

Wasco Union High School District
Wasco Union Elementary School District
Boards of Trustees
Special Board Meeting
Thomas Jefferson Middle School
Recreation Center
July 21, 2011
6:30 p.m.
Adopted Minutes

I. Call to Order – 6:30 p.m.

A special meeting of the Wasco Union High District and Wasco Union Elementary School District and School Boards of Trustees was called to order at 6:35 p.m. in the Thomas Jefferson, Recreation Center by WUESD President, Dr. Jim Forrest.

Wasco Union High School Board Members Present

Mr. Barry Braun, President	Mrs. Patricia Sanchez
Mr., Craig Fulwyler, Clerk	Mr. Wayne Wallace
Mr. Jesse Acebedo	

Wasco Union Elementary School Board Members Present

Dr. Jim Forrest, President	Mr. Richard Reding
Mr. Marty Jones, Clerk	Mr. Ernie Sanchez

Wasco Union Elementary School Board Members Absent

Mr. Cruz Rodriguez

Administrators Present

Mrs. Elizabeth McCray	Mr. Rob Cobb
Mrs. Lori Albrecht	Mr. Joseph Elwood
Mrs. Susan Andreas-Bervel	Mr. Martin Lonza

Classified Management Present

Mrs. Karen Evans	Mr. Bill Ross
Mr. Jeff Payne	Mr. Joe Salazar
Mr. Raul Rangel	Mr. John Yanez

Secretary Present

Mrs. Gracie Saldaña
Mrs. Sonia Cuellar

Visitors

Mrs. Chris Beelner, Mrs. Janice Clement, Ms. Lupe Cortez, Mr. Steve Davis, Mr. Daniel Enciso, Mrs. Kay Espitia, Mrs. Oralia Garza, Mrs. Dorothy German, Mrs. Gabby Gomez, Mr. Jose Gomez, Mrs. Hummel, Mrs. Gal Huffaker, Mrs. Lorna Jones, Mr. Jeff Kirby, Mrs. Helen Medrano, Mrs. Sharon Nicol, Mrs. Marta Poe, Ms. Anna Poggi, Mrs. Sara Reding, Mrs. Janette Reyes, Mr. Kelly Richers, Mrs. Christina Rodriguez, Mr. Armando Saldaña, Mr. Rob Sanchez, Mr. Martin Sandoval, Mr. John Sanford, Mrs. Alice Stowe, Mr. Dennis Stowe, Mrs. Maria Torres, Mr. Sam Torres

Flag Salute

The flag was saluted.

II. Adopt Agenda

It was moved by Jones and seconded by Reding of the Wasco Union Elementary School District to adopt the agenda as presented. Motion carried. Ayes: 4; Noes: 0; Absent: 1 (Rodriguez).

It was moved by Acebedo and seconded by Wallace of the Wasco Union High School District to adopt the agenda as presented. Motion carried. Ayes: 5; Noes: 0; Absent: 0.

Mr. Braun, President of the Wasco Union High School Board, welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced the Wasco Union High School Board members.

Dr. Forrest, President of the Wasco Union Elementary School Board, gave a summary as to why the Wasco Union Elementary School District Board and Wasco Union High School District Board were considering approving the Administrative Services Agreement. He stated that many school districts are taking the direction of unification. In light of the Districts current financial situation, unification would be a money saver and would bring unity in the community. Dr. Forrest then asked the audience to submit any comments or questions to the Board by completing a comment card.

Mr. Braun then shared that a journey of a thousand miles begins with one step. He expressed the hope that this step we anticipate making this evening will lead to further coordination between the School Districts and lead to Unification.

III. Public Comments

Mr. Jeff Kirby, CSEA Labor Relations Representative asked the Wasco Union Elementary School Board to not change their representation with Mr. Valdez of Schools Legal Services. He shared that CSEA and Schools Legal have an excellent relationship. He then asked the Wasco Union High School Board to consider attaining a second opinion from Schools Legal Services.

Mr. Joseph Elwood, Principal of the Wasco Union High School expressed his support for the joint administration and future unification. He shared that this move is a positive step that will increase collaboration, student learning and student achievement.

Mr. Kelly Richers, Director of Categorical Programs/Special Projects of the Wasco Union Elementary School District shared with the Board that he completely agrees with Mr. Elwood. He then asked the Boards if the Unification will be put on a ballot to be voted on by the citizens of Wasco.

Dr. Forrest responded that there are a series of steps to take for unification and that the matter did not need to be taken to a vote but that it was best to involve the community. He then shared that at this point both school districts would remain the same except that the school districts would have one Superintendent.

Mr. Richers asked the Board members to consider taking their decision to the citizens if they decide to unify.

Mr. Steve Davis, teacher at Thomas Jefferson Middle School and former graduate of Wasco High, expressed the need for this joint administration to have happened 50 years ago. He shared that there is a lot of uncertainty and that there needs be a meeting or form a committee with classified and certificated to work out a plan and ask them how they feel.

Mrs. Oralia Garza, Custodian/Bus Driver at Teresa Burk Elementary asked that the Boards consider the age groups when arraigning things such as bus routes, etc.

IV. Items From Board Members

Mr. Wayne Wallace asked if the administrators would support the new superintendent.

Mr. Marty Jones shared that he has seen lots of concerned faces from Wasco Union Elementary School District and Wasco Union High School District. He then stated that nothing is going to change. We are doing the right thing for the students. There has been a lot of prayer and thought into this decision.

Mr. Richard Reding shared that when he first came to Wasco in 1961, he was surprised that this town had two school districts. He expressed the need for the students to have continuity. This is a very unique opportunity we have before us.

Mr. Ernie Sanchez expressed the need for the superintendent to be available. He then shared that the Wasco Union Elementary School District and the Wasco Union High School District each deserve a full time Superintendent.

Dr. Jim Forrest expressed that in school business, there are no provisions for a proxy vote if a board member is absent from a board meeting. He then shared that Mr. Cruz Rodriguez had asked him to report that he did not agree in approving the agenda item. Dr. Forrest stated that as a courtesy to Mr. Rodriguez that he would inform the public that Mr. Rodriguez is not in favor.

V. Discussion and Action

1. It was moved by Reding and seconded by Jones of the Wasco Union Elementary School District to approve the Agreement for Administrative Services between Wasco Union High School District and Wasco Union Elementary School District personnel items. Motion carried. Ayes: 3; Noes: 1(Sanchez); Absent: 1 (Rodriguez).

It was moved by Acebedo and seconded by Fulwyler of the Wasco Union High School District to approve the Agreement for Administrative Services between Wasco Union High School District and Wasco Union Elementary School District personnel items. Motion carried. Ayes: 3; Noes: 1(Sanchez); Absent: 0; Abstain: 1 (Wallace).

Motion carried by both Wasco Union High School District and Wasco Union Elementary School District, Superintendent Elizabeth McCray will serve as Superintendent for both Districts.

VI. Adjournment

It was moved by Reding and seconded by Jones of the Wasco Union Elementary School District to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Ayes: 5; Noes: 0; Absent: 0. Meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

It was moved by Fulwyler and seconded by Acebedo of the Wasco Union High School District to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Ayes: 5; Noes: 0; Absent: 0. Meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.