

Approved: 

# FRESNO COUNTY COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL DISTRICT ORGANIZATION

District 1  
Daniel Babshoff  
Phillip Cervantes

District 2  
Sandy Bengel-Budd  
Warren Jennings

District 3  
Myra Coble  
Barbara Thomas

District 4  
Louis Mata  
Dr. Lawrence Wilder

District 5  
Connie Schlaefer  
Pete Filippi

At Large  
Julie Gragnani

## Minutes September 5, 2024 5:30 p.m.

Foothill Elementary School  
Multipurpose Room  
29147 Auberry Road  
Prather, California 93651

### A. OPENING CEREMONY

- 1. Call Meeting to Order.** Dr. Lawrence Wilder called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m.
- 2. Roll Call – Establish Quorum.** Members present: Daniel Babshoff, Sandy Bengel-Budd, Maria Cantu, Phillip Cervantes, Myra Coble, Pete Filippi, Warren Jennings, Louis Mata, Connie Schlaefer, Barbara Thomas, and Dr. Lawrence Wilder. A quorum was established.

County Superintendent Staff Present: Benjamin C. Rosenbaum, Legal Counsel, Legal Services; and Angelica Perea-Gutierrez, Recording Secretary.

### B. ADOPT AGENDA

**Adopt Agenda for September 5, 2024, Meeting.** Motion by Member Babshoff, seconded by Member Cantu; motion carried by the following vote:

- Yes: Members Babshoff, Bengel-Budd, Cantu, Cervantes, Coble, Filippi, Jennings, Mata, Schlaefer, Thomas, and Wilder  
 No: None  
 Absent: None

### C. APPROVE MINUTES

**Approve Minutes from May 2, 2024, Meeting.** Motion by Member Cantu, seconded by Member Thomas; motion carried by the following vote:

- Yes: Members Babshoff, Bengel-Budd, Cantu, Cervantes, Coble, Filippi, Jennings, Mata, Schlaefer, Thomas, and Wilder  
 No: None

### D. PUBLIC HEARING

1. Public hearing regarding proposal to transfer school district territory out of Sierra Unified School District and into Clovis Unified School District.

Member Schlaefer identified herself as having a conflict of interest because she is a current member of the Sierra Unified School District board, recused herself, and did not participate in the meeting as a County Committee Member any further.

**Public Hearing opened at 5:35 p.m.**

- a. Explanation of Proposal and Process by County Committee Legal Counsel, Benjamin C. Rosenbaum
- b. Presentation by Petitioners' Representative(s) Marc Thurston; and Angeline Black
- c. Presentation by Clovis Unified School District's Representative(s) Shawn Vanwagenen, General Counsel; and Norm Anderson, Deputy Superintendent
- d. Presentation by Sierra Unified School District's Representative(s) David Soldoni, Legal Counsel; Cortney Burke, Board President; Janelle Bryson, CBO; Shin Green, Principal at Eastshore Consulting, LLC; and Lori Grace, Superintendent

10-minute break (6:57 p.m. – 7:07 p.m.)

- e. Public Comments in Support of Proposal (not to exceed 2 minutes each or a total of 60 minutes)
  1. Prisilla Presto
  2. Darius Assemi
  3. Angeline Black
- f. Public Comments in Opposition to Proposal (not to exceed 2 minutes each or a total of 60 minutes)
  1. Aaron Wiest
  2. Brent Kehn
  3. Steve Pickens
  4. Jimmie Eggers
  5. Ben Kimbler
  6. Don Fowler
  7. Justice Jones
  8. Michelle Lebda
  9. Judy Downs
  10. Letty Peters
  11. Mattie Hill
  12. Catherine Ferguson
  13. Kat McDonald
  14. Jon Hendrix
  15. Wade Kimbler
  16. Jenny Mendoza
  17. Hayley Ferguson
  18. Ariana Rodriguez
  19. Jason Gardner
  20. Candace Duerksen
  21. David Rivas
  22. Matthew Hood
  23. Quentin Cedar
  24. Susan Leeper
  25. Dawn Purdy
  26. Ashley Gilbert
  27. Elizabeth Beatty

- 28. Alice Astone
- 29. Rachel Robertson
- 30. Madison Bisco
- 31. Heidi Shoemaker

- g. Rebuttal and Closing Statement by Petitioners' Representative(s) Marc Thurston
- h. Rebuttal and Closing Statement by Clovis Unified School District's Representative(s) Shawn Vanwagenen, General Counsel
- i. Rebuttal and Closing Statement by Sierra Unified School District's Representative(s) Lori Grace, Superintendent

**Public Hearing closed at 8:22 p.m.**

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| E. ACTION ITEMS        | None.   |
| F. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS |   |
| G. NEXT MEETING        | Special Meeting on September 17, 2024, 5:30 p.m., Clovis Unified School District, Professional Development Building, Boardroom, 1680 David E. Cook Way, Clovis, California 93611. |
| H. ADJOURNMENT         | The meeting was adjourned at 8:22 p.m.  |

PLEASE NOTE: Prior to action by the Fresno County Committee on School District Organization (County Committee) on any item on this agenda, the public may comment on the agenda item. It may become necessary to act on an item out of agenda order.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and the federal rules and regulations adopted in implementation thereof, any individual with a disability who requires reasonable accommodation to access the Committee's meeting room or to otherwise participate at the meeting, including auxiliary aids or interpreter services, is to contact Angelica Perea-Gutierrez, administrative assistant to the County Committee, at (559) 265-3003 at least two business days before the meeting.

Public records relating to an open session item that are distributed to all or a majority of the County Committee members prior to a County Committee meeting are available for public inspection at the Fresno County Office of Education, 1111 Van Ness Avenue, Fresno, California during normal business hours.