

Special Board Meeting 7-26-18 Transcription

[PRESIDENT WILLIAMS BEGINS THE MEETING BY STRIKING THE GAVEL TWICE]

Williams: Okay, good evening. Regular Meetings of the Orange County Board of Education are held each month at 10 A.M. unless otherwise noticed tonight's meeting is a Special Meeting uh, that is, uh, regarding an issue of litigation. There are other issues that are on our Agenda also. Any person wishing to address the Board in any manner whether or not it appears on this Agenda is required to complete a request to address the Board card that is available at the rear of this building. Please submit the completed card to the Board Recorder, or...our good Darou, prior to the beginning of the Board meeting and...or at the Item when it's discussed. Each individual will be allowed three minutes per person and uh, uh, we will be uh, reminded that this is a Public Meeting, that the speaker should be uh, respect...respectful.

I personally uh, dislike the demonization of individuals who have...who have a different philosophy of life or different opinions, so I hope we would get away from that. Verbal outbursts and clapping are prohibited that is posted at the rear of this uh, uh, room that we are in. Anyone uh, deemed to be disruptive will be requested to uh, to leave the meeting Pursuant to Penal Code 403. Board Agendas are posted online and can be reviewed at our website. Agendas will also available for public meetings at the back of this Board room and thank you for attending tonight's meeting. Uh, to begin, um, we're going to have a uh, we're going to have the call to order.

Associate Superintendent Boyd: You call it to order.

Williams: Pardon me?

Boyd: You call it to order.

Williams: Okay, so, we don't have the...the roll call at this point?

Boyd: Not until after the pledge.

Williams: Okay. Okay, so let's go to Invocation and we have our good Trustee Barke who will be giving us an Invocation. Can we all rise?

Barke: Welcome everybody. I'm honored to do the Invocation tonight. Dear God, thank you for bringing us all here tonight to do this important work. Thank you for giving us the strength and the wisdom to do what is right for the children and families of Orange County, and thank you for watching over all of us and keeping us healthy and strong including the members that are not present. Thank you. Amen.

Williams: Everyone, if...if we can remain standing, we're going to have the Pledge of Allegiance uh, which will be by our good uh, staff Associate Superintendent, Renee.

Hendrick: Thank you.

Williams: Thank you. You put your hand over your heart, please.

[MEMBERS OF THE AUDIENCE: I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible with liberty and justice for all.]

Williams: Okay, so now we're at roll call.

Sisavath: Trustee Sparks?

Sparks: Here.

Sisavath: Trustee Barke?

Barke: Here.

Sisavath: Trustee Williams?

Williams: Present.

Sisavath: Trustee Gomez? [TRUSTEE GOMEZ IS NOT PRESENT]

Sisavath: Trustee Bedell?

Bedell: Here.

Boyd: And, for the record, Trustee Gomez is uh, this is a travel day for her. She's on a vacation. And so, she was not...not able to teleconference in due to her uh, inability to post and uh, her flight schedule.

Williams: Very good, thank you. Any other introductions tonight, Nina?

Boyd: We have none.

Williams: Okay, very good. Uh, may I have a Motion to Adopt the uh, Agenda for this evening?

Barke: Aye...aye, to the Motion.

Williams: We have a Motion; we have a Second...?

Sparks: Second.

Williams: ...by Sparks. Any discussion? Being none, all those in favor, say "aye".

[ALL REMAINING BOARD MEMBERS SAY "AYE"]

Williams: Moving on to the Minutes. We have the Minutes, uh from the last meeting that we can have a Motion to...

Boyd: We don't have Minutes until um...because the meeting just...we're still completing the Minutes.

Williams: Okay, so we don't have...

Boyd: We won't have any Minutes for you to do this evening.

Williams: This is why I needed a red line. Okay, Public Comments. Do I have any Public Comments, Darou?

Boyd: You do have one Public Comment. Uh, Mr. Craig Alexander, go up to the podium and uh, state your name and you'll have three minutes. We have a light indicator so it is green, yellow and then red.

Alexander: That on this...?

Boyd: Actually, she's going to put it up. So, um, as soon as she gets it posted...

Alexander: Hard to miss.

Boyd: It's like a traffic light.

Sparks: And we'll let you know if you don't see it.

Alexander: Yeah, I heard, and he's back there to make sure. Greg Alexander, Dana Point, uh, California. I'm here to speak about the Closed Session item. Uh, first I'd like to say congratulations to Trustee Barke and Trustee Sparks, my Trustee, for your win. I will clap silently. Um, I'm an attorney as well as a constituent, and I heard about the appointment of Mr. Riel uh, who most recently was the...I'm not sure if General Counsel or In-House Counsel at Anaheim Union High School District. Uh, I'm not going to go through all of my statements that I sent in the letter because it would take too much time and it talks about case law, but I'm very

shocked and concerned about that appointment, given that he has been uh, General Counsel or some other attorney, in form or fashion...function at the uh, AUSHSD, who has filed a lawsuit against this Board.

And, that's currently on appeal. It's a current case. As a lawyer, we have drilled into our head as law students about conflicts of interest and the fact that we need to be very careful to avoid them. I had...and...and if in the...scheme of things, Mr. Riel loses his job here, that's sad. I can say though that happened to me. I was an employee at an insurance company as a lawyer. I then went on to work for a law firm that represented that same insurance company and then I left there and got a job at a new firm. That new firm sometimes sued the very carrier that I used to be at and the contemplation was I might be helping them or I might not...not in cases, but not ones that I was personally involved in for the carrier.

When the carrier would not uh, waive the conflict...potential conflict we call that, I lost my job. That was not fun. However, as a lawyer we accept the rules of professional conduct for attorneys. Here you have an actual conflict. There is no question that there's a conflict of interest. The idea...and the idea of erecting a so-called ethical wall or he's not involved, that doesn't work. You'll see the cases involved. Finally, I know my time is running out. There's a non-legal issue here and that's the optics of all this.

The public should expect the public entities to act most ethically and I don't think the public who may not understand the intricacies of the professional rules of conduct; they do understand conflicts of interest and this is a very obvious one. And, I don't think it's going to look good and the public, if they hear about this, is gonna think this is an insider deal at taxpayer expense. So, I know you've hired your own counsel. I commend that. I'm sure he'll do an excellent job. There's a lot of facts to be found out. I hope that the other side or the uh, excuse me, the Superintendent's office will cooperate. Thank you very much.

Williams: Thank you. Mr. Alexander. Any other...

Boyd: No.

Williams: Public Comments? Okay, very good. So, with that, um, we will have the Board then go into Closed Session with um, our attorneys.

Barke: Can I ask a quick question?

Williams: Yes.

Barke: If I wanted to get something on our Agenda for the next meeting, would this be the appropriate time to ask to do that?

Boyd: No, just email me and we will um, we can get that.

Barke: Excellent.

Sparks: As long as it's 48 hours or 72 or something like that.

Boyd: In your packet there was a cut off.

Barke: Okay.

Boyd: It's actually two weeks before the next Board Meeting.

Barke: Oh, okay. Perfect.

Boyd: And so, um, but I'll...I'll be happy to dialogue to dialogue with you.

Barke: Thank you.

Boyd: Perfect.

Barke: I just wasn't sure. I didn't want to miss my opportunity if that's the case.

Boyd: Most definitely.

Barke: Thank you, because someone happened to email me today and I thought, “Ooh, this might be the time.” Okay, gotcha.

Boyd: You’re fine.

Williams: Very good. So, we will go into Closed Session. Uh, the time needed will be unknown, you will know, and then we will come out and complete Board Recommendations Item 2, 3, and 4.

[THE BOARD MEETING PROCEEDS TO A CLOSED SESSION WITH PRESIDENT WILLIAMS STRIKING THE GAVEL TWICE. PRESIDENT WILLIAMS RETURNS, ALONG WITH THE OTHER BOARD MEMBERS]

Williams: Is everybody here?

Bedell: Because no shirts? How come we didn’t get them?

Boyd: I'm at a conference.

Bedell: Oh, you're not here.

Boyd: Yeah, I just came over.

PRESIDENT WILLIAMS STRIKES THE GAVEL TWICE TO CONTINUE THE SPECIAL BOARD MEETING]

Williams: The Board of Education has just come out of Closed Session and we have made some decisions, and our attorney, Mr. Jonathan Brenner will announce those decisions publicly.

Brenner: On Motion uh, by Member Williams, seahn...uh, Seconded by the uh, Member Barke, the Board is resolved to request the following documents from the Superintendent relating to the recent purported appointment of the General Counsel. All records and documents of any kind whether stored electronically or in hard copy, including any emails, text messages, Instant Messages, faxes, correspondence, communications, internal notes and calendar entries pertaining in any way to the recruitment, hiring or employment of Jeffrey Riel, including, but not limited to, any contract of employment, offer letters, agreements, employment applications, resumes, conflicts waivers, communications with his former employer and employment references.

Category Two: all records and documents of any kind whether stored electronically or in hard copy, including any emails, text messages, Instant Messages, faxes, correspondence, communications, internal notes and calendar entries pertaining in any way to the recruitment process and/or consideration of any other candidates for the General Counsel position, including but not limited to, the Statewide search for the General Counsel position, screening of 18 applicants for the position including review of responses to supplemental question, the first round of interviews undertaken by 2 District Superintendents and administrative staff for candidates who were successful in the first screening. And, such further review as was undertaken of the top two candidates who were referred to the Superintendent and Executive Committee. All of the above as specified in the memorandum from the office of the Superintendent dated, June 15, 2018.

Bedell: Excuse me here, just a second, Mr. Chairman. May I give this to the Secretary who is trying to take notes?

Williams: Yes, absolutely.

Brenner: That uh, that Resolution uh, was passed by aye votes from Member Williams, Sparks and Barke, with one Abstention by Member Bedell. Resolution #2: On Motion by Member Williams, Seconded by Member Sparks, the Board resolves to proceed with litigation in an appropriate forum adverse to the Superintendent and any other appropriate parties, sufficient to address the recent purported appointment of a General Counsel and the current and existing dispute between the Board and Superintendent regarding their respective authority to appoint the General Counsel.

The Board authorizes it's outside Counsel, Epstein Becker Green, to take appropriate action to effectuate this resolution and to make an appropriate demand on the Superintendent to remedy the purported actions regarding the appointment of a General Counsel that formed the basis of the dispute in lieu of litigation. That motion uh, carried on aye votes from Williams, Sparks and Barke, with one nay vote from Member Bedell.

Williams: Thank you. Mr. Brenner. Okay, moving on to the Board Recommendation #2, regarding the proposed changes to the Board meeting dates. This is of particular concern because a lot of the dates were selected by the previous Board. We have two new Board Members with potential conflicting dates. So, um, I'm going to leave this to Nina and...and Darou who are...if you can help us in this, give us some background here uh, because what you have to say is very important on this item.

Boyd: Okay, um, we received dates uh, initially that we brought to the Board and we had polled the Board and uh, July, just be prior to the last Board Meeting, on the dates that we had checked with each Board Member and unfortunately, there was only the October date that we didn't have a quorum. Uh, so we brought forward a calendar which the Board approved at the last Board Meeting. Since that time, we received some follo...additional dates of availability from Board Member that we have vetted with the full Board. We again have one Board Member who um, only has the ability to change their calendar for October. Uh, we have not heard from uh, one Board Member, because they've been traveling and so, we haven't received a response on that.

But as of right now, uh, if the Board is to change dates, uh, the other caveat is that the August dates that were presented are at the end of the month. There are currently four known inter-district appeals that are coming to the Board at the next Board Meeting. Three of the districts start school the week of August 6, so the current Board Meeting has August 15th. The Board also is required by Ed Code to review and hear inter-district appeals within 45 days. So, if the Board meeting in August moves to the end of the month uh, which is proposed, you will be outside of the 45-day window to hear those inter-district appeals and potentially also impact parents ability to enroll their students because they're in a quandary.

And, for the new Board Members, what it means is that for parents who are wanting their students to go to one district, and they don't have a release. Then they can't enroll them. If they enroll them in the district that they don't want their child to attend and they start going to school

hoping that the Board grants their inter-district appeal, they potentially may not be able to get them enrolled because of a capacity issue. So um, that...

Sparks: What was the date again? The 45-day window?

Boyd: The 45-day window is from the date that they're submitted. So, we have some that were submitted in June. They...they all came in at different dates.

Barke: I think the key is we need to make a decision before they start school. So, do we have any dates before they start school that we can all do it?

Sparks: I know I do...I was away and I didn't look at...I just figured we were doing it here and it would be simpler for you to pick a day and I'll say yes. My calendar's fairly full.

Boyd: Right. Li...uh, Lisa I understand your availability is not until August 22nd. Is that correct?

Sparks: Uh, well, it depends on. I'm available on August 2nd or August...

Boyd: Well, we can't do it before the 15th only because we also have to give the parents and, as of today, they were supposed to get a letter that...because yesterday was the closing to...for any additional; there's a window period that they can submit. So, yesterday was the last day that we could receive any additional inter-district appeals for this period. And...which would be prior to the August 15th date. We notified um, so staff..

Sparks: I'm sorry. Today?

Boyd: Yesterday.

Sparks: 25th? Was it the 25th yesterday?

Boyd: Yes, yesterday was the 25th. So,...

Sparks: So, we have to approve 45 days? That's the last...I'm trying to figure out, what's the latest date from the...the last...what's the...what are the dates that we're working with, that take us out 45 days?

Boyd: Why don't you go to the...I don't...I don't know that the date of the last appeal. I don't know when that came in because...because we don't have that information.

Ron Wenkart: But when we calculated some of the ones that were filed in June, we barely make it on August 15th. So, if we move it past...later than August 15th, we're going to be outside the...the uh, 45-day window. In fact, one of them, I think, we were already past the 45-day window by a day or so, but usually if we miss it by a day or so, you know, parents don't object. But what we could have...could happen is a parent objects and then we might have to call a Special Board Meeting to, you know, to uh, hear their inter-district appeal. The other thing is I'm not sure, did we already notify them of the August 15th date?

Boyd: They have not been notified of the August 15th...

Wenkart: Okay.

Boyd: ...date. We can't move um, the to the August 2nd date because that's next week, because they have to have at least um, what's the window that they can give us additional documents to support their claim? Is that...I don't know if it's 10 days or 15 days from the date of the letter. There's...there's additional time frame that they can offer some...

Wenkart: Yeah.

Boyd: ...additional information for their case. They just had to submit that they wanted to do...move forward with an inter-district appeal with us and then both the district and the parents have some additional time from the date of the letter to give us additional rationale of why um

they want to move forward.

Barke: The start date for these kids is August 15th. What's their start a because I think we need to come in before their start date so we don't have them starting at one school, hoping to move.

Sparks: Yeah.

Barke: What is their start date?

Boyd: Well, one district starts on August 6th...

Barke: Oh.

Boyd: ...and one district starts on August 7th.

Barke: Oh, so we're gonna be...so we need to...

Boyd: So, we're...you're beyond it...it by the 15th date ether...also, so...

Barke: So, if it's 10 days, can we squeeze in a meeting right before the 6th to give them an answer before they start?

Wenkart: Before August 6th?

Barke: Yeah, like August 5th or just so that...I mean, I think being a parent that I'd love to know that...where my kids going before he actually has to start.

Wenkart: August 6th is a Monday...

Barke: Mmhmm.

Wenkart: ...so um, you could do August 3rd, which is a Friday...

Barke: Are you available then?

Wenkart: You just...you said August 6th is when some of them start, and August 8th...August 8th is a Wednesday.

Sparks: Could we do Augusta 6th? Could we do that morning?

Boyd: But is there...and Ron, I don't know in terms of the legalities of how much time they're provided. When we were talking with um...

Sparks: I'm in Texas.

Wenkart: I mean, that's a potential issue too. They may not be able to make it on August 6th if we're giving them pretty short notice because today is what? The 26th.

Boyd: Right. That's one week. That would be...

Wenkart: 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8...

Boyd: The 3rd is a week from tomorrow.

Wenkart: We're only giving them eleven days notice.

Sparks: That's pretty good. It's almost two weeks.

Barke: Well, I mean if we only need to do 10, it puts us within that if we only need to do the 10 days. Lisa's out of town, but she says she could call on the 3rd. I'm available the 3rd.

Wenkart: The 3rd is even less. That's 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9. That's only eight days away.

Sparks: But the 6th, you have 11 days. That's almost two weeks. I mean, you know, I've dealt with these inter-district transfers and they're not that big of a deal.

Boyd: Excuse me? When you're saying inter-district transfers, they have a Closed Hearing in here and you hear it, and then you move into Closed Session to discuss...

Sparks: Right.

Boyd: ... it. So...

Sparks: Correct. Thanks.

Barke: Sounds like Ken can't do it the 3rd either, though.

Williams: Yeah, I'm not going to be here.

Bedell: I can't either.

Barke: Okay. You guys are very difficult. Nina, can I raise a very general question?

Nina: Sure.

Bedell: Go with it. So, I snuck a piece of salami. Uh, Jeff, your Jeff gave me uh, a statement. We had a conversation about this...

Sparks: Uh huh.

Bedell: ...and he was telling me that Los Alamitos meets at night, twice a month.

Sparks: Uh huh.

Bedell: Now, can you describe...and you...you were very eloquent in what happens if we went nights? Okay, we...would night make it any better?

Sparks: On what day?

Bedell: Just in general. In general, are nights better?

Sparks: Depends on the night.

Boyd: And...and the conversation that I had when Dr. Bedell posed that, was that the reason why the County Board Meetings have always been in the daytime, with the exception of Special Meetings and so forth, is because the 27 school districts in the county meet at night. And oftentimes, they are...most of the Board Meetings were either honoring individuals from districts or they're coming before the Board for something. And so, there's a conflict and that's why we haven't moved traditionally to having evening meetings on a regular basis.

Barke: That makes sense that they can attend. I agree with that.

Boyd: I did say good try.

Barke: I tried. I was too late. I need a magazine.

Boyd: It's like a fruit fly.

Bedell: Right in front of you.

Sparks: So, the morning of the 6th. How does that look?

Williams: Okay, so...

Wenkart: We have the Cabinet Retreat on August 6th. That would have to be moved. Uh...

Boyd: I don't know that that can be moved because...

Bedell: You reserved a place?

Boyd: It's off site. All our Cabinet Members are off site.

Sparks: Anytime, really. We...we could even do later. We can do anytime...

Barke: Is the Retreat all day on August 6th?

Boyd: Yes. It's the one day of the year that all of the Cabinet Members are gone.

Barke: Okay, what about August 7th? 'm just trying to make it so these kids aren't going to two different schools as much as possible. Can we do August 7th?

Williams: I can do that.

Boyd: It would just be the four of you because Becky's not available.

Sparks: Uh, what time?

Barke: I'm open.

Williams: Morning would...would be preferable.

Sparks: Okay...

Williams: Unless afternoon is...is better.

Sparks: I could do it. I just have to drop my kids off at the dentist, you know, by themselves, but I can figure that out; coming here.

Barke: All right. August 7th, are we Moving August?

Williams: Jack, how are you for August?

Bedell: Uh, August...what day of the week is that?

Sparks: Tuesday.

Barke: Tuesday.

Bedell: That should work.

Boyd: Okay. What time?

Bedell: So, we're going...we're going to delete the 15th and add the 7th. I just...

Boyd: Now, if the parents can't make before...and again, I don't know because I...I'm going back to Ron in terms of...I just know that they're...we were told...

Wenkart: 10 days notice is what's required.

Boyd: Okay.

Wenkart: So, that's 12 days. So, the 7th would be okay.

Williams: Okay, as far as uh, how...how many inter-district transfer transfer...transfers do we have?

Boyd: There's currently five. We believe one of them is going to be settled.

Williams: There's going to be four...

Boyd: Yeah.

Williams: Yeah, they're usually about 45...50 minutes minimum for...

Boyd: So, you're talking about a Special Board Meeting just to do the inter-district appeals, and we would do...you'd do your Board Meeting...

Barke: I think we should do it the...

Boyd: ...because we still have a sufficiency of instructional materials after four o'clock that has to be done in August. That is...that's why the August meeting is typically in the afternoon.

Bedell: At 2:00.

Boyd: So...

Williams: It cannot be done after 2 P.M. on the 7th?

Boyd: After 4 P.M.

Williams: After 4 P.M.?

Sparks: But if we start at 2:00 to do the inter-district transfers and then get to the other stuff at 4:00, how's that? Why don't we start at 2:00 on the 7th, and then we'll do everything.

Barke: Yeah, that makes sense. T

Boyd: Typically your inter-district appeals are about 40...35 to 45 minutes.

Sparks: Okay.

Williams: Yeah, I think...

Barke: Let's just say, 1:00? Okay?

Sparks: All right, so it'll be 1:00?

Barke: And you might even have a chance to eat something before the next meeting.

Williams: So, we're gonna do the full Board Meeting...

Sparks: On the 7th.

Williams: On the 7th.

Sparks: At 1 o'clock, including transfers.

Barke: Okay.

Williams: And Darou, how...how's that work out with you and Nina, or...there's a lot of administrative things that have go on behind the scenes. Uh, you'll...you'll be okay with that?

Boyd: We...well basically what that will mean is whatever item that...we need to talk tomorrow to get your Item on, but we would be...yeah.

Barke: My Item's super simple, so...

Boyd: And that's not a problem. I...it's just a matter that we need to do Agenda because the

Agenda would need to go out by next week...

Barke: Okay.

Boyd: ...in order for us to make that deadline. So, that means Darou, um, we'd have to post...if it's the 7th, we need to post by Thursday...

Sisavath: Okay.

Boyd: ...which means we need to be finished by Monday. We need to have a draft Agenda to...for them to review on Monday the 30th.

Barke: Okay.

Bedell: That's next...that's four days.

Sisavath: That has to be done, tomorrow.

Williams: Can you do it?

Sisavath: I can do it, as long as you send me this on time.

Boyd: Yeah, it just means that whatever we have right now is what we're going with for Agenda. So, your inter-district appeals and then whatever items have already come in. We do have Charter Schools. You heard a...um...

Bedell: Revision.

Boyd: ...Material Revision at the last Board Meeting and so that would be...we need to check the time frame on that to make sure that that...if not, we can ask them to hold over to September. Um, I'm not sure that it negatively impacts them, but...no dialogue...

Wenkart: It has to be within 30 days.

. I have to be within 30 days. This will be shorter than the 30 days, so...

Boyd: Right.

Wenkart: ...there wouldn't be a legal issue.

Barke: I don't think it was all that encompassing. I think that'll be easy if we add that now.

Boyd: No, we have a time frame. It's the legal time frame.

Barke: Oh, I see. Well, within 30, we have to be within 30, so we'd be within 30.

Wenkart: Yeah, I think we're okay.

Barke: Yeah. Okay, good.

Williams: So, what I'm hearing is a consensus for August 7th at 1 P.M.?

Bedell: But, we have to let the record know that that Becky can't make that.

Boyd: Yes.

Bedell: She should be held harmless because of that.

Williams: Of course.

Barke: Can she call in or is she...we don't know where she is? We don't know?

Boyd: Well, she may be on campus. I mean, she has some duties, you know, in terms of being Dean, so I don't know what her schedule is in terms of that.

Williams: Okay, so it looks like then, what I'm hearing is a consensus and if you can make a formal Motion?

Barke: I mo...I make a Motion that we move our um, August meeting to Tuesday, August 7th starting at 1 P.M. We'll be covering inter-district transfers as well as Scholarship Prep and...

Williams: There probably are many other Items on there. Okay, so I need a Second on that Motion.

Sparks: Second.

Williams: A Second, okay. Is there any further discussion? Barring that there's none, all those in favor of moving the date to August 7th say, "aye".

[ALL REMAINING BOARD MEMBERS SAY "AYE" EXCEPT TRUSTEE BEDELL]

Williams: Oppose? Abstain?

Bedell: One.

Williams: Motion passes 3-0-1. Uh, moving on to Board Recommendation #3. Dr. Bedell, since you are the maker of this...

Bedell: No, no, no.

Sparks: I have a question first. Do we need to deal with the other um...

Bedell: Number 2 was for the whole year, right?

Sparks: Yeah. We're doing the whole year, because...

Bedell: That was #2, Dr. Williams.

Sparks: Yeah, I'm not scheduled for like, any of the meetings.

Williams: Oh, please forgive me. Um, no red item makes it difficult for me and I open my mouth and insert my foot.

Bedell: I wonder if it would be...do we expect to have Trustee Gomez back here September 12th?

Boyd: Trustee Gomez set my schedule and...I mean sent me her schedule and again uh, for the record, she told me that you know, there are...to move for schedule around for the year with the exception of October is problematic, and that there are not any dates other than October, and she did propose some options in October for consideration. But um, she did want me to let the Board know that she had concerns with movement of day dates because they negatively impact uh, her uh, position, at...you know as a Dean and also with City Council and also she, for the record, wanted the Board to recognize that. The Board has not typically changed dates for one member over another member...

Bedell: Right.

Boyd: ...that she suggested her calendar when she came on and so forth. So, I told her that I would mention that um...

Bedell: In light of that, Mr. Chairman, I respectfully request that we postpone further deliberations of the calendar until we have a Full Board in the name of colleg...in the name of collegiality.

Williams: Collegiality. So, we haven't adjusted the whole calendar...

Sparks: But she's not going to be here in...

Williams: In the next meeting on the 7th...

Sparks: ...August 7th meeting. She's not going to be here. So, that's not going to work.

Barke: So, my understanding um, Nina, is she only available Wednesday morning?

Boyd: No.

Barke: Oh.

Boyd: She...she her calendar...her calendar...

Sparks: Can I see it?

Boyd: I don't have it. She didn't send a calendar.

Barke: Okay.

Boyd: What she did was she just sent an email saying that I've looked at my calendar, or I have something plugged in every day of the month and I've worked my calendar around the Board dates that we approved previously um, thinking that's what we were moving forward with. And, she said I recognize that there's a conflict in October for me. I was thinking I wasn't going to

necessarily participate or work something out, but since we don't have a quorum in October, we have to find a different date anyways, because three of our Board Members have a problem in October.

Sparks: So what are the dates in September that she is available or not available?

Barke: I don't think we know that.

Williams: Yeah.

Boyd: I know the dates in October. She has given no dates for availability other than the Board dates...

Sparks: Why don't we just um, for time conversion since you have October, let's do October at least.

Barke: What...what commit...is...is that a...

Boyd: October 3rd is uh, is a Wednesday. That was proposed. I think that worked for...I...I just don't know if it worked for um, Trustee Barke and Trustee Williams.

Barke: That works for me as in this moment.

Williams: I'm okay.

Boyd: October 3rd?

Bedell: Works for me.

Williams: Works for me.

Sparks: Works for me.

Boyd: Okay, so we'll go with October 3rd.

Barke: Wow, that was the easiest one.

Sparks: See that? I told you October...I knew would be a great one. October 3rd, 10 A.M.?

Bedell: So, as it stands now, Trustee Gomez cannot be with us to this readjusted date of August, the 7th, and as it stands now, she's committed to September 12th.

Boyd: Correct.

Bedell: And she is agreeable to go with October 3rd?

Boyd: Correct.

Bedell: Okay.

Williams: So, we moved August and September then is the 12th, is her only day available. Is that correct?

Boyd: That's the only day that...yes, that's my understanding.

Williams: Okay.

Sparks: Well, she didn't...you said she didn't give you her dates in September.

Boyd: I'm sorry.

Sparks: You said she didn't give you her dates in September?

Boyd: She said that she could not move any dates in September. She said you couldn't move any dates, period, so that...that...

Bedell: She built her calendar.

Boyd: She built her calendar around...

Bedell: What we did here in July.

Boyd: What you all did in July and what you did prior to July.

Bedell: Okay, that's what...I want to correct. I got that right.

Williams: So, you...you can't make the 12th of September?

Sparks: I'm away...I'm away the 5th to the 21st.

Williams: Okay, can you September 12th?

Barke: Um, I'm pretty sure I can make that one...September...

Sparks: And I...I may be able to call in. I just don't know exactly where I'm going to be.

Barke: Yeah, I have it on my calendar for September 12th. I..I...I have every Wedn...whenever it was, like Wednesday, I do have...

Williams: It's okay if you miss...

Sparks: Okay.

Williams: A meeting.

Sparks: Yeah, as long as I'm not missing all of them, I don't mind.

Bedell: Well, that happens, you know. Everybody works, I mean, I can't do Thursday's anymore so, that happens.

Williams: Okay. So, then uh, September 12th will most likely be where it is now, so we don't need any action on that. We do need some action. I need ...a Motion to Move the October 10th.

Bedell: So Moved to the 3rd.

Williams: To the 3rd.

Barke: Second.

Williams: Second. Okay, so we have a um...

Boyd: Jack and Mari.

Williams: We have a Motion and a Second to move the October meeting to uh, the 3rd.

Bedell: That's okay with Becky.

Boyd: Yes, October 3rd, yes.

Williams: At 10 A.M.. Okay. So, that Motion, for all those in favor, say "aye".

[ALL REMAINING BOARD MEMBERS SAY "AYE"]

Williams: Opposed? Abstain? Motion passes 4-0.

Bedell: Right.

Williams: Okay. So, let's move on, uh...

Sparks: I'm sorry. What time on the 12th? 10 A.M.?

Barke and Boyd: 10 A.M.

Sparks: Okay.

Williams: Okay, moving to September 7th. Is...

Boyd: November?

Williams: Yeah, because we...we've...we've already locked in September, we...

Bedell: The first three are all done. August, September....

Williams: ...the consensus was we move September. October, we just moved, so now we're...we're talking about November.

Bedell: Right.

Williams: What...what um...I'm...I'm flexible. I can make that um...are...are you going to be in town, Lisa?

Sparks: Hang on one second.

Williams: Okay.

Sparks: I'm...um... I'm putting October 3rd in.

Bedell: Okay.

Williams: Okay.

Sparks: Uh, okay, what was the question?

Williams: Are you going to be uh, able to make it November...

Boyd: November 7th is the Board Meeting.

Sparks: Um...in the morning I can...I can um...I'm going to be getting on an airplane at some

point that day.

Boyd: Do you know what time?

Sparks: I don't know what time yet so, the earlier the better, but...and then once I know kind of the approximate...

Bedell: Can we do an 8 o'clock with the girls? You could do an 8 o'clock.

Sparks: I could. I mean, I hate it, but you know...

Bedell: I won't shave. Ken promises he will.

Williams: I don't know if I'm gonna be shaved or not. Depends when I do...

Sparks: Yeah, the earlier the better and I'll just try to delay my flight, you know?

Williams: Have you purchased your...your airplane...

Sparks: No, not yet.

Williams: Okay.

Sparks: It's just Salt Lake so it's not too far.

Williams: Yeah.

Sparks: I just don't want to be in a situation where last time I was like, I had to go get on the plane. I don't want to put you guys...

Barke: Yeah, Salt Lake is pretty easy.

Sparks: So, yeah, that'll work.

Williams: Okay. Okay, so we have consensus that November 7th is...is going to be fine then. Ma...maybe 9:00 A.M.. Would you feel more comfortable...a 9:00 A.M.?

Sparks: I think so.

Williams: Everyone okay with 9 A.M.?

Bedell: Do we know if Becky can go early?

Sisavath: Yes.

Bedell: She can?

Boyd: I don't know.

Barke: She always wanted to go early so I imagine she can. She wanted to go earlier than 10.

Bedell: Did she?

Barke: Tha...that's been what I've heard from her is she'd like to start...doesn't that sound right?

Williams: That...that is right. That is correct.

Barke: Okay, so 9:00 A.M.M.

Williams: Okay. So, what I'm hearing then is we're going to stick with November 7th except that the time will now be 9:00 A.M. Is that correct?

Sparks: Yes, so Moved.

Bedell: Second.

Williams: Second. Any discussion? Being that there's none, all those in favor say, "aye".

[ALL REMAINING BOARD MEMBERS SAY "AYE"]

Williams: Oppose? Abstain? Motion passes 4-0. Okay, that gets us now to December.

Barke: December 12th was the proposed.

Bedell: When is the holiday party? The 16th? The 14th?

Barke: Does that work for you, December 12th?

Bedell: The 7th?

Boyd: December...December 14th.

Bedell: So, it's two days after that? Okay.

Barke: Or you could just come late, too.

Boyd: Oh, I'm sorry. Uh, Renee, you want to go...come up? December we have budget that comes before the Board and so there's some...date things that we...

Bedell: Sensitivity.

Renee Hendrick: By law, that Board...that budget has to be approved prior...by December 15th or prior.

Barke: Okay.

Hendrick: Okay, and there's...you have December and March are the two dates.

Barke: Right.

Williams: Okay, so...so December 12th would be fine.

Barke: Lisa may be a little late. She's got some trouble in the morning, but...but she'll be there.

Williams: Sure. I'm done that...

Bedell: So, that's no change so we don't have to do anything to it, right?

Williams: Correct. There's...there's no change. Okay moving on to January 16th as is currently scheduled, I can make that. Um...

Sparks: I can't.

Williams: You can't.

Sparks: I'm in Bhutan.

Williams: You're in where?

Sparks: Bhutan in Nepal; travel course.

Williams: Nice.

Sparks: Yeah.

Williams: Nice.

Sparks: Cool trip.

Bedell: So, it would have to be earlier then or before the 16th.

Sparks: Or after the 18th.

Bedell: And we have to do it by the 15th.

Boyd: Jack, we're in January.

Bedell: Oh, January.

Sparks: We've already moved to January.

Bedell: So, December's okay?

Sparks: Yeah.

Bedell: Okay. Sorry, sorry.

Barke: All right, so what is your dates, Lisa?

Sparks: January 7 to 18.

Barke: You're gone 7 to 18?

Sparks: Uh huh.

Barke: So, January 2nd's probably challenging. I don't know. Is January 2nd challenging? I mean, it works for me but a lot of people are still on vacation.

Boyd: Correct.

Barke: Yeah.

Boyd: And also, trying to get packets out. We would have to get that out by...or during the uh...winter holiday.

Williams: Yeah.

Boyd: So...

Sparks: So, how about the 23rd? Or 21st?

Williams: Do we know...

Boyd: January 23rd?

Bedell: Martin Luther King Day.

Boyd: Yeah.

Sparks: Oh, that's right.

Boyd: I thought you said the 23rd.

Sparks: Oh, 23rd, yeah. Wednesday, the 23rd?

Bedell: But, now again we don't have Becky.

Williams: We don't have Becky.

Barke: Do you want to check with Becky? Is that something that you can check with her that we could put it as a pending, maybe?

Williams: And...and...he...here's a thought for the Board. Uh, I mean, we've already now gone out to January. That gives us a lot of time now to get Becky in...

Sparks: Okay, so we could get it on the Agen...yeah.

Williams: Yeah, so maybe we can put this on...

Boyd: You all...all will be here...or I mean, October 3rd so we could put...we could put that on your January through June calendars...

Williams: Exactly.

Boyd: At that...on the October 3rd or...unless we get information sooner.

Bedell: Sure.

Williams: Right.

Sparks: Okay.

Williams: How does that sound...

Sparks: That's fine.

Williams: ...for the Board? Does that sound...

Sparks: As long as we're...

Williams: Jack, are you okay with...

Bedell: I'm perfect.

Williams: Okay.

Barke: Okay. So Moved.

Sparks: So, do we propose it again?

Williams: No, no, no, no, no. So...so, uh, we've already made uh...

Sparks: Okay.

Williams: ...date changes and we've already made the appropriate Robert's Rules in order protocol. Um, I...I...I think we can, just by the consensus I see developing here, put off until October 3rd, the discussion of the January through June meetings.

Barke: Yep.

Boyd: Staff has it is and note that we'll bring it back on...by October 3rd, if not sooner, so I...I'll be dialoguing with all of you and if there's a consensus that it can come back before...

Williams: Okay.

Boyd: ...based on information, we will bring it back.

Sparks: Okay.

Williams: Okay, very good. Are we...moving on then, um Number Three: Legal Counsel cost estimates and cap. Dr. Bedell, since you are...

Bedell: Given our Closed Session, how do you recommend I proceed on this?

Williams: So, I...I think that we talked about being very frugal and good...and good, um, stewards of...of the Public's funds. We're going to be monitoring the uh, expenses on...on a monthly basis. Uh, there are highs and lows. It could be as low as \$12,000 or could be as high as uh, \$500,000. We are...from the various options and situations; circumstances. Obviously, we don't want to spend uh, any of the Public's money on this um issue, so I...I would suggest that we don't put any caps for now and let's come back and revisit the expenses. Um, we'll...we'll have Legal Counsel. We'll have more information and we can go back and revisit it at that time.

Barke: And I think what we decided that that was being a good steward of our money because we don't want to have to meet every month to say, okay, this is how much we're spending. We're leaving it open for now and that way we're not set on something that we'll have to revisit immediately.

Sparks: But we promise as elected officials to be good stewards of um, the County's money.

Williams: And...

Boyd: And...and historically, typically the cap has been something that...whether you set a \$25,000 cap or a \$50,000 cap, um, it also gives you some um, limits so that if there are conversations going between uh, Board Members and Counsel, that you have some controls because one of the challenges that came up previously was the fact that there were a lot of communications that the Board as a whole, were not aware that were occurring, and so the costs were going up. It wasn't just the work that was being done that the Board was aware of. So, however you all choose to do it is certainly up to you. But I just bring that up to...so that the full Board is aware...

Barke: Okay.

Boyd: ...of the concerns that were raised by Board Members previously.

Barke: Well, and the attorney um, promised to give us monthly bills, so it would not go beyond a month.

Boyd: Right and you...and you always receive monthly bills. The bills actually come in the organization because you all don't have the ability to pay those.

Barke: Right.

Boyd: What...would happen is um, they would send invoices to us and the contract is actually being worked on. Not sure you all received the W9 information I sent you. So, as soon as we get that back then we'll send the documents back, and then the invoices come into me. I'll vet those with Dr. Williams um, as the...En...

Williams: The Executive Committee.

Boyd: ...the Executive Committee. And, uh, have a signature and then I...I would countersign those so that our payables would be able to get those processed uh, in a reasonable timeframe. So, we'll get those emailed to you um, or faxed, however, so that it's within days as opposed to uh, waiting for Board Meetings to get those. So, we typically have methodologies to get you paid quickly.

Barke: Sure, yeah.

Williams: Dr. Bedell.

Bedell: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I...I uh, would like to see in your remarks early in a meeting, not just...because you know, when we do the Board Members comments at the end there and the room is half empty, or more than, I would like to see a Monthly Report. On this month in this

proposed litigation, we have spent \$280, so it would be entered into the record, so...so my constituents know and then go find what Mari was saying that we get a monthly bill from the...that that's public information.

Williams: In...In...hmm, interesting concept. So, uh what you're suggesting then is that there's some sort of public documentation as to the ongoing legal costs?

Bedell: Yeah, because we don't have a cap. So, I'm...so uh, I guess I've been burned the previous go around, that's just my own personal thing, and it's...as a conservative, I want to...and again this is not betraying anything we did in Closed Session, but if we get a bill for \$4,000, I would like that to be in the record, because as Mari was saying, we're being fiscally conservative and transparent.

Sparks: I think I'd be okay with that if the Superintendent also has uh, reporting the amount being spent.

Barke: Hmm. I...I would actually...

Sparks: It's got to be equal.

Barke: Did Counsel have something to present? I think he was wanting to clarify something.

Brenner: Uh, with the Board's permission, I would just uh, offer that uh, obviously the Board is our client and uh, the Board does not need to wait monthly to get any understanding from us as to what the legal costs have been. Any Board Member can call me or anyone in my office and ask for that information in real-time. Uh, that can be done at any time by the end of the month, the beginning of the month, or at any time in between.

Bedell: Thank you.

Boyd: Do you charge for each of those communications?

Barke: No, he does not.

Brenner: No.

Barke: We already checked. We already asked him that.

Boyd: Thank you.

Sparks: That was the first question.

Boyd: That was confirmed and verified.

Barke: Yeah. No, no, no, no charge to find out how much...

Sparks: Yeah.

Barke: ...we're...we're, yeah, but I...I would agree with Lisa that I...I think that if we are saying what we're spending, I think that...that um, I would like to see that on the Superintendent as well.

Williams: Question: Um, aren't these legal documents available by public record request?

Boyd: Counsel?

Bedell: Thank you, Ken.

Wenkart: Well, there was a recent um, Supreme Court decision that said that the attorney-client privilege applies to these invoices as well, particularly when the uh, litigation's ongoing, but you know, this Board can make them public, you know, even if they're not legally required to be made public. So, you know, you're in the middle of discussing this issue, so it would be up to the Board as to whether you want...now that the at...the total amount wouldn't necessarily be

privileged but some of the detail uh, might be privileged, so you'd have to decide how much of the uh, bill you want to make public. But I think, Dr. Bedell, you're just talking about the total amount. So, if it's \$4,000 you want \$4,000. If it's...

Bedell: I want the dirty details for the...but uh, just...this is where I think...

Wenkart: That could be...that could be a public record, yeah. Just a total...

Barke: I don't know that I'm prepared to vote on making it a public record. I'd...I'd like to...for right now, I don't think I'd like to agree to that.

Bedell: Okay.

Barke: I'd like to think about it.

Sparks: Yeah.

Barke: Because that's not what we discussed in there, and so I'm...

Bedell: I'm just being consistent to where I was coming from. That's why I wanted to share with that.

Barke: Yeah.

Williams: So, wha...what you're saying, Ron, is that the Board can elect in the future to make these documents...

Wenkart: Right.

Williams: ...public. But, they're protected...

Wenkart: Right, as much as you want but the under the Public Records Act, I believe the amount of money just, you know, attorneys' fees, \$4,000, that would be a public record.

Barke: And I think that's fine, but I don't think that we have to necessarily, you know...

Williams: Let's uh, let's revisit this.

Barke: Yeah.

Williams: Uh, we don't have to...

Sparks: I need to think...

Williams: it's a...it's a good dialogue since we just uh, talked about this issue and...and uh, reviewed it just a few moments ago. I think it's good that we digest what we heard and maybe come back a little bit more comfortable and confident.

Bedell: I'm comfortable.

Williams: Yeah. So um, what I'm...what I'm hearing by all this – and please tell me if I'm wrong – is that um, you know, the discussion's been there, but we're going to revisit this at the...at...

Bedell: Sure.

Williams: ...the next meeting. So, there'd be no official Board decision or action on...

Bedell: And that's comfortable. I'm comfortable with that relative to my position in Closed Session.

Williams: We're good, and you've been always very good about being the fiscal conservative, my dear Dr. Bedell. You have a tough district.

Bedell: Yes.

Williams: They are tough on you. Okay uh, moving on to uh, the last Item on our Agenda. That's the cost related to the California Healthy Youth Act forum um, that we'll be having at some point in the future. We haven't decided that, which may be something we...we really should be working on, too, is exact date uh, of that particular meeting.

Bedell: So the Sep...uh, Mr. Chairman, the September 26 date is not a good one?

Williams: Um...

Boyd: You sent the date. We polled the full Board and the full Board is available on uh...

Williams: On the December 26.

Boyd: September 26.

Williams: Okay. Well, I...I didn't know that, so that...that's good and Becky can be here?

Boyd: Yes.

Williams: Awesome.

Sparks: Yep.

Williams: Okay. Uh, so anyway getting to uh, Dr. Bedell, we'll flow back to you since you are the maker of this Item.

Bedell: Sure, I appreciate this. I'm, again, going back to money flow. Uh, I was wondering what you, as the architect, envision. Are you envisioning bringing the legislator down who wrote this? Uh, you envisioning bringing experts of all the topics covered? Are you envisioning bringing the program back to the Board at its August meeting? For example, Mr. Chairman, I...as I understand the law, there are lots of opt-out provisions. There are also provisions that are not opt-outable, if there is a word.

For example, if you have your high school senior in uh, literature course and they are talking about uh, James Baldwin, I believe you can make an argument that you cannot really understand James Baldwin's work unless you embed his sexual orientation into that conversation. My understanding is that's not opt-outable, okay? So, was your...was your envision...was your vision of this that we were going to have an academic discussion of this about what is and what isn't, as opposed to having people come up to the microphone and discuss sexual acts that I don't care to hear about in public?

Williams: Right. So, um...

Bedell: I need your guidance on that. Does it...because it helps me...in that conversation empowers me where I am on Item...Item #4. Does that makes sense, Ken?

Williams: Yeah, yeah. So, you know, what I expressed at the last meeting uh, I'll express it again, is that the uh, the protocol and the format would be very similar to the Common Core, where we probably start at 6:00, get through at 9:30. We have uh, we have the two different viewpoints. They'll be experts. We haven't even selected them yet. I just learned about the final date today. So, we'll...we'll be earnestly working towards that.

Uh, we'll have the...the round-robin of questions. Each Board Member will get 5 minutes. Uh, they'll go 3 rounds, very similar to the uh, Common Core. Uh, as far as the...the experts, that's something that um, I was going to be working with...with Jeff, actually. I've been working so much on the...the um, General Counsel issue that...

Bedell: Sure.

Williams: I have not put much time into that. Uh, so I'll be giving an update at the August 7th meeting on that. I'll have more information to give you. As far as cost, I had uh...Nina, did...did you find out the...the final cost for the Common Core meeting?

Boyd: Yes, but actually uh, Dr. Bedell had asked for the costs after the last meeting, so we were able to get those um, because Renee had to spend a lot of time going into a lot of different records to pull that.

Williams: Oh.

Boyd: So um, but she did give me that figure today and it's approximately, for the 2 meetings, uh, 73...just under \$7,300.

Williams: For the 2 meetings?

Boyd: For the 2 meetings.

Williams: So, about \$3,6...

Boyd: \$3,6...yeah.

Williams: ...hundred dollars per meeting. Okay, um...

Boyd: And that's without management staff because we don't get paid to be here. We're just here.

Williams: Right.

Boyd: So, the...we had a number of management team members here for those but we didn't include costs because...

Bedell: Dr. Williams, did we pay for speakers?

Williams: No, we didn't.

Bedell: So, you...you, it was free, and the others were free? And they paid for their own travel?

Williams: Um, I think there was one person that we paid for their air fare; was from Sacramento or something like that. It was \$100. I...I'm not sure.

Boyd: I...I remember that. I can't remember if they actually billed us for that but there was a discussion about paying for air travel on a Southwest flight.

Williams: Okay. So um, I don't know if that helps you, Dr. Bedell, in uh, in answering your...

Bedell: Yes it does...thank you, I appreciate that, bec...that's not prohibitive in my life.

Williams: Okay.

Bedell: And it may be that we can get a...the legislative aide of the legislator who drafted it and the legislative aide...because sometimes aides know more than the staff or the legislator.

Williams: Yeah.

Sparks: They usually do.

Bedell: Yeah, so...especially if that's their topic.

Williams: Sure.

Bedell: That might be a way to look to get speakers and I think if that's...I'm worried about per...perception...

Sparks: Yeah.

Bedell: ...you talk about optics. Perception of balance.

Sparks: Can I just ask a quick...? I think we want to really show as a County uh, Board that we're showing some leadership on this very confusing uh, mis...uh, in many ways, misleading kind of issue in terms of how to implement the law? What is actually required? What is not required? Where is the confusion? Where do the areas of confusion lie? Who's going to teach the adopted curricula? At which grade levels in each district – even though the districts are obviously deciding? To be very clear, we're not deciding for them, but that's why there's a lot of sort of fear um, and...and uncertainty about how it's implemented and that's why certain districts are kind of, I think, delaying or because they're having debate because of a lot of this confusion.

Um, um, and uh, you know, when the lessons would be distributed across the school year with the districts that we know, you know? Um, what are the exact opt-out provisions, and what does that look like, and does that differ by district? Um, can it differ by district? So, there's some sort of legal and as well as academic. What's age appropriate? At what ages um, is curricula being

inserted? It may be inserted in K-6. It...it...is required in 7th and in high school. Is that taught by the health...by the science teacher?

The health ed teacher who know the kids, or is it taught by some outside source that, you know, no one really knows? So, there's a lot of confusion around all...that I can see, and I'm new...learning about all this, but that I can see, that's there...those are the areas of confusion and we just want to have this forum to clear up as much of that confusion as possible. And we don't want to um, you know, we just want to provide leadership with that.

Williams: Right.

Sparks: Obviously um, following the law, making sure what does that mean, following the law? And um, the...the districts are the ones who are making those decisions. How are they making those decisions, and how...how...what are those processes? So...

Williams: Yeah, just like the Common Core uh, Jeff Hittenberger played a role in getting the...the different uh, and various experts. They'll be some people who uh, the Executive Committee may want to invite. Um, we want to make this as neutral as we can, as fair as we can uh, take the politic emotions out of it and have a very objective didactical scholarly evaluation of a law that has caused much...much controversy and grief. Um again, admittedly because of the attention given to the uh, the issue of...of General Counsel and because everybody's been on vacation this last month, there hasn't been a whole lot of dialogue...

Bedell: Sure.

Williams: ...on this. There will be at the...at the next August 7th meeting. I'll report out um, from um, from the Executive Committee, and I am working with Dr. Sparks on communication and...and uh, something that she will give to us, uh, that we'll be able to vote upon as to the mission and purpose as a scope. So, we'll...we'll be having...giving you that clarifying information. Very good.

Barke: So he's working with her, not me, so there's not an issue...

Williams: Just on...just on communication.

Barke: Yeah.

Williams: Yeah. The actual...actual structure of the meeting, we'll work on.

Boyd: Can you s...I...I just have a question on terms of Brown Act and...and separating those because typically we have um...so Dr. Williams was explaining how the...on the forum that he's working with um, Dr. Sparks on one portion of it, and then he's working with uh, Trustee or Vice President, excuse me, Vice President Barke.

Barke: You could call me, just Barke.

Boyd: Vice President Barke on the rest of the forum. So...

Wenkart: As long as those are kept separate then they shouldn't be a Brown Act violation because 2 Board Members can talk to each other. So, there...if you keep those 2 items separate...

Williams: Correct.

Wenkart: ...then you should be okay.

Sparks: Yeah, but we're very intentional about keeping them separate because I don't want to be involved in that.

Barke: Yeah, and I don't know what they're doing. I don't even know what I'm doing at this point, so...

Williams: We haven't done anything.

Barke: Exactly, exactly, so there's been no problem because I haven't done anything.

Bedell: Ken, if we follow the...

Barke: The only thing I would like to say is I want to make sure in the forum, it's not an us versus them. I want it to just be a factual explaining understanding not this is what we think, this is what you think. This is the law...

Sparks: Evidence based...

Barke: ...this is what needs to be implemented. This is, you know, what we can do. That...that's the only thing. I want to keep it very friendly and not the us versus them. It's kind of felt a little bit us versus them to me, so....

Williams: Yeah. Unlike what the recent Orange County Registrar article um, had in in...in content. I thought it was 2 groups opposing one another, which in reality, it's not. No one's um, saying that we don't like you or they're not...there may have been some words that were demonizing but um, I don't see this as a...2 groups hitting each other. I think this is uh, most importantly about parental rights. It's about scientifically...scientific accurate um, medical information. Uh, are...are we uh, delivering that?

Are we giving that to our kids? Are...are we impu...imposing the govern...imposing upon parental rights certain values that parents don't want? And what are the parents options for these things? So, it's going to be an interesting meeting. I...I will make sure that it maintains civility and decorum, that there's no demonization of...just for the record, we have on the entrance to our Board room here, posted signs talking um, about the need for civility and addressing Penal Code 403 uh, which is disturbing a Public Meeting. And um, we'll...I'll be enforcing that. Okay, Dr. Bedell, did that answer...?

Bedell: I, you know, I...my concerns have been addressed. Thank you.

Williams: Very good. Any...anything else, uh...

Sparks: I just want to keep it really evidence-based information, based and really just keep redirecting the conversation to the evidence, the evidence, the evidence. I mean, very clear about what's required was not required so parents know what...what in...in the future kind of taken away as well, as you know, the fears from all sides because it's the unknown. That's why there's some fear because it's been not as transparent, I think, as it...as it really should be. We're hoping by clarification...

Bedell: Lisa, I appreciate that because we had that one day when the forum started, one of the employees in my district who was getting one of the Employees of the Year from the County was here, and he...he and the staff from his district went back and they were sobbing about the person...what they felt were personal attacks against a certain lifestyle that he lives, and I don't want to be part of that.

Sparks: No, we don't want to be part of that at all. We don't want that at all, and we in...and that's why we want to set...set up the meeting really well in the beginning so that people know what the purpose is; that they're clear about the purpose.

Bedell: Right. I love that you...your use of the word evidence. This is science.

Sparks: Got some right here. Yeah. So yeah, hopefully that'll provide some leadership on these issues. So...

Williams: Yeah, I think being heard equally, being recognized and respected, I think that leads to free speech and a free society. Uh, we...we want to at all times...

Bedell: Exactly.

Williams: ...project that image as a governing entity. Okay, any other issues? Okay, nothing from the Executive Committee report because we ha...we didn't meet.

Bedell: So Move to adjourn.

Williams: So Move to adjourn. Thank you.

[PRESIDENT WILLIAMS CONCLUDES THE MEETING BY STRIKING THE GAVEL ONCE]