



MINUTES OF SPECIAL SESSION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

I. OPENING BUSINESS

A. CALL PUBLIC SESSION TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:30 pm by Mrs. Connie Schlaefer, Board President.

B. ROLL CALL: Board Members: Connie Schlaefer, Wes Qualls, Tom Mendenhall, Cortney Burke, Jeremiah Gilbert, James Hoak, Ben Kimbler

C. ADOPTION OF AGENDA: Motion to adopt agenda: Kimbler: Second: Burke: 7/0

D. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Wes Qualls led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

III. INFORMATION: Scope of Board Review

The Board President, Connie Schlaefer, defined what is within the jurisdiction of the Board, and what information will be considered by the Board.

A. Supporting Information

1. Video Clips from January 6, 2021 Events
 - a. [Clip 1](#)
 - b. [Clip 2](#)
 - c. [Clip 3](#)
 - d. [Clip 4](#)
 - e. [Clip 5](#)
 - f. [Clip 6](#)
2. [SUSD Board Bylaw 9005](#)

IV. INFORMATION: Legal Analysis (B. Martin – AALRR)

Board Counsel presented a legal analysis, and description of a spectrum of responses prepared for Board consideration as later Action Items.

V. INFORMATION: Trustee Response / Statement

Trustee James Hoak will had the opportunity to address the Board regarding his motivation and actions.

VI. DISCUSSION ITEM: The Board discussed the potential options to determine a direction. Any Action Item could have been amended as the Board saw fit when that Agenda Item was under discussion. As the following Agenda Items were called, there was an opportunity for a motion, second of the motion, discussion, and vote. If the Board had no wish to pursue a given Action Item, the Item could die without a motion.

VII. ACTION ITEM: [Board Option #1](#)

No Motion

VIII. ACTION ITEM: Board Option #2

Motion to approve Board Option #2: Burke: No Second: Discussion followed to amend.

Motion to approve Board Option #2 as amended as follows in italics, bold, and underlined: In consultation with legal counsel, the Governing Board has reviewed all communications which members of the public submitted to the District regarding the activities of Board Member James Hoak at the United States Capitol on January 6, 2021, in addition to social media content that has been posted by Board Member James Hoak, as well as the Governing Board's bylaws. Preliminarily and as previously stated, the Governing Board does not have the authority to unilaterally remove a duly elected Board Member from his Board seat. After careful review, the Board has reached the following conclusions: There is no indication that Board Member Hoak meant his presence at the Capitol on January 6, 2021 to be as a representative for the District or this Governing Board; rather, by all indications Member Hoak intended his presence there to be as an individual citizen. The video clips reviewed by the Governing Board and available to the public do not show Member Hoak engaging in any violent conduct or vandalism. Although one may be critical of Member Hoak's language and demeanor as depicted in the various video clips and/or disagree with his apparent political beliefs, his presence at the Capitol was an exercise of his individual rights as a citizen and, thus, should not be the basis for a determination that Member Hoak violated any District or Board standards. However, ***as a result of his actions and public's response, member Hoak has been made*** cognizant of the visibility and significance of his new role as an elected Board member of the Sierra Unified School District, which entails adherence to heightened ethical standards and the modeling positive adult behaviors for the community and the District's students. Therefore, the Governing Board directs Member Hoak to become readily familiar with the Board Bylaws, especially those addressing the role of a Board member and the expectations of Board member conduct and decorum, and to actively participate in upcoming Board training sessions: Hoak: Second: Burke: 5/2: Opposed: Schlaefer; Kimbler.

IX. ACTION ITEM: Board Option #3

Motion to approve Board Option #3: Schlaefer: No Second: Motion Dies

X. ACTION ITEM: Board Option #4

No Motion

XI. ACTION ITEM: Board Option #5 – Resolution 15-20/21

No Motion

XII. ACTION ITEM: Board Option #6 – Resolution 16-20/21

Motion to approve Board Option #6 – Resolution #16-20/21: Kimbler: Second: Mendenhall: 7/0

XIII. BOARD CONCLUSIONS

Move on with unity of purpose.

XIV. ADVANCED PLANNING

A. Governance Calendar

B. Next Regular meeting date: February 8, 2021 @ 5:00 p.m.

C. Next Special meeting date(s): February 22, 2021 @ 4:30 p.m. – Facilities

D. Requested Future Agenda Items:

X. ADJOURNMENT 10:07 p.m.

Connie Schlaefer, President

Alan Harris, Ph.D., Superintendent

Tom Mendenhall, Clerk