

**SAN DIEGO COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
SAN DIEGO COUNTY COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL DISTRICT ORGANIZATION**

Minutes of the Special Meeting, Thursday, January 23, 2014
San Diego County Office of Education
Jack Port Board Room #508
6401 Linda Vista Road, San Diego, California 92111

I. OPENING PROVISIONS

- A. Call To Order And Roll Call – 1:00 p.m.

Members Present: Anderson, Hartley, Jones, Robinson

Members Absent: Neylon

Secretary: Ward

Recording Secretary: Bowers

Also Present: Lora Duzyk, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services Division

A quorum was present for the conduct of business.

- B. Pledge Of Allegiance To The Flag

- C. Approval of Agenda

MSC (Jones/Robinson) to approve the agenda. The motion passed by unanimous vote of the members present (4-0).

- D. Public Comment on Agenda Items - None

II. CONVENE THE MEETING OF THE COUNTY COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL DISTRICT ORGANIZATION

- A. Transmittal of Petition for Establishment of Trustee Areas in the Sweetwater Union High School District and for the Election of One Member of the Governing Board Residing in Each Trustee Area by the Registered Voters in that Trustee Area.

Education Code section 5019 authorizes the County Committee on School District Organization (“County Committee”) to establish trustee areas and to adopt one of the alternative methods of electing governing board members specified in Education Code section 5030. A petition signed by qualified registered voters residing in the Sweetwater Union High School District (“Sweetwater”) to initiate this process has been filed with the County Superintendent of Schools and has been determined to be sufficient.

Lora Duzyk, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services Division, provided information on the petition to establish trustee areas and a “by-trustee-area election” system. Under this system, the district is divided into geographic areas, and one member residing in each trustee area is elected by the registered voters in that area. Ms. Duzyk also discussed the current “at-large election” system in Sweetwater, where each Board position is identified by number, candidates must declare candidacy for a specific seat number, and members are elected by registered voters in the entire district.

In 2010, the County Committee authorized the San Diego County Office of Education to review district election systems based on 2010 census data and provide resources to assist districts to change their election systems if necessary to comply with the California Voters Rights Act. In 2011, Sweetwater’s governing board adopted a resolution to change its election system to by-trustee area elections, but the resolution was subsequently rescinded and submission to the County Committee was withdrawn.

The County Committee is required to hold a public hearing in the district on the current matter to receive community input. No action on the proposal was required at this time.

B. Establish Date, time, Location and Guidelines for Public Hearing on the Establishment of Trustee Areas in the Sweetwater Union High School District and the Election of One Member of the Governing Board Residing in Each Trustee Area by the Registered Voters in that Trustee Area

MSC (Anderson/Robinson) to establish February 6, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. at the Sweetwater Union High School District, Administration Center – Board Room, 1130 Fifth Avenue, Chula Vista, CA 91911, for the public hearing of the County Committee on School District Organization and approve the proposed guidelines for conduct of the hearing as presented at this meeting. The motion passed by unanimous vote of the Members present (4-0).

III. ADJOURNMENT

MSC (Robinson/Jones) to adjourn the meeting at 1:15 p.m. The motion passed by unanimous vote of the Members present (4-0).