, Greg Filicsky	Nays: 0	
Action: Passed		

Open Session

Motion: Martin Birge	Second: Seth Smoot	Time: 8:34 pm
Motion to: Return to Open Session		
Voice Vote:		
Ayes: 7	Nays: 0	

Adjourn

Motion: Seth Smoot	Second: Megan Pierce	Time: 8:34 pm
Voice Vote		
Ayes: 7	Nays: 0	

Andrea VanLeer, Board President

Martin Birge, Board Secretary