

PUBLIC NOTICES

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Powers Lake School
Board Proceedings
Unofficial Abbreviated
School Board Minutes
Monday, April 14, 2025

President Schroeder called the meeting to order at 4:34 pm with Vice President Loeks and Directors Bullinger, Grote, and Helseth. Others present were Superintendent Kranz, Principal Wisthoff, Dean of Students Hoiby, and Business Manager Jensen.

Visitors present: Brittany Douts, Hannah Sorenson, and Gayleen Thorlaksen.

Additions to the Agenda: None. Bullinger made a motion to set the agenda, and Loeks seconded it. The motion passed.

Minutes of the previous meeting held March 13, 2025, were reviewed by email by the Board members. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Loeks and seconded by Helseth. The motion passed.

Business Manager's Report: Fund reports were reviewed by copies emailed to the Board members. Jensen reported that Statements of Candidacy for School Board Election had been received from 4 individuals. Questions regarding bills were answered.

March Bills: H. Abalos \$200.00; ACT Testing 27.00; AFLAC 2,549.57; Alexander School 1,747.95; All American Trophies 235.80; E. Andres 200.00; Bismarck Hotel 217.82; Bowbells School 421.45; BSN Sports 2,703.00; Bullinger Family Meats 3,746.70; J. Bullinger 100.00; Burke Central School 120.00; BC Tribune 168.42; CREAA 1,500.00; M. Christenson 775.00; City of PL 445.00; Coca-Cola 112.50; The Country Store 1,621.14; CSTAND 50.00; Culligan 30.00; DBGR 2576.00; M. Davis 117.45; B. Debolt 300.00; Divide County School 1,747.95; DC School 100.00; D. Erbes 400.00; R. Evensvold 25.00; FU Oil Kenmare 4810.22; FU Oil Kenmare 1,500.00; A. Fiesel 515.00; D. Flaagen 1,113.20; Food Barn 400.00; G&P Sales 2,887.94; Glenburn School 69.00; J. Graupe 300.00; Gray's Dairy 1,083.25; J. Hansen 700.00; Harlow's 718.59; K. Hennix 1,066.20; Horace Mann 390.84; P. Jensen 118.88; J. Tinjum 72.00; John's Sand & Gravel 900.00; S. Johnson 116.00; Jorgenson Lumber 357.00; JP Morgan 6,766.90; Kenmare School 1,747.95; K. Keyser 300.00; D. Kruger 300.00; J. Larson 300.00; Liberty State 7.57; M. Lund 700.00; MARCO 3,670.40; MARCO Inc. 7,093.71; J. Mehlhoff 1,012.40; MDU 10,525.71; Musik Worx 250.00; ND DPI 1,403.25; NDHSAA 2,414.00; NDSBA 1,072.50; A. Nordloef 100.00; J. Nordloef 120.00; ND MathCounts 180.00; North Shore Plaza School 100.00; NCC 653.87; Parshall School 1,747.95; A. Parslow 75.00; 2nds For Meals 2,581.00; K. Morris 165.00; PL School 1,747.95; Prairie Pride Foods 198.23; Pye Baker 497.00; Rancher Girl 483.00; Ray Sschool 1,747.95; RHI 1,055.70; J. Rosin 620.00; C. Rystedt 150.00; Sanford 129.00; SNA Depository 55.25; Stanley School 150.00; B. Streifel 135.00; SYSCO 7,090.98; SYSCO 591.12; TMS 296.80; Tioga School 1,747.95; TMC-416.00; Trenton School 75.00; Velvea School 137.00; Watterud Counseling 583.00; T. Westernness 220.00; WEX 80.00; WSC 750.00; Trinity Christian School 1,747.95; S. Wisthoff 425.00.

Helseth motioned to accept all financial reports and approve the payment of the accounts payable bills presented, seconded by Grote. The motion passed.

High School Principal's Report: Mr. Wisthoff reported on the Prom and Jr-Sr Banquet, Scrubs Camp, the Anatomy Class tour of UNO Med School, ACTs, ND A-Plus, and NWEA scores.

Dean of Students' Report: Ms. Hoiby reported on enrollment, FBIA students qualifying for Nationals, Speech students qualifying for State, Region IX Vocal students qualifying for State, the FFA Banquet, and Chess students attending a tournament in Bismarck.

Elementary Principal Report: Mrs. Kranz reported on the 9 Square in the Air fundraiser, reading Charlotte's Web for family engagement activity, bring a parent/grown-up to school day, Student Council tours for new teacher candidates, Preschool registration, and evals.

Superintendent Report: Superintendent Kranz reported on finances, grants/donations, building/maintenance, transportation, staff updates, meetings/trainings, curriculum/assessment, and the Screen Sanity presentation.

Transportation Report: Pre-K registration has indicated that we will have a few new pickups on the outer boundaries of both the North and South ends of the district. A list of buses and school-owned vehicles was given to the board with current odometer readings.

Athletic Director's Report: Elementary girls' and boys' basketball is going well. The season will continue through the end of April. Track, baseball, softball, and boys' golf are being offered this spring. Scheduling games for next year continues as we seek to finalize our sports schedules.

Unfinished Business: None
New Business:

A. **Pre-K Contract:** Helseth made a motion to approve the Pre-K teachers' contract from a 50% contract to a 55% contract, and Loeks seconded the motion. The motion carried.

B. **Resignation-Dan Nelson:** President Schroeder read a letter of resignation from Dan Nelson, Agriculture Educator. Loeks made a motion to accept the resignation with regrets, and Grote seconded the motion. The motion carried.

C. **Non-Certified Salaries:** The salaries of the Transportation Staff and Ancillary Staff for 2025-2026 were discussed. Helseth made a motion to approve a 3% increase across the board for all these employees. Loeks seconded the motion. Grote abstained from voting. The motion carried. The new business manager's salary will be negotiated at a later date.

D. **Administration Salaries:** Bullinger made a motion to approve the following salaries for 2025-2026:

Supt./Elementary Principal Sue Kranz-3% increase; High School Principal Seth Wisthoff-3% increase; Dean of Students, Caren L. Hoiby-Step 41 Lane 4

Loeks seconded the motion. The motion carried.

E. **Strategic Plan:** A discussion was held regarding Strategic Priority 5-Operational Effectiveness (continued from the Board Retreat meeting held March 17, 2025). It was the consensus of everyone present to plan a walkthrough of the building and property and compile a list to help identify our goals and what our action steps will be to execute the plan.

Additions to the Agenda: None
The next meeting date is set for **Tuesday, May 13, 2025, at 4:30 pm** (walkthrough) and 5:30 pm (meeting) in the Science room.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Grote and seconded by Helseth. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at **6:56 pm**.

Jody Schroeder
School Board President
Patricia L. Jensen, Business Manager
April 30, 2025

Notice of Hearing

Cassie Tostenson
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Probate No. 07-2024-PR-00047
NORTH CENTRAL DISTRICT COURT, BURKE COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA
In the Matter of the Estate of Denise Mildred Role, a/k/a Denise Mildred Hauge, Deceased
NOTICE OF HEARING FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION OF INTESTACY AND APPOINTMENT OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE
[1.] NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Sandra D. Morgan has filed herein a Petition for Formal Appointment of Personal Representative in Intestacy.
[2.] Hearing has been set before the Honorable Gary Lee upon said Petition on the 16th day of June, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. via Zoom, ndcourts-gov.zoom.us. Meeting ID 443 717 6409, Participant ID 12345.

Dated: April 14, 2025.
Cassie J. Tostenson
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Attorney ID: 07915
Attorney for Petitioner
April 16, 23 & 30, 2025

Property for Sale
on Sealed Bids

The City of Bowbells is accepting bids for the following property:
Lot 24, Block 1 OT, Bowbells City
Bids must be submitted to the City Auditor at Bowbells City Hall, 100 Main Street NW or mail to: City of Bowbells, PO Box 100, Bowbells ND 58721 by 4:00 pm, May 12th, 2025. Please write "Bid for Lot 24, Block 1, OT, Bowbells City" on the envelope. The bids will be opened at the next City Council's regular meeting on May 12th, 2025 at 7:00 PM. This lot is zoned Commercial.

The bid must contain intentions for the site and any project must start within one year or the property reverts back to the City with no refund. The highest bidder will be contacted and payment will be due within 7 business days. The City of Bowbells has the right to reject any and all bids.

The property advertised shall be sold to the highest bidder if that person's intentions are deemed in the best interests of the City of Bowbells by a majority of the members of the Bowbells City Council.

Sale to be a Quit Claim Deed paid by the buyer, sold as is with no warranty or guarantee. The City of Bowbells has the right to reject any and all bids.

Lanette Jager
Bowbells City Auditor
April 30 & May 7, 2025

Federal Funding Cuts Prolong Anxiety for ND Institutions

State Library, Research Universities Await Next Moves

By Michael Standaert
North Dakota
News Cooperative

Trump administration orders to slash funding across the country have put the future of some programs offered by the State Library of North Dakota at risk.

Other federal funding cuts have already hit research at the University of North Dakota and North Dakota State University in health, science and the humanities.

Pending cuts have programs on edge about their future, potentially impacting citizens whose lives are enriched by those programs.

Staffers at the Institute of Museum and Library Services were put on leave in March following executive orders to reduce the size of the agency.

Three states - California, Connecticut and Washington - all had grant funding terminated.

The State Library, which received \$1,295,858 from the IMLS in 2024 to help pay for portions of the programs, is currently waiting to see if funding will be disbursed in this fiscal year.

"We haven't received any official notification that we're getting those funds, but we haven't received official notification that we're not getting those funds either," said Mary Soucie, State Librarian.

Federal grants provided to the State Library help support services for libraries, students, state employees and citizens across the state.

These include interlibrary loan services, the collection of both physical books and e-books, online library databases, and for the provision of materials to those with physical, visual or reading impairments.

Federal funding has flowed to state libraries since 1956, first through the Department of Education, and since the creation of the IMLS in 1996, through that agency.

Allotments for the State Library increased from around \$600,000 in 1999, to the current \$1,275,000 expected for both fiscal years 2025 and 2026.

Something that potentially impacts all North Dakotans if funding evaporates is the ability of the State Library to add to e-book collections across the state, as well as providing online databases that allow access to things like continuing education courses, language learning, and genealogy research through Ancestry.com.

The ancestry database is only available by being physically present in the library, Soucie said, and was accessed over 330,000 times last year, so loss of funding could potentially lead to the loss of that popular resource.

Interlibrary loan services could continue in the state if federal funding was cut, Soucie said, but it would impact the ability to serve people across the state. That funding helps cover postage costs to get materials out to people.

"We're the only state that mails directly to patrons' homes," Soucie said.

Nine counties in the state do not have a library, and 23 counties don't have statewide



NDSL Interior 3: One of the primary missions of the North Dakota State Library is to provide services to all libraries and all residents across the state, especially in areas where no public library services exist. A loss of federal funding could impact its ability to fulfill those missions, including interlibrary loans. Last year over 115,000 books were distributed through that service. Photo provided.

library services, but anyone in the state can get a State Library card and use it to access materials and databases online or have physical items sent to them directly.

Over 115,000 books were sent to patrons across the state through public libraries using the interlibrary loan services last year, and that's not counting what's distributed through K-12 libraries or at higher education institutions, Soucie said.

Three full-time employees at the State Library, as well as the rent paid by the library to use the space in the Liberty Memorial Building on the capitol grounds in Bismarck, are also covered by federal funding.

If cuts do go through, the State Library would have to go to the state Emergency Commission to see if those funds could be covered full or in part by the state.

"If the funding is not received, we would have to look at what services we could make changes to, because a third of our budget comes from those federal dollars," Soucie said.

Research disruptions,
anxiety

Scott Snyder, Vice President for Research and Economic Development at the University of North Dakota, said the university had dodged significant cuts seen at other institutions around the country so far, but has had some federal grants canceled in recent months.

Those four grants totaled around \$1.4 million and included a \$900,000 National Institute of Health (NIH) grant to help introduce undergraduate students to biomedical science fields, pair them with faculty mentors, and provide travel grants to gain experience at other laboratories.

"It was really to bring students who might not have otherwise gone into biomedical sciences into the fold," Snyder said.

Two grants canceled in cuts to the Centers for Disease Control included one looking at disparities in the treatment of Covid within various populations in the state, and another for a health ambassador program for students at the univer-

sity. A NIH grant related to breast cancer research was also terminated, but did not have a monetary impact since the project was already completed, Snyder said.

One area of uncertainty for the university is a proposal to cap NIH coverage of indirect costs for universities at 15%, shifting billions of dollars in research cost burdens directly to the universities themselves.

UND currently has an indirect cost rate of 41%, already lower than many other universities.

The reform of NIH indirect cost rates was halted by an April 4 federal district court injunction in the U.S. District Court of Massachusetts, setting the stage for a court battle that may eventually be decided by the U.S. Supreme Court.

"The future remains very cloudy, though," Snyder said. "What happens is everything is moving along and then all of a sudden another policy drops or another series of cuts or what-nots drops."

Snyder said another immediate impact from funding turmoil is that formal and informal notifications for awards continue to come in, but funds do not always get disbursed.

"So, we're seeing big time delays in these agencies' ability to get money out the door and support the work they said they were going to support," Snyder said. "We're flying a bit in the dark, and that has the potential to get more disruptive if that money doesn't continue to move."

At North Dakota State University, history professor Angela Smith was impacted by the loss of a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities secured by Michigan Tech Institute in December last year.

The grant would have provided a team of scholars including Smith at NDSU along with others in Canada, Brazil, South Carolina and Oklahoma to learn how to use a deep mapping system.

For the Smith project, that would have meant mapping the Red River Valley and setting up a system where the public could see the past in new ways.

Think of it like a series of

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layers of history that can be unpeeled for a particular location, with oral histories, historical maps, archeology, and land records all providing narratives throughout time for that location.

"We are trying to weave these narratives using GIS and place-based primary source tags so that the public can understand the deep layers of how history unfolds," Smith said.

That could mean scoping back to the glacial period to examine Lake Agassiz, then scoping out to when large grasslands burst forth to support vast herds of bison roaming the drying lakebed.

Then out again to detail how the grasses and bison laid down the rich topsoil that became hugely productive farmland for the bonanza farming era in Minnesota and the Dakotas from the 1870s to 1920.

Smith is still planning on taking her own project forward as much as she can with future grants.

"This is a multi-year project," Smith said. "What this grant did is it helped us to build a plan so that we can go back for bigger grants to build it out."

Smith said the value of this work and of many other researchers like herself is to pass on knowledge and enrich the lives of others.

"It's why I do what I do, it's why I chose this profession," she said. "So now the federal government doesn't value that and they slash indiscriminately. They don't even pick what's important to them. It's indiscriminate. It's across the board."

The North Dakota News Cooperative is a non-profit news organization providing reliable and independent reporting on issues and events that impact the lives of North Dakotans. The organization increases the public's access to quality journalism and advances news literacy across the state. For more information about NDNC or to make a charitable contribution, please visit newscoopnd.org.

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