



**Yolo County Committee on School District Organization Special Meeting**  
**Tuesday, May 21, 2019**  
**Open Session: 6:00 PM**  
**Washington Unified School District Board Room**  
**Published: May 08, 2019 11:15 AM**

**MINUTES**

**Attendance:**

<b>Attendees</b>	<b>Present/Absent</b>	<b>Arrival</b>	<b>Departure</b>
<b>Board Of Education</b>			
Shelton Yip	Present	6:00 PM	6:52 PM
Carol Souza Cole	Present	6:00 PM	6:52 PM
Cirenio Rodriguez	Present	6:00 PM	6:52 PM
Matt Taylor	Present	6:00 PM	6:52 PM
Melissa Moreno	Present	6:00 PM	6:52 PM

1. OPENING PROCEDURES

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

**Minutes:**

The Yolo County Committee on School District Organization met on May 21, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. in Special Session in the District Office Board Room located at 930 Westacre Road, West Sacramento, CA 95691. Board members present were: Cirenio Rodriguez, Melissa Moreno, Shelton Yip, Carol Souza Cole and Matt Taylor. Board President Shelton Yip presided. Superintendent Garth Lewis was also present.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

**Minutes:**

The pledge of allegiance was conducted.

3. Approval of Agenda

**Votes:**

Motion: The agenda was approved as submitted.

Motion By: Matt Taylor

Seconded By: Carol Souza Cole

Shelton Yip	YES
Carol Souza Cole	YES
Cirenio Rodriguez	YES
Matt Taylor	YES
Melissa Moreno	YES

Result: PASSED

4. Public Comment

**Minutes:**

Scott Rafferty, Attorney at Law, who represents the Petitioners in the lawsuit made the following statement:

(Statement was transcribed)

Regarding the proposed use of the by-trustee area election method and map, I would like to address governance and decorum with the Washington Unified School District (WUSD). There had been eight (8) meetings on this issue and that there are minutes for only one (1) meeting. I gave two (2) days notice to review minutes and drove here and the business records should have been made available even without notice and there were no minutes available. During the late stages of the proceeding on CVRA there was no parliamentary authority and Roberts Rules was not followed during this proceeding. The first public hearing was cancelled/rescheduled without notice to Petitioners. This is not the right standard of conduct for a school district and WUSD has not been transparent or compliant with the Brown Act/Public Records Act. I felt personally attacked by one of the trustees who was reprimanded by President Alcalá at a meeting. I have had no opportunity to respond and I only have this two (2) minutes which is wrong. Finally, counsel told the current President that she can get this reconsidered after she became President.

2. CONDUCT PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSAL FROM THE WASHINGTON UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT TO ESTABLISH TRUSTEE AREAS WITHIN THE DISTRICT AND TO IMPLEMENT BY-TRUSTEE AREA VOTING FOR ELECTION OF MEMBERS OF THE DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD; CONSIDERATION OF ADOPTING RESOLUTION NO. 18-19/32 STATING COMMITTEE'S ACTION ON PROPOSAL

1. The Committee President will Open the Public Hearing

**Minutes:**

Public Hearing was opened at 6:08 p.m.

2. The Committee President will acknowledge receipt of all documents submitted to the Committee by the Washington Unified School District and the public

**Minutes:**

President Yip acknowledged receiving the following documents:

-NDC Green Map Demographics

-NDC Green Map Relabeled

-Resolution 18/19-08

-Resolution 18/19-11

-Letter from Scott Rafferty, Attorney at Law dated May 20, 2019

3. Introduction of Proposal and Committee process by County Superintendent, Garth Lewis

**Minutes:**

Superintendent Lewis read the following statement:

Pursuant to Education Code section 5019, when a California school district seeks to change the way their governing board members are elected and wish to adopt a trustee area map in connection with a move to district-based elections, the County Committee has a mandatory role in the process.

Under Education Code section 5019(c)(2), the County Committee must conduct at least one public hearing within the District's boundaries and shall either approve or disapprove of the District's proposal.

Tonight is that public hearing. Under Education Code section 5020, the County Committee's approval of a district's proposal to adopt a trustee area map and change to district-based elections triggers an order of election that must be placed before the voters of the district for approval. However, under Education Code section 33050 et seq., this requirement may be waived by the State Board of Education. In the case of Washington Unified, we have been informed that they have obtained such a waiver from the State and as a result, approval tonight will not trigger an order of election.

The County Committee President will open the public hearing and we will first hear from representatives from the Washington Unified School District, followed by comments and questions from the County Committee on School District Organization and members of the public. Following this hearing, the County Committee will vote on the adoption of a resolution to approve the trustee area map and election method change proposed by the District.

4. District presentation of its Proposal and process it used to develop its Proposal

**Minutes:**

District representatives William Tunick, Dannis Woliver Kelley and Dr. Johnson, NDC Research, Demographer presented a power point on the proposal and process it used to determine trustee area maps for Washington USD. Items discussed included the Process Timeline; Public Outreach; Traditional Districting Criteria; Race and Language Concentrations; Green, Orange, Purple and Yellow Map Development; Summary of process

5. Comments/Questions from County Committee

**Minutes:**

The trustees asked questions and gave comments on the power point presented by William Tunick, Dannis Woliver Kelley and Dr. Johnson, NDC Research, Demographer.

6. Comments/Questions from the Public - 2 minutes per speaker

**Minutes:**

Scott Rafferty, Attorney at Law, spoke to the Board and stated that:  
(Statement was transcribed)

When the Board adopted its resolution that complies with the AB 350 process they won the right to draw the lines and how it chose to do so, and we respect that. But from a very early point the community spoke almost unanimously in support of the Green map, which has the strongest Latino district and that is the purpose of the act. To my knowledge and again, we don't have the minutes, but the community did not want this issue to go on for fifteen (15) months and that was not what this was about. The community did not want to have the yellow map, this was an attempt by one trustee who is now president, to take out another trustee, because these maps had been designed to protect trustees, which is their prerogative, not our choice, their choice. And I said no, I want to change and the change was with the very foreseeable effect and the victim or intended victim, was the very first opponent of our position. We still said the Green Map and it's not about the incumbents. It's about voting rights and the voters but they made it about the incumbents. Fact remains that the Green map is the best map and is not necessarily map the court would come up with but it's still the best map for this one time. The court must, within their jurisdiction, certainly something that the board can do with the electors or on their own, but this can never happen again. There has to be an independent citizens' commission to draw the maps fairly and we will be seeking that. But, this is beyond tonight and tonight the way to go is the Green map which is the only map

that protects Latino voting rights. I ask you to move forward and approve this.  
Thank you.

Maria Grijalva spoke to the Board and stated:  
(Statement was transcribed)

Thank you for having this meeting today. I wanted to come in and thank Dr. Jesse Ortiz for having Woodland Jt. USD have a fast, expedited process that was done so economically, and so fast, it was just as if everybody followed that example, we probably wouldn't be facing the situation that we're facing, because the fact of the matter is that we did have all these extra forms; but the fact is that none of the comments were posted. None of it was recorded for reading what transpired during those forums. The hearings that happened after that is that the board members, all except for the board member that brought this forward, were complaining about being forced to take this action to switch to district elections. As the Plaintiff I was attacked, literally verbally attacked. I, one board member said "I resent being forced to do this." Another board member said that the plaintiff could have gone to gather a petition to gather signatures and form a petition and put the measure on the ballot, and that the plaintiffs should have gone and done this. So I'm sure all you know is that that takes a lot of time and energy, but one board member did say they should have gathered signatures and done it this way it would have been more economical. Another board member said so it is the plaintiffs fault if we want to prove this and we get a million dollar lawsuit it will be the plaintiffs fault. Maybe not using the word fault, but it is dependent on the plaintiff if we go to a million dollars. So thank you. So anyway, it was important that you have this information.

7. District Response to Comments/Questions

**Minutes:**

Superintendent Linda Luna, Washington USD stated:  
(Statement transcribed)

On behalf of the district, I would just like to clarify that all of our minutes and videos of every single meeting are up to date with the exception of two (2) of the CVRA process. All documents have been loaded onto the CVRA web page and publicly in open session we did provide to the Board an update that out of all of the open electronic comments that we gave to our community we received only eight (8) comments from people asking questions and then gave back the answers electronically through that open portal. So just for clarification.

8. The President will close the Public Hearing

**Minutes:**

The Public Hearing was closed at 6:45 p.m.

9. Committee Deliberations

**Minutes:**

**Votes:**

Motion: To approve District's proposed use of the by-trustee area election method.

Motion By: Matt Taylor

Seconded By: Carol Souza Cole

Shelton Yip	YES
Carol Souza Cole	YES
Cirenio Rodriguez	YES
Matt Taylor	YES
Melissa Moreno	YES

Result: PASSED

Motion: To approve District's proposal to establish trustee areas in accordance with District map \_\_\_\_ Green

Motion By: Melissa Moreno

Seconded By: Cirenio Rodriguez

Shelton Yip	YES
Carol Souza Cole	YES
Cirenio Rodriguez	YES
Matt Taylor	YES
Melissa Moreno	YES

Result: PASSED

10. Consideration of Adopting Resolution No. 18-19/32 Stating Committee's Action on Proposal

**Minutes:**

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYE: Taylor, Souza Cole, Rodriguez, Moreno, Yip

**Votes:**

Motion: Motion to adopt Resolution No. 18-19/32 Resolution Establishing Trustee Election Areas in the Washington Unified School District

Motion By: Carol Souza Cole

Seconded By: Melissa Moreno

Shelton Yip	YES
Carol Souza Cole	YES
Cirenio Rodriguez	YES
Matt Taylor	YES
Melissa Moreno	YES

Result: PASSED

3. ADJOURNMENT

**Minutes:**

Meeting adjourned at 6:52 p.m.