County Committee on School District Organization
Minutes of Special Meeting
Monday, February 28, 2022 — Zoom — 2 p.m.
Santa Barbara County Education Office
4400 Cathedral Oaks Road, Santa Barbara

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 2:04 p.m. by Robin Sawaske, Chairperson

2. Welcome

Robin Sawaske welcomed everyone and thanked the Committee for joining via Zoom.

3. Roll Call

Members Present
Terry Hickey Banks
Jan Clevenger
Dr. Ed Cora
Linda Cordero
Judith Dale
Nancy Harter
Steve Minjarez
Margaret Ontiveros
Robin Sawaske
Steve Straight
Janet Zilli

Members Absent

None

Others Present

Denice Cora, Secretary to County Committee
Amada Duly, Senior Administrative Assistant, School Business Advisory Services
Kate Ford, Santa Barbara Unified School District Board member
Anna Freedland, Executive Assistant to the County Superintendent of Schools
Antonio Garcia, Superintendent, Santa Maria Joint Union High School District
Jacqueline Inda, Member of the community
Stephen Jacobs, Ballard School District Board member
Dr. Hilda Maldonado, Superintendent, Santa Barbara Unified School District
Scott Newell, Legal Counsel, Santa Barbara Unified School District
Chelsea Olson Murphy, Legal Counsel, Ballard School District
Austin Payne, Legal Counsel
Craig Price, Legal Counsel
Mia Renaud, Member of the community
4. **Public Comments**

None

5. **Approval of minutes for February 14, 2022, Special Meeting**

The minutes for the February 14, 2022, Special Meeting were presented for approval. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes as presented.

**MOVED:** Linda Cordero  **SECONDED:** Margaret Ontiveros

**AYES:** Terry Hickey Banks, Dr. Ed Cora, Jan Clevenger, Linda Cordero, Judith Dale, Nancy Harter, Steve Minjarez, Margaret Ontiveros, Steve Straight, and Janet Zilli

**NOES:** None

**ABSTAIN:** Robin Sawayse

6. **Reminders of legal criteria and procedure for approval of school district proposals to establish trustee areas and to elect governing board members using district-based elections.**

Austin Payne reviewed the legal criteria and procedures for school district proposals.

7. **Public Hearing on Santa Maria Joint Union High School District’s Proposal to Establish Trustee Areas and to Elect Governing Board Members Using District-Based Elections**

Robin Sawayse opened the hearing and district superintendent Antonio Garcia presented the process and board-approved recommendation for the Santa Maria Joint Union High School District. Presentation attached.

The hearing was opened for public comment. No comments were made, and the public hearing was closed.

8. **Action on Santa Maria Joint Union High School District’s Proposal to Establish Trustee Areas and to Elect Governing Board Members Using District-Based Elections**

Committee members appreciated the thorough presentation by the district. After discussion and questions, a motion was made and seconded to approve the map presented by the Santa Maria Joint Union High School District to transition to By-Trustee Areas.

**MOVED:** Janet Zilli  **SECONDED:** Steve Straight
Roll Call Vote

AYES: Terry Hickey Banks, Dr. Ed Cora, Jan Clevenger, Linda Cordero, Judith Dale, Nancy Harter, Steve Minjarez, Margaret Ontiveros, Robin Sawaske, Steve Straight, and Janet Zilli

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

9. **Public Hearing on Ballard School District’s Proposal to Establish Trustee Areas and to Elect Governing Board Members Using District-Based Election**

Robin Sawaske opened the hearing and district superintendent Pam Rennick presented the process and board-approved recommendation for the Ballard School District. Presentation attached.

The hearing was opened for public comment. Mia Renaud shared information about Ballard school population and the importance of equality of representation in the proposed trustee areas.

The public hearing was closed.

10. **Action on Ballard School District’s Proposal to Establish Trustee Areas and to Elect Governing Board Members Using District-Based Elections**

Committee members appreciated the thorough presentation by the district. After discussion and questions, a motion was made and seconded to approve the map presented by the Ballard School District to transition to By-Trustee Areas.

MOVED: Jan Clevenger SECONDED: Linda Cordero

Roll Call Vote

AYES: Terry Hickey Banks, Dr. Ed Cora, Jan Clevenger, Linda Cordero, Judith Dale, Nancy Harter, Steve Minjarez, Robin Sawaske, Steve Straight, and Janet Zilli

NOES: Margaret Ontiveros

ABSTAIN: None

11. **Public Hearing on Santa Barbara Unified School District’s Proposal to Establish Trustee Areas and to Elect Governing Board Members Using District-Based Elections**

Robin Sawaske opened the hearing and district superintendent Dr. Hilda Maldonado and Steve Venz presented the process and board-approved recommendation for the Santa Barbara Unified School District. Presentation attached.
The hearing was opened for public comment. Jacqueline Inda shared her thoughts about Santa Barbara’s process and shared that there is potential in the future for a community-based request to increase the number of trustees from five to seven.

The public hearing was closed.

12. **Action on Santa Barbara Unified School District’s Proposal to Establish Trustee Areas and to Elect Governing Board Members Using District-Based Elections**

Committee members appreciated the thorough presentation by the district. After discussion and questions, a motion was made and seconded to approve the map presented by the Santa Barbara Unified School District to transition to By-Trustee Areas.

MOVED: Janet Zilli  SECONDED: Nancy Harter

**Roll Call Vote**

AYES: Terry Hickey Banks, Dr. Ed Cora, Jan Clevenger, Linda Cordero, Judith Dale, Nancy Harter, Steve Minjarez, Margaret Ontiveros, Robin Sawaske, Steve Straight, and Janet Zilli

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

13. **Adoption of Resolution No. 2022-14-CC Recognizing a State of Emergency and Reauthorizing Teleconferenced Meetings**

Robin Sawaske presented the 2022-14-CC Resolution for Recognizing a State of Emergency and Reauthorizing Teleconference Meetings. In accordance with AB 361, the County Committee adopted Resolution No. 2022-14-CC recognizing a state of emergency and reauthorizing teleconferenced meetings for a period of thirty (30) days.

A motion was made and seconded to adopt the Resolution as presented.

MOVED: Nancy Harter  SECONDED: Steve Minjarez

AYES: Terry Hickey Banks, Dr. Ed Cora, Jan Clevenger, Linda Cordero, Judith Dale, Nancy Harter, Steve Minjarez, Margaret Ontiveros, Robin Sawaske, Steve Straight, Janet Zilli

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None
14. **Discussion regarding dates/timing for upcoming meetings**

A discussion ensued regarding upcoming meeting dates and planning for district submission of packets to the County Committee. No changes were made to the schedule of meetings presented.

15. **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

[Signature]

Denise Cora  
Secretary to the County Committee on School District Organization