

**Minutes of the Board of Education of the
Oelrichs School District 23-3
Annual Board Meeting
July 21, 2025**

Call to Order

The Board of Education of the Oelrichs School District 23-3 met in regular session on July 21, 2025, in the High School. The meeting was called to order by John Cope, Board President, at 5:00 pm.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Members Present: John Cope, Katie Merdanian, Dave Osmotherly, and Lance Tlustos.

Members Absent: Marty Schommer

Administration Present: Dr. Mitchell Stone, Principal Peterson, and Business Manager Sword.

MOTION by Osmotherly, second Tlustos, to approve June 16, 2025, meeting minutes. Motion carried.

MOTION by Tlustos, second Merdanian, to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

**All actions recorded in these minutes were by unanimous vote unless otherwise noted.*

Public Participation – no participation.

School Board

Oath of office was administered to Katie Merdanian by Superintendent Stone.

Nominations were opened for President of the Board of Education. Tlustos nominated Cope for Board President, Merdanian seconded. Cope accepted the nomination. Hearing no other nominations, Cope was elected President. John Cope was sworn in as President by Dr. Stone. Nominations were opened for Vice President of the Board of Education. Osmotherly nominated Osmotherly as Vice President, Merdanian seconded. Cope nominated Tlustos as Vice President, Merdanian seconded. By paper vote, Tlustos was elected Vice-President. Lance Tlustos was sworn in as Vice-President by Dr. Stone.

Old Business

High School Construction: Dr. Stone informed the board that the shed has been set up. Merdanian recognized the great job and team effort of the custodial staff to complete that project.

Stone gave the maintenance scheduling for both gym floors to be completed before school starts.

Board Reports: Merdanian requested that the donated TV be installed as soon as possible. She also provided an update about BHSSC.

Administration Reports: Dr. Stone informed the board that the Federal Grants Application opened in the middle of June and was due by June 30. This was a short time frame to complete but was accomplished. The tribal consultation signed off on the application in a timely manner. It has been reported that some of the Federal REAP funding has been frozen. The amount that will impact the district from this freeze is small. Stone informed the board that the Federal Program Fiscal Monitoring for FY24 has been closed. They accepted the corrective action plan submitted on July 17. Stone also informed the board that the elementary school still has an opening for a 4th/5th grade teacher.

Financials

MOTION by Merdanian, second Osmotherly, to accept the unaudited financial reports and pay all invoiced claims. Motion carried.

	<u>Beginning</u> <u>Balance</u>	<u>Plus</u> <u>Receipts</u>	<u>(adjust)</u>	<u>Less</u> <u>Disbursements</u>	<u>Ending</u> <u>Balance</u>
General Fund	509,771.71	103,436.11		254,621.04	358,586.78
Capital Outlay	395,622.51	13,171.92		3,744.01	405,050.42

July 21, 2025

Special Education	91,499.44	12,188.29	13,693.91	89,993.82
Impact Aid	8,832,796.64	27,582.02		8,860,378.66
Food Service	28,016.47	5,787.14	18,908.32	14,895.29
Custodial Balance:	18,712.46		2,181.22	16,531.24

School Property

MOTION by Merdanian, second Osmotherly to vacate the parcel of land on Third Street, east of the alley (see map provided) at the request of Lance Tlustos. Tlustos abstained. Motion carried.

Policies: First Reading

DJA Cash Management
DJ-1 Allowability of Costs
DJ-2 Procurement
DKA Travel
DKB Time and Effort

Contracts

MOTION by Merdanian, second Tlustos to approve a contract with Red Stone Education Group to provide the services of Darla Peterson to perform the duties of preK-12 principal to the district, for school year 2025-2026, at the annual rate \$98,918.40 (includes 12% administrative fee). Motion carried.

MOTION by Osmotherly, second Tlustos to approve the contract with Compass/BHSSC for professional learning services for 2025-26 the total contract price is \$101,326.63. Motion carried.

MOTION by Merdanian, second Osmotherly to approve the contract for auditing services with ELO for FY25 for \$26,000 plus expenses. Motion carried.

MOTION by Tlustos, second Merdanian to approve a contract with Red Stone Education Group to provide the services of Stacy Cope to perform the duties of certified teacher at 68% effort for \$44,537 (includes 12% administrative fee). Cope abstained. Motion carried.

MOTION by Osmotherly, second Merdanian to approve HS Girls Head Basketball Coach to Eric Mabin for \$3,240. Motion carried.

MOTION by Tlustos, second Merdanian to approve a HS Boys Head Basketball Coach to Mato Hinton for \$2,783. Motion carried.

MOTION by Osmotherly, second Tlustos to approve basketball open gym instructor to Mato Hinton for \$25 per hour; not to exceed \$1,500. Motion carried.

Personal

MOTION by Merdanian, second Osmotherly to approve the correction of the published hourly pay for Carol Danks at \$17.50 per hour. Motion carried.

MOTION by Tlustos, second Merdanian to approve the hiring agreement with Denise Drake for the position of school secretary at \$17.00 per hour. Motion carried.

MOTION by Osmotherly, second Merdanian to approve the employment agreement with Koby Carson as welding instructor for school term 2025-2026 for \$45,563. Motion carried.

FY26 Budget: Public Hearing @ 5:30

BE IT RESOLVED that the Oelrichs School District 23-3 after duly considering the proposed budget and after conducting a Public Hearing as per SDCL 13-11-2 does hereby approve and adopt its annual budget for the fiscal year July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026. The adopted annual budget totals are as follows: General Fund \$ 3,168,048; Capital Outlay \$ 942,206; Special Education \$ 262,924; Impact Aid \$ 2,472,261; Food Service \$ 200,466. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the adopted annual budget levy requests are as follows pending modifications by the County Auditor to accommodate the sheltered property. General Fund: Ag maximum levy per \$1,000 of ag valuation; OO maximum levy per \$1,000 of non-ag owner occupied; Non-Ag Other maximum levy per \$1,000 of non-ag other property; Special Education: maximum levy per \$1,000 of total valuation; Capital Outlay: 216,005

Annual Review Open Meeting Law (SDCL 1-25-13)

Board Organization

MOTION by Osmotherly, second Merdanian to approve 1-4 for the 2025-2026 Board Organization as listed. Motion carried.

- 1) First National Bank of Rapid City as the designation of official depository.
- 2) Designation of the Chief Executive Officer as the custodian of all accounts.
- 3) The Fall River Herald-Star is the official legal newspaper.
- 4) Authorization of continuation of existing funds or accounts and the establishment of any new accounts, if necessary.

MOTION by Osmotherly, second Merdanian to approve 5) To set the date, time and place of the regular meetings as the Third **Tuesday** of each month; at the Oelrichs School; at 5:00pm. Motion carried.

MOTION by Tlustos, second Osmotherly to approve 6-18 as listed for the 2025-2026 Board Organization as listed. Motion carried.

- 6) Establishment of advisory committees where applicable.
- 7) Approve Liability insurance of \$1,000,000 for the Business Manager with the premium to be paid by the district; \$1,000,000 for the Chief Executive Officer with the premium to be paid by the district; and \$1,000,000 for the Principal with the premium to be paid by the District.
- 8) Appointment of Chief Executive Officer to serve as administrator of trust and agency accounts.
- 9) Appointment of Chief Executive Officer to direct all federal programs.
- 10) Authorization of advertising bids for materials not already purchased.
- 11) Authorization of Chief Executive Officer to institute school lunch agreement.
- 12) Re-designation of Robert's Rules of Order or other rules as parliamentary procedure for Board meetings.
- 13) Set tuition rate of \$0 for elementary or secondary enrollment.
- 14) Authorization for the Chief Executive Officer to invest and reinvest funds in institutions offering the greatest advantage to the School District.
- 15) Admission prices as follows: Adults \$3.00, Students \$1.00, Activity tickets Senior Citizens \$0, Activity tickets Adults \$20.00, Oelrichs School faculty, staff and students admitted without charge.
- 16) Set Board Member compensation at \$166.00 per day.
- 17) Designation of Chief Executive Officer to close school in emergency situations and in case of inclement weather and setting chain of command in the event the CEO is absent.
- 18) Designation of Principal as District Truancy Officer

MOTION by Tlustos, second Osmotherly to approve the following rates. Merdanian abstained. Motion carried

- 19) Set rates as: \$ 90.00 per day secretarial \$ 90.00 per day non-certified; \$125.00 per day certified; \$135.00 per day long-term (10+ consecutive days); \$ 70.00 per day Kitchen Staff; \$ 52.70 per Bus Run *non CD: \$70 per Bus Run w/CDL; \$18.97 per hour activity driver; \$25.00 per hour route.

MOTION by Merdanian, second Osmotherly to approve 20-25 for the 2025-2026 Board Organization as listed. Motion carried.

- 20) Authorize pre-payment of First National Bank credit card bills each month.
- 21) Authorize the Chief Executive Officer to apply for the Title Consolidated Grant to include Title VI.
- 22) Approve Indian Education Policies and Procedures.
- 23) Approve District Wellness Policy.
- 24) The annual election for School Board members shall be set between the second Tuesday in April and the third Tuesday in June between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. on Election Day.
- 25) Set parent mileage at \$.60 per mile after 5 miles away from school.
- 26) MOTION by Osmotherly, second Tlustos to Designate Mr. Michael Hickey, of Bangs McCullen Law Firm, as legal counsel for the Board. Motion carried.
- 27) MOTION by Osmotherly, second Merdanian to appoint Merdanian to represent the District on the Black Hills Special Services Cooperative; Tlustos as alternate. Motion carried

28) MOTION by Osmotherly, second Tlustos to designate Schommer and the business manager Sword to the Board of Directors of the Black Hills Educational Benefits Plan. Motion carried.

Adjournment

MOTION by Tlustos, second Osmotherly to adjourn the meeting at 6:41 PM. Motion carried.

Attested to by CEO/Superintendent Stone.

Pursuant to SDCL 17-2-28 the approximate cost of publishing this legal notice is \$