

Sublette USD #374
Official Minutes

The Sublette Unified School District No. 374 Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, July 14, 2025 at 7:15 p.m.

Members Present:

Grant Webber via phone Pete Dyck Cornelius Froese Ruthie Vaughan Shyree Wiswell

Members Absent: Juan Chacon Lee Mason

Others Present: Rex Richardson, Superintendent; Charity Ochs-Lathen, Clerk; Renee Phoenix and Brooke Patterson, Curriculum Directors; Sonya Pena, MS/HS Principal.

Guests: There were no guests present.

Item #1 Call Meeting to Order /Approve Agenda

The Vice-President called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m. Mr. Dyck moved, seconded by Mrs. Vaughan to approve the agenda. The motion carried 5-0.

Item #2 Approve Minutes

Mr. Webber moved, seconded by Mr. Dyck, to approve the minutes of the June 9, 2025 meeting. The motion carried 5-0.

Item #3 Treasurer's Report

Prior to the meeting, Mr. Dyck, Mr. Froese, Mrs. Vaughan, and Mrs. Wiswell reviewed Purchase Orders and supporting documents presented for payment. Mr Dyck move, seconded by Mrs. Froese to pay the bills as presented. The motion carried 5-0.

Item #4 Communications

There was a Thank You note from the family of Martha Garetson.

Reports

Principals

Mrs. Pena reported to the Board that an English teacher had been hired. The auditorium doors project is almost complete and they are just finishing up painting and looking for ideas on display cases. Andrea Simmons is at Yearbook training. They are looking at ways to scaleback the page count of the yearbook to help reduce the cost. Mrs. Pena said she attended the Principal's Conference in June and came away with a lot of really good information. Ms. Patterson and Ms. Phoenix were working on the Mentor/ Mentee list.

Mrs. Lee was not present but left a report for the Board. Highlights mentioned were the conclusion of Summer School; Summer Foods is going well; Enrollment and the clothing drive is Wednesday, August 6th; and the donation of several hundred pounds of ground beef from Friona Cattle.

Curriculum

Ms. Patterson stated the Savaas curriculum was ordered. She said they were looking at training opportunities for the new staff members and that all the Title reports had been submitted.

Ms. Phoenix reported she will be attending KSDE Conference the end of July.

Activities Director

Mr. Befort was not present.

SWPRSC- Mrs. Vaughan stated it was a very short meeting with nothing new to report.

HPEC- No report

PUBLIC FORUM

There was no public forum.

Item #5 Budget Needs Assessment

KSDE and the State want to monitor how the money is spent. 80% of our budget is salary related. The information given to the Board was a first read. Scores will be available the first two weeks after KSDE approves them.

Item #6 Donations

Mike and Karen Gesling are moving and would like to donate a Baby Grand Piano to USD 374. Mrs. Wiswell moved, seconded by Mrs. Vaughan to accept the donation. The motion carried 5-0.

Item #7 Disposal of District Property

Mrs. Paula Leverett would like to purchase her desktop computer. The value was set at \$400. Mr. Dyck moved, seconded by Mrs. Wiswell to allow for the purchase. The motion carried 5-0. The motion carried 5-0.

Item #8 Revenue Neutral Rate

Mr. Richardson stated he had a KSDE Budget meeting on Friday, July 18, 2025. After that meeting, it will determine whether or not we have to exceed the RNR

Item #9 Publication of the District Budget

Mr. Richardson stated he would like to publish the budge with enrollment at 365 students. This will give enough allowance to prevent have to republish. Mr. Webber moved, seconded by Mr. Dyck to approve. The motion carried 5-0.

Item #10 Handbooks

After having the handbooks presented as a first read at the June 9, 2025 Board meeting, Mrs Vaughan. moved, seconded by Mrs. Wiswell to approve the handbooks with the changes presented. The motion carried 5-0.

Item #11 Auditorium Entrance

The Board stated they felt it looked too plain and unfinished and wanted to discuss ideas to help the aesthetics.. Mrs. Pena stated she would like to put some wraps on the doors to help dress it up. Mr. Richardson also stated that landscaping would be completed.

Item #12 Federal Funds

Mr. Richardson informed the Board that we would no longer be getting Title IIA, III and IV funds. We are waiting on a decision about whether or not we will receive funding for the 21st Century grant.

Executive Session Non-Elected Personnel

Mr. Dyck moved, seconded by Mrs. Wiswell to enter into Executive Session to include Mr. Richardson. The motion carried 5-0. The Board reconvened to open session at 8:15 p.m.

Item #13 Personnel

Mrs. Wiswell moved, seconded by Mr. Dyck to hire Mrs. Catherine Lowther for High School English. The motion carried 5-0. Mr. Webber moved, seconded by Mrs. Wiswell to allow Mr. Richardson to be the Superintendent of Record at Rolla. The motion carried 5-0.

Item #14 Superintendent's Report

Mr. Richardson stated he had nothing to report.

With no other business to discuss, Mrs. Wiswell moved, seconded by Mrs. Vaughn to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried 5-0.

NOTE: These minutes are not considered official until approved by the Board at its next regular meeting.

President

Clerk

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