



Minutes of a Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the The Red Deer Catholic Separate School Division, held November 13, 2023.

- Present: S. Heistad
M. Hollman
C. Leyson
K. Pasula
A. Watson, Trustees
L. Latka, Secretary-Treasurer
K. Finnigan, Superintendent of Schools
M. St. Pierre, Executive Assistant
J. Butler, Legal Counsel
T. Haykowsky, Legal Counsel
W. Teed, Legal Counsel
- Joined via Zoom: J. Kitchen, Legal Counsel
M. LaGrange, Trustee
- Not in Attendance: D. Lonsdale, Trustee

Board Chair Hollman called the meeting to order at 8:39 AM and shared that Trustee Lonsdale declared a conflict and that is why she is not a part of the meeting.

*Trustee Leyson read the opening prayer aloud.
Trustee Watson read the Land Acknowledgement aloud.*

Trustee Pasula requested that the Board make time for Trustees to speak privately without Administration or Legal Counsel within the in camera portion of the meeting.

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

11/13/23-01-Leyson

THAT THE AGENDA BE ACCEPTED AS PRESENTED.

CARRIED.

Board Chair Hollman asked Administration to leave the meeting room as they will not be deliberating in or decision makers in the proceedings. Superintendent Finnigan,

Secretary-Treasurer Latka, W. Teed and Executive Assistant St. Pierre left the room at 8:46 a.m.

Executive Assistant St. Pierre and W. Teed were asked to enter the meeting at 8:48 a.m to provide administrative and technical support.

11/13/23-02-Pasula

THAT THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MOVE INTO CAMERA AT 8:45 AM.

CARRIED.

11/13/23-03-Leyson

THAT THE BOARD MOVE OUT OF CAMERA AT 5:24 PM.

CARRIED.

11/13/23-04-Watson

THAT THE SPECIAL MEETING IS RECESSED AT 5:25 PM UNTIL NOVEMBER 14, 2023 AT 8:30 AM.

CARRIED.

Board Chair Hollman called the meeting back to order at 8:36 AM on November 14, 2023.

11/13/23-05-Watson

THAT THE SPECIAL MEETING COME OUT OF RECESS AT 8:36 AM ON NOVEMBER 14, 2023.

CARRIED.

The following Trustees, Legal Counsel and Administration personnel were present; Trustees Hollman, Heistad, Leyson, Pasula, and Watson, Superintendent Finnigan, Secretary-Treasurer Latka, Executive Assistant St. Pierre. The following were in attendance via Zoom; T. Haykowsky, J. Butler, J. Kitchen, and Trustee LaGrange. Chair Hollman shared that Trustee Lonsdale declared a conflict and that is why she is not a part of the meeting.

11/13/23-06-Leyson

THAT THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MOVE INTO CAMERA AT 8:37 AM.

CARRIED.

Trustee Heistad, J. Butler, Superintendent Finnigan and Secretary-Treasurer Latka recused themselves from the meeting at 8:37 AM.

11/13/23-07-Watson

THAT THE BOARD MOVE OUT OF CAMERA AT 10:06 AM.

CARRIED.

11/13/23-07-Pasula

I MOVE THAT THE BOARD POSTPONES THIS CODE OF CONDUCT PROCESS UNTIL A COMMITTEE OF THE BOARD CAN INVITE THE RESPONDENT TO A CONFERENCE TO DISCUSS THE SITUATION BEFORE US, ENTER INTO ANY AGREEMENTS, INCLUDING TIME AND COST SAVING MEASURES, AND TO DETERMINE THE BEST COURSE OF ACTION FOR RED DEER CATHOLIC REGIONAL SCHOOLS AND ITS BROADER FAMILY, STUDENT AND CHURCH COMMUNITY GOING FORWARD.

DEFEATED.

Trustee Pasula spoke to his motion, stating that he thought the path we are on, could extend well into the future. Agreement entered during a conference could move matters forward more quickly and finalize others, saving the Division time and money. He added that other actions may also be identified in the interest of our schools and stakeholder communities.

Trustee Watson thanked Trustee Pasula for putting forward the motion, but indicated that she felt the Board of Trustees has allowed sufficient time for reconciliation over the last 6 weeks, and that further time would not be beneficial, for the Division, schools, and families. Watson stated that the matter has been hugely disruptive to the Division and it does not need to be discussed further. Trustee Leyson and Chair Hollman both stated that they echoed Trustee Watson's sentiments.

11/13/23-07-Leyson

BE IT RESOLVED THAT FURTHER TO THE NOVEMBER 13 AND 14, 2023, IN CAMERA DISCUSSIONS, AND AFTER HAVING CAREFULLY CONSIDERED ALL THE POINTS RAISED THEREIN, AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH BOARD POLICY AND THE EDUCATION ACT, TRUSTEE LAGRANGE HAS VIOLATED SANCTIONS ISSUED ON SEPTEMBER 26, 2023, AND HAD FURTHER VIOLATED BOARD POLICY AND THE EDUCATION ACT. AS A RESULT, TRUSTEE LAGRANGE IS HEREBY DISQUALIFIED UNDER SECTION 87(1)(C) OF THE EDUCATION ACT AND BOARD

POLICY FROM REMAINING AS A SCHOOL BOARD TRUSTEE. THE BOARD WILL ISSUE DETAILED REASONS IN SUPPORT OF THIS BOARD MOTION ON OR BEFORE NOVEMBER 24, 2023.

CARRIED.

Trustee Watson spoke to the motion, stating that the Board had issued a fair resolution to the matter but that Trustee LaGrange did not comply with the requests asked of her and that there were no further options or sanctions available to the Board, and disqualification was the only option left. Board Chair Hollmand and Trustee Leyson both echoed her statement.

Trustee Pasula stated that he would like the record to show, that given the Board's commitment to meeting the highest ethical standards, a commitment enhanced when leadership and guidance are forthcoming from within its membership, he stated he won't be able to support the motion for several reasons including and related to:

1. the procedural fairness that the board must act in accordance with; and,
2. the scope of the sanctions Policy 4 makes available to the board.

He stated that he has unresolved questions regarding the procedure the Board has been engaged in through the complaint process in concert with concerns regarding whether our code of conduct authorizes the Board to institute the sanction the motion calls for, and additionally, should it be available as a sanction, whether the proposed disqualification of a publicly elected official - with a duty to represent the electorate, would be commensurate with the conduct of the respondent that gave rise to the complaint.

Mr. Kitchen, Legal Counsel for Trustee LaGrange, stated aloud that Trustee LaGrange will resign pursuant to section 90 of Education Act, and a written resignation will be sent to the Board.

Ms. Haykowsky, Legal Counsel for the Board, asked Mr. Kitchen if the resignation of Trustee LaGrange can be provided to the Board in writing and Mr. Kitchen indicated that yes, a written resignation will be sent to the Division.

Trustee Pasula read the closing prayer aloud.

11/13/23-09-Pasula

THAT THE SPECIAL MEETING ADJOURN, THE TIME BEING 10:21 AM.

CARRIED.

(CHAIR)

(SECRETARY-TREASURER)