

Red Barn Schoolhouse (RBS)

Governing Board (GB)

Monthly Meeting

6 August 2025

Minutes of the general meeting of the Red Barn Schoolhouse Governing Board on August 6, 2025 called to order by Sharon Oamek at 9:00 am. In attendance: Oamek, Shea, Pritchett, and Jessica Messerschmidt.

MOTION BY SHEA to amend the agenda to add motion for approval of Resolution 2510, seconded by Oamek. All ayes, Motion approved.

MOTION BY PRITCHETT to approve amended agenda, seconded by Shea. All ayes, motion approved.

MOTION BY PRITCHETT to approve the minutes from August 6, 2025 meeting, seconded by Oamek. All ayes. Motion carried.

MOTION BY OAMEK to approve Jessica Messerschmidt as a new Governing Board member with the role of Secretary effective immediately, seconded by Shea. All ayes, motion approved.

All Governing Board members take oath of office for compliance with federal, state and local laws.

Discussion of Amended ByLaws. Pritchett shares his professional opinion that there is no need nor standard in typical GB Bylaws to have attendance standards of board members.

Messerschmidt stated that she feels that attendance should be in the bylaws as a small measure that protects the school and ensures that the people making decisions for the school (i.e. GB) are in fact involved and in attendance to its regular meetings. Shea recommends in lieu of adding attendance and removal procedures to the bylaws that a policy be adopted covering these two items. A policy will be drafted in September for review by Oamek.

MOTION BY SHEA to approve Resolution No. 2509 to Approve Amended Bylaws and Conflict of Interest Policy, seconded by Pritchett. All ayes, motion approved.

Discussion regarding record retention. Pritchett stated that RBS Attorney, Guinan O'Siochain have record copies and will retain centralized at their office on our behalf. Electronic records are preferred. Separate physical notebook will be used for resolutions.

Discussion of site locations with updates by Shea on 4 potential sites.

Presentation by Cynthia Gehrie on activities by artists, naturalists and teachers working group (WG). Detailed updates presented on curriculum planning, working groups, lesson plans, and recruitment. Powerpoint presentation gives further insight into how to integrate the spirit and mission of RBS with the curriculum, the teachers, and subject matter experts in a collaborative and meaningful way and adhere to Iowa Academic standards.

Discussion about solicitation for more WG members. Messerschmidt will work with Gehrie re posting. Messerschmidt will post request on Crescent Facebook, Instagram and Crescent Connection.

Discussion on fundraising. Oamek reported information submitted by Sasha Clifton and Jess Urban. Roles of those responsible for fundraising and communications discussed.

Pritchett resigns from Board effective immediately since he is moving out of the service area. Resignation is accepted by the Governing Board. Pritchett leaves meeting at 9:30.

Discussion of communication and marketing plan. Messerschmidt will take the lead on marketing and social media posts. She will reach out to Jess Urban about Instagram account. She will also meet in person with Clifton and Urban to get history and assist in determining roles and ensuring that communication line is cohesive. Governing Board members are dissatisfied with current website and feel that it does not represent our mission and vision adequately. Discussed the need for revision of website. Will discuss with Nate Eckley at next meeting. Governing Board should receive copies of all LGL email distributions, approve correspondence before sent and get updated list of people included in LGL listing. Paid positions and volunteer positions need to be evaluated regularly by the board to ensure proper oversight, fiscal responsibility, and that all matters concerning the RBS and its partners involve the GB in some capacity

MOTION BY SHEA to adopt Resolution 2510 regarding the Donation Return, seconded by Oamek. All ayes, motion approved.

MOTION BY OAMEK to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Shea. All ayes, motion approved. Meeting adjourned at noon. Next board meeting is Aug 20th 2025