

SONORA UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

Special Board of Trustees Meeting

April 18, 2019

7:00 PM

100 School Street, Room FL-1, Sonora, CA 95370

Members Present:

Jim Riggs, President

Kim Norton, Clerk

Erik Andal, Member

Nancy Scott, Member

Jeanie Smith, Member

Ryan Grogan, Student Board Member

Members Absent:

Danielle Lario, Student Board Member

Others Present: Superintendent Mark Miller, Chief Business Official Dana Vaccarezza, Principal Ben Howell, SUHSD staff and students, and community members.

1. OPENING BUSINESS

1.1. Call to Order and Establishment of Quorum

Establishing a quorum, Trustee Riggs called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

1.2. Pledge of Allegiance

Trustee Riggs led the Pledge of Allegiance.

1.3. Adopt Agenda

Motion by Trustee Andal, second by Trustee Norton to adopt the Agenda as presented.

Student Vote: Aye-Grogan; Absent-Lario

Ayes: Andal, Norton, Riggs, Scott, Smith

Motion Passes

2. PUBLIC COMMENT for non-agendized and closed session items

Rationale:

Members of the public are welcome to address the board at this time regarding non-agendized and closed session items: Time is limited to five (5) minutes per speaker, with a cumulative time of twenty (20) minutes. This is a time for members of the public to comment and for board members to listen.

Dana Vaccarezza thanked the board for hiring Dr. Miller. He is one of the best leaders she has worked with.

Board
Approved
Date: 5/14/19

Kathy Ankrom, previous board member, handed out documents and reviewed the reasons the board chose to sale a portion of the Wildcat Ranch. They included the fact that California is ranked 41 out of school funding. The impact is once the district meets mandates, it has little funding remaining. She reviewed the FCMAT report that suggested the district shrink the Agriculture and ROP programs because they are fully funded by the General Fund. She presented Resolution 1987-17 which designated \$100,000 to agricultural education and notes that the Wildcat Ranch was never intended to be all agriculture. She encouraged all parties to work collaboratively in the future.

Carol Doud, community member, encouraged non-inflammatory comments in the future and suggested starting the sale process over. She also cautioned in who should be selected for the upcoming 7-11 Committee for the Dome.

Ron Patel, Park Foundation board member, reminded everyone that the board members are volunteers who desire to give something beneficial to the community.

An unidentified female asked the board to unite the community. She also suggested that the district not sell the land because we may have an unknown need for it in the future.

Chuck LaCamp believes that the Park Foundation is professional, but suggests the board listen to the community and back out of the sale. He added that the district could make the land an income stream or let the community build something for the community.

Natasha Jeeves, Sonora High School and FFA alumni, shared that FFA taught her responsibility and commitment. She also shared that students need a place to house their animals.

Gregory Cook, FFA member, believes that FFA changes students' lives. He is at the Ranch regularly but hasn't visited a park since he was eight years old. He believes the whole county is a place of recreation.

Jim Riggs, board president, commented that the public comment time had reached the 20 minute limit. He received board consensus to extend the public comment time by 15 minutes.

Jeanette Emery, previous board member, participated in the purchase and planning of the Wildcat Ranch property. She believes that 25 acres for an Ag ranch is plenty, and that a nice park might attract families to our county which would increase enrollment.

An unknown male confirmed that the district would be retaining 25 acres with the sale of property.

Jay Canavan, Park Foundation board member, remarked that the Farm Bureau is against the district for not following process, but the judge is overseeing the final steps in the process. He also stated that the district fulfilling their agreement with the Park Foundation is a win-win situation.

Britain Traub, SHS student and FFA member, said the number of students showing swine and sheep has doubled this year. Those students bring money to the district and a strong Ag program attracts students to enroll here. She thanked the board for volunteering their time to the district and listening to the community.

Sasha Farkas, Farm Bureau member, stated that with board approval, the Ag community can get bathrooms, barn supplies and labor donated. He also knows of grants for funding Ag programs. He encouraged the district to let the kids work to provide income to run their program.

3. CLOSED SESSION -- Approximately 7:10 pm

The meeting adjourned to Closed Session at 7:35 pm.

The Student Board Member departed from the meeting.

3.1. Conference with Legal Counsel-Existing Litigation pursuant to Government Code 54956.9

Rationale:

Name of Case: Tuolumne County Farm Bureau vs. Sonora Union High School District
One Case: Case Number: CV62157

No action was taken.

3.2. Public Employee Performance Evaluation pursuant to Government Code section 54957

Title: Superintendent

No action was taken.

4. RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION -- Approximately 9:15 pm

The meeting reconvened to Open Session at 9:54 pm.

4.1. Report Out from Closed Session

No reportable action was made during Closed Session.

4.2. Conference with Legal Counsel-Existing Litigation pursuant to Government Code 54956.9

Rationale:

Name of Case: Tuolumne County Farm Bureau vs. Sonora Union High School District
One Case: Case Number: CV62157

No action was taken.

4.3. Public Employee Performance Evaluation pursuant to Government Code section 54957

Title: Superintendent

No action was taken.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT for open session items

Rationale:

Members of the public are welcome to address the board at this time regarding open session items: Time is limited to five (5) minutes per speaker, with a cumulative time of twenty (20) minutes. This is a time for members of the public to comment and for board members to listen.

6. ACTION ITEMS

6.1. Discussion and Potential Action on Purchase and Sale Agreement with Park Foundation for Wildcat Ranch

Rationale:

The District and Board wish to hold open session discussion concerning the Wildcat Ranch with the liberty to take action should the need arise. APN: 097-130-04

Motion by Trustee Norton to rescind the purchase and sale agreement with the Park Foundation. No trustee moved to second the motion.

Motion Fails

6.2. Approve Establishing a Board Committee for Budget Priority Input

Rationale:

The District recommends the Board establish a committee to facilitate surveying and collecting input from staff on District budget priorities. Board Member Erik Andal has offered to facilitate the surveying and collection of input.

Motion by Trustee Smith, second by Trustee Scott to establish a committee as presented.

Trustee Riggs appointed Trustee Andal and Trustee Scott for the committee.

Ayes: Andal, Norton, Riggs, Scott, Smith

Motion Passes

7. ADJOURNMENT

SONORA UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
Special Board of Trustees Meeting
April 18, 2019 7:00 PM


Rationale:

Pursuant to Board Bylaw 9322, late agenda material related to open session can be inspected in the superintendent's office at 100 School Street, Room FL-2, Sonora, California. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if any person needs special assistance to participate in the meeting, please contact the superintendent's office at (209) 533-8510 ext. 1, 48 hours prior to the meeting.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:59 pm.



Kim Norton, Board Clerk



Mark Miller, Ed.D., Board Secretary



Cindy Costello, Recording Secretary