

Board Chairman Jason Redick called the **regular meeting** of the board of Directors of Sweet Home School District No. 55 to order at 6:30 p.m. on June 9, 2025.

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**Board Members in Attendance**

Jason Redick, Mike Adams, Mary Massey, Dale Keene, Floyd Neuschwander, Jim Gourley    Absent: Sara Hoffman, Jenna Northern, Amanda Carter

**Staff Members in Attendance**

Superintendent: Terry Martin; Administrators/Supervisors: Kevin Strong, Josh Darwood, Ralph Brown, Luke Augsburger, Nate Tyler, Lisa Leatham, Mark Looney, Brian Brands; Certified: Steve Thorpe; Classified: none; Board Recording Secretary: Julie Emmert

**Other Attendance:** Scott Swanson, New Era

The Board of Directors of the Sweet Home School District will hold a public hearing on the District's 2025-2026 Budget from 6:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. During this time the Board shall receive comments from the public on the budget. If there are no comments, the Board will proceed with the regular School Board Meeting. The public hearing will close at 7:00 p.m.

**1. Called the meeting to order/pledge**

**2. Public Comments: NONE**

**3. Agenda Approval/Changes**

Chairman Redick called for changes and/or approval of the agenda

***Motion No. 25-32: Board Member Dale Keene moved to approve the agenda as presented. Board Member Mike Adams seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously***

**4. Student & Personnel Reports/Comments**

- A. Certified & Classified Representatives: Steve Thorpe - recognized the accomplishments of our admin team this school year. Graduation - was a great success and the scholarships were outstanding. Thanked the board for attending and representing the district. 25 early grads. Safe party was a great success.
- B. Student representative: NONE
- C. Superintendent's Report:
  - 163 students graduated on Friday Night- great success.
  - Honored our board who are retiring. Thanked those who served.
  - Thanked Lisa Leatham for her time at Foster.
  - Building Principals have been sending pictures in and we have been putting them out to parents letting them see what is happening in our schools.
  - Enrollment/Attendance- Hawthorne was the attendance winner with 92%.
- 1. Strategic Plan Progress: Will be updating the strategic plan for next year.
  - A. Pillar 1 - OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT
  - B. Pillar 2 - THRIVING CITIZEN
  - C. Pillar 3 - THRIVING COMMUNITY
  - D. Pillar 4 - SAFE AND WELCOMING FACILITIES AND SERVICE

**5. Consent Agenda**

- A. Approved minutes from the May 12, 2025, School Board Meeting
- B. Approved hire of Kayla Lopez, Social Studies at the High School for the 2025-2026 school year
- C. Approved hire of Jesse Nelson, Science at the Jr. High school for the 2025-2026 School year

- D. Approved hire of Thomas Love, Art Teacher at the High School for the 2025-2026 school year

***Motion No. 25-33: Board Member Jim Gourley moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Board Member Mary Massey seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.***

**6. Information/Discussion**

- A. Budget Update: Kevin Strong gave a budget update YTD General fund spending compared to adopted budget & YTD spending last year by object code

**7. Action Items**

- A. **RESOLUTION #02-2425** Close Public Hearing with a motion to adopt the 2025-2026 approved budget (should be close to 7:00 p.m.)

***Motion No. 25-34: Board Member Jim Gourley moved to adopt the 2025-2026 budget with no changes including \$1,937,000 for general obligation bond debt service and maintaining a permanent tax rate of \$5.0057 per \$1,000 of assessed value and a local option tax rate of \$0.30 per \$1,000 of assessed value. Board Member Dale Keene seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.***

Several questions were raised regarding the budget - differences from last year to this coming year. PERS will be going up next year and our enrollment is going down. This will impact our budget.

- 8. Board Comments:** Floyd Neuschwander commented on the scholarships that were granted and given to our students. Kristin Adams is a huge part of the kids being motivated to apply for these scholarships.

Mary Massey thanked Jason for his 20 years of service and Jim Gourley for his service and helping her through the learning process of being a board member. Also thanked the district for the quick reaction to the incident that happened at the track during the kickball tournament.

Jason Redick wanted to leave stressing that the kids should always be first!

Jim Gourley hopes the new board will continue to pinpoint what the superintendent is doing and keep him on track should be the board's priority. Mike Adams thanked Jason for his 20 years of service to the board.

**9. Late Items – NONE**

**10. Future Agenda Items**

- A. Work Session - New Board Members, Monday, June 23, 2025 - 3:00 - 6:00 pm
- B. Next Board Officers Meeting, Monday, July 7, 2025 at 3:30 p.m. Superintendent's Office
- C. Next Board Meeting- Monday, July 14, 2025 at 6:30 p.m. in DO Boardroom
- D. Summer Board Conference, August 8-10, 2025 Salem Convention Center

**11. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 7:19 p.m.

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*Signature, Board Chairman*

*Julie Emmert, Board Recording Secretary (This meeting was also recorded and saved supt/board/audio)*