



SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL DISTRICT ORGANIZATION

MEETING MINUTES

Regular Meeting

Wednesday, August 18, 2021

5:00PM

MEMBERS PRESENT:

A. Jay Munoz, Chair
James Willingham, Vice-Chair
Kareem Gongora, Member
Patty Holohan, Member
Jennifer Quezada, Member
Rafael Trujillo, Member

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Brynna Cadman, Member
Flora Martinez, Member
L. Hilary Slotta, Member

STAFF & GUESTS PRESENT:

Ted Alejandre, County Superintendent (left at 5:15pm)
Richard De Nava, Assistant Superintendent
Angel Arrington, Acting Secretary

1. Oath of Office

County Superintendent, Ted Alejandre administered the Oath of Office to newly appointed County Committee members, Patty Holohan and Jennifer Quezada. Ms. Quezada will represent the Second Supervisorial District and Ms. Holohan will represent the Third Supervisorial District.

2. Call to Order

Chairman Munoz called the meeting to order at 5:08pm.

3. Adoption of Agenda

Member Trujillo motioned to approve the agenda with the removal of agenda item 7 – Oath of Office since it took place prior to the meeting. Member Gongora seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and all members in attendance voted to approve the amended agenda.

4. General Public Comments

There were no public comments.

5. Overview of Applying 2020 Census Data to County Board of Education Trustee Areas

Angel Arrington introduced Mr. Justin Rich, Executive Director, Cooperative Strategies. We have contracted with Cooperative Strategies to provide demographer services to the County Committee for redistricting purposes. Mr. Rich will provide a presentation to the County Committee with an overview of the redistricting process for the San Bernardino County Board of Education Trustee Areas.

Mr. Rich stated that every ten years following the annual Census the San Bernardino County Committee on School District Organization is required to review and, if necessary, revise the trustee areas for the San Bernardino County Board of Education. Mr. Rich provided an overview of the 2011 redistricting process and the changes that took place

as a result. He provided a description of the process, which will consist of review of the Census data to determine if boundary adjustments need to be made. A draft timeline was reviewed that will be followed should it be determined that the boundaries need to be adjusted.

6. Adopt Criteria for Redrawing County Board of Education Trustee Areas

Ms. Arrington stated that following analysis of the Census data, should the trustee area boundaries need to be redrawn, the County Committee must adopt criteria to use when redrawing the boundaries. The adopted criteria will serve as a guide to the County Committee when considering various redistricting proposals.

Member Trujillo asked if the revised boundaries must follow school district boundaries? Ms. Arrington responded that there is no requirement to follow school district boundaries but school districts are considered a “community of interest” and past practice is to respect school district boundaries whenever possible.

Ms. Arrington stated that the criteria provided are taken from case law and Education Code Section 1002 and are presented for the Committee’s consideration:

WHEREAS, upon the release of each federal Census, the San Bernardino County Committee on School District Organization is obligated to redraw the trustee area’s boundaries for the San Bernardino County Board of Education to ensure districts have nearly equal population and comply with the Voting Rights Act, and meet other established criteria; and

WHEREAS, a set of established redistricting criteria will serve as a framework to guide the County in the consideration of redistricting plans; and

WHEREAS, redistricting criteria will assist the County in its efforts to comply with all applicable federal and state laws; and

WHEREAS, although it is establishing the following guidelines, the County may consider other information, factors and guidelines in making its final determination;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by that the San Bernardino County Committee on School District Organization in its adoption of a redistricting plan for trustee area boundaries for the San Bernardino County Board of Education, will adhere to the following criteria:

- Each trustee area shall be as nearly equal in population as practicable.
- The voting influence of racial and ethnic communities of interest shall be preserved to the maximum extent possible.
- Each trustee area shall preserve the existing trustee area’s population and territory to the degree possible given the total criteria.
- Each trustee area shall respect existing school district boundaries to the degree possible given the total criteria.
- Each trustee area shall consist of contiguous territory and be as compact as possible given the total criteria.
- Each trustee area shall respect communities of interest to the degree possible given the total criteria.
- Trustee area borders shall follow visible natural and man-made geographical and topographical features to the degree possible given the total criteria.

Member Willingham motioned to adopt the Criteria for Redrawing County Board of Education Trustee Areas as presented. Member Trujillo second the motion. A roll call vote was taken. All members in attendance voted to approve the adoption of the criteria. Motion passed unanimously.

7. Future Special Meeting Dates

Ms. Arrington explained that due to the delay in the release of the 2020 Census data the time to complete the redistricting process will be significantly reduced. While there is no statutory requirement for a County Committee to consider public input, it is past practice of the County Committee to hear and consider public input. Because of the reduced timeline it may require special meetings to take place. Ms. Arrington provided several options for special meetings.

The County Committee deliberated and determined special meeting dates should be scheduled for Wednesday, September 29, 2021 at 5pm and Saturday, October 9, 2021 at 9am.

Chairman Munoz motioned to adopt September 29 and October 9, 2021 as special meeting dates. Member Trujillo seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. All members in attendance voted to approve the special meeting dates. The motion passed unanimously.

8. Committee Member Vacancy – First Supervisorial District

Ms. Arrington announced that Member Helena Johnson has resigned from the Committee. Ms. Johnson has moved to Kansas to be closer to her family. We will begin the process to fill her spot. In addition, Member Joyce Chamberlain announced she will not be able to continue to serve once her term is complete. Ms. Chamberlain seat is up for reelection this year and we will work to find a replacement to be nominated at the annual election meeting.

9. County Committee Elections October 25, 2021

Mr. Dennis Mobley, SBCSS Governance Consultant, was introduced. He updated the Committee on the current status of the Fall Joint meeting and the impact to this year's county committee elections. Various options were reviewed, and additional information will be provided to the Committee as confirmed.

10. Other Business

10.1 Acting Secretaries Report – Angel will be out on leave. Ms. Arrington discussed the CVRA's process during elections and when a waiver is requested from the state, but now with SB 442 it has eliminated that process.

10.2 County Counsel Report – No report.

10.3 Correspondence – No correspondence

10.4 County Committee Member Reports- Members Holohan and Quezada both expressed their excitement to serve on the Committee and look forward to working with everyone. Member Gongora welcomed the new members to the Committee. Chairman Munoz congratulated the two new members.

10.5 Future Agenda Items – No future agenda items.

11. Adjournment – 6:11pm

Member Holohan motioned to adjourn the meeting. Member Trujillo second the motion. The motion passed unanimously.