

FINANCE COMMITTEE
GRAND FORKS SCHOOL BOARD
GRAND FORKS PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT #1
MEETING MINUTES
July 9, 2025

The Grand Forks School Board Finance Committee met on Wednesday, July 9, 2025, at the Mark Sanford Education Center, with Bill Palmiscno as the meeting chairperson.

Committee Members Present: Board Members Josh Anderson, Joel Larson (via phone), Bill Palmiscno, Superintendent Dr. Terry Brenner, Business Manager Brandon Baumbach, Associate Superintendent Dr. Catherine Gillach, and Assistant Superintendent Matt Bakke.

Committee Members Absent: Board Member Eric Lunn and GFAFB Board Member Branden Shepperd.

Others Present: None.

Call to Order.

The meeting was called to order at 6:06 p.m.

Consideration of Meeting Minutes.

It was moved by Anderson and seconded by Larson to approve the minutes of June 2, 2025, as written. Upon voice vote, the motion carried unanimously. Absent: Lunn.

General Discussion About Tax Increment Financing.

Baumbach provided an overview of the pros and cons of “in lieu of taxes” incentives. When a project does not move forward, the school district would not receive additional tax dollars. When a project does move forward, the school district may receive additional tax dollars for the term of the PILOT, plus additional tax dollars post-term.

A notable disadvantage would be a property being developed by someone other than a TIF request. While Grand Forks has not participated in many TIFs, the city has been more aggressive under current city leadership.

Committee members discussed what would happen if one of the three taxing entities (the City, County, or School District) did not want to participate. An opinion from Attorney Laura Cobb is pending.

Baumbach presented an example using the University Flats TIF Exemption, which demonstrated a pre-project value of \$746,500 with an estimated completion value of \$6.16 million. The net 30-year estimated net tax revenue gain is \$2.3 million. Another example that Baumbach presented was the Pure North TIF Exemption, which is estimated to generate a net tax gain of \$3.9 million.

It was reported that two requests for a PILOT are expected to be considered by the board at its July 14 meeting.

Next Meeting Date.

The next meeting date is to be determined.

Adjournment.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:56 p.m.

APPROVED _____
(Date)

Bill Palmiscno, Meeting Chairperson

Brandon Baumbach, Business Manager