

Negotiator York Not Re-Hired

by Keith Klingenberg

District 6 school board members voted Tuesday evening not to renew the contract of Leonard York, the board's professional negotiator.

Current contract expires Feb. 20. York's old contract called for annual \$1,500 retainer and he paid his expenses. He had requested the same retainer, but that his expenses be paid by the district, if his contract had been renewed.

A registered letter has been sent to York informing him his contract will not be renewed. Under the old contract, unless such a letter is sent 30 days prior to the expiration date, the contract is automatically renewed for another year.

Board members can vote to re hire York at anytime in the future. Board member Lawrence Melby voted against the motion to refuse York's contract renewal.

School board also received the bill for the services of factfinder John H. Abernathy.

Board members were told the State Board of Personnel Appeals has already paid Abernathy \$1,796.54 and a letter was read asking the school board to pay \$598.84 of that.

One third of the factfinding costs are paid by the Board of Personnel Appeals, one third by the school district and one

third by the teachers' association.

There was discussion among board members because Abernathy had based his bill on a \$200 per day charge, having spent seven days working as factfinder, plus expenses.

Board members thought he should be paid only \$100 per day, as stipulated by state law. Board of Personnel Appeals letter said Abernathy would be paid the \$200 per day because he had not been notified the regular rate in Montana was \$100 per day.

School trustees thought Abernathy had been notified of the \$100 per day rate.

Larry Wilson, board member, said, "The State Board of Personnel Appeals can break their own rules and try to make us pay for their error. I won't vote to pay \$200 per day."

So the board voted to pay their one-third based on \$100 per day plus expenses. Clerk business manager Garth Jacobi said a check for \$365.51 will be sent to the Board of Personnel Appeals. Included with the check will be a copy of the minutes containing discussion of the matter.

Judy Bergstrom, president of the teachers association said she hasn't formally received her bill for the factfinding and no



ON MORE FRIENDLY TERMS
now that a new contract has been agreed upon are the members of the school board and teachers negotiating teams. Left to right are Peggy Saurey and Doug Teddy, teachers; Larry Wilson, board

member, Alida Blair, teacher; Richard Taylor, school board chairman; Judy Bergstrom, chief negotiator for teachers; Lawrence Melby, board member. Seated is Garth Jacobi, district clerk-business manager. Keith Klingenberg photo.

decision has been made on how the association will pay it.

CFHS has been accredited by the Montana Committee for Secondary Education, North west Association of Schools and Colleges.

There were four deviations from the standards. First was that a semester class was counted as a one-half course offering.

Second was that the guidance and counseling ratio was exces

sive. Since the Dec. 6 hiring of school psychologist Dale Lee, this matter has been relieved, said Tom Henneberg, high school principal.

Third deviation noted was that the high school has been overcrowded for several years. It was noted the current enrollment is 833 and the building was designed for 600 students.

Last deviation said Jim Moulds is not endorsed to teach general science.

Official school calendar was adopted by the board. This calls for 180 instructional days, the same as if the four days at the beginning of school were held.

One day was made up at the beginning of Christmas vacation. Students got out Dec. 23 rather than Dec. 22. Another day will be made up April 11, the Monday following Easter.

Final two days are made up June 9 and 10. School board announced teachers will not be

Sch On

District 6 school teachers have a new two year contract after a labor dispute which has been ongoing since the classes.

School board members during their Tuesday meeting. Teachers' acclamation was given to accept the

The 33 page contract calls for a base pay for staff at \$9,100, up from \$8,500. Highest teacher will go from \$17,945.

To determine the second year of the base salary will be the National Consumer Price Index (CPI) to starting wage.

Increments for experience and education are \$425 for

paid for the first school was offered.

There was discussion of paying teachers for the unfair labor practices. The board conducted a vote on the Board of Personnel Appeals.

Board members voted to pay teachers and time spent in the

Richard Taylor, school board chairman, said it