

ORANGE COUNTY COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL DISTRICT ORGANIZATION  
MINUTES  
Special Meeting/Public Hearing  
December 7, 2022

1. CALL TO ORDER ORANGE COUNTY COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL DISTRICT ORGANIZATION  
  
The Special Meeting and Public Hearing of the Orange County Committee on School District Organization was called to order by Chairperson Sheila Benecke at 5:00 p.m., December 7, 2022 in the Board Room at the Orange County Department of Education.
  
2. FLAG SALUTE The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Marilyn Buchi.
  
3. ROLL CALL Chairperson Benecke asked Laurie Weiss to take roll.  
  
*Present:*  
Sheila Benecke, Chairperson                      Kathleen Heard  
Marilyn Buchi    Kathy Moffat  
Jackie Filbeck    Francine Scinto  
Karin Freeman    Suzie Swartz  
  
*Absent:*  
Virginia Wilson
  
4. ADOPTION OF AGENDA Motion by Karin Freeman, seconded by Marilyn Buchi, and carried by a unanimous roll call vote of all members present to adopt the agenda as presented.
  
5. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES Motion by Jackie Filbeck, seconded by Kathleen Heard, and approved by a 7-0 vote, with Suzie Swartz abstaining, to approve the County Committee minutes of the November 10, 2022 meeting.
  
6. PUBLIC COMMENTS OF PERSONS DESIRING TO ADDRESS THE COUNTY COMMITTEE  
  
No comment cards received.
  
7. NEW BUSINESS
  - A. Appointment of Member to Fill County Committee Vacancy – 1<sup>st</sup> Supervisorial District
    1. Staff Report on County Committee Vacancy in the 1<sup>st</sup> Supervisorial District:  
  
Chairperson Benecke asked Mr. Marinier to give a staff report on filling the vacancy in the 1<sup>st</sup> Supervisorial District.  
  
Mr. Marinier stated that on October 12, 2022 a letter of resignation was received from Jo-Ann Purcell, who represented the 1<sup>st</sup> Supervisorial District. He explained that Education Code Section 4006 and the County Committee By-laws state a vacancy shall

be filled by the majority vote of the remaining County Committee members within 70 days of the vacancy, which is December 21, 2022, and the appointment shall be for the duration of the unexpired term, in this case through November 2025.

Mr. Marinier further explained that he notified the County Committee members and Nominating Committee members, whose districts are located within the 1st Supervisorial District boundaries that existed at the time Ms. Purcell was elected, about the vacancy.

Mr. Marinier explained that no nominations were received by the December 1, 2022 deadline. He stated the County Committee may extend the nomination/application period and hold another special meeting by December 21, 2022. However, if the County Committee does not fill the vacancy by that date, the County Superintendent of Schools will appoint someone to fill the vacancy.

2. Discussion/Questions by the County Committee on the 1<sup>st</sup> Supervisorial District vacancy:

Chairperson Benecke asked if any County Committee members had any questions.

County Committee member Jackie Filbeck stated she tried to find a candidate but the person decided not to apply. County Committee member Francine Scinto stated she was confident Dr. Mijares could appoint a qualified person to the County Committee. County Committee members inquired if there was a deadline for the County Superintendent of Schools to appoint a County Committee member. Ruth Brewda, Counsel to the County Committee, responded that the statute does not specify a timeline within which Dr. Mijares must make the appointment.

3. Nomination and Appointment of New County Committee Member (Action):

No action to appoint was taken.

Chairperson Benecke stated that Dr. Mijares, County Superintendent of Schools, will appoint a person to fill the vacancy in the 1<sup>st</sup> Supervisorial District.

B. County Committee Vacancy – 4<sup>th</sup> Supervisorial District

1. Staff Report on County Committee Vacancy in the 4<sup>th</sup> Supervisorial District:

Chairperson Benecke asked Mr. Marinier to give a staff report on the vacancy in the 4<sup>th</sup> Supervisorial District.

Mr. Marinier stated that a vacancy was created in the 4<sup>th</sup> Supervisorial District due to the election of County Committee Member Jackie Filbeck to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Supervisorial District position.

Mr. Marinier explained that Education Code Section 4006 and the County Committee By-laws state a vacancy shall be filled by the majority vote of the remaining County Committee members within 70 days of the vacancy, which in District 4 is January 19, 2023, and the appointment shall be for the duration of the unexpired term, in this case through November 2025.

Mr. Marinier further explained that at the time Ms. Filbeck was elected, he notified all remaining County Committee members of the vacancy and members of the Nominating Committee, whose district is located within the 4<sup>th</sup> Supervisorial District, about nomination and applications. The nominations were due in by December 1, 2022. We received one nomination for Mrs. Paulette Chaffee, who is an Educator/Attorney. He further explained that copies of the Statement of Qualifications were emailed and provided to the County Committee at the meeting.

2. Discussion of Nominees/Questions from County Committee Members:

The County Committee had no questions.

3. Nomination and Appointment of New County Committee Member (Action):

Chairperson Benecke asked for a motion. Jackie Filbeck moved to approve the candidate, Paulette Chaffee, to fill the vacancy in the 4<sup>th</sup> Supervisorial District on the County Committee, and the motion was seconded by Suzie Swartz. The appointment was unanimously approved.

Chairperson Benecke congratulated Mrs. Chaffee.

4. Chairperson Benecke then asked Mrs. Chaffee to come forward to take the Oath of Office. Chairperson Benecke administered the Oath of Office to Mrs. Chaffee. Mrs. Chaffee then took a seat with her fellow County Committee members.

8. PUBLIC COMMENT OF PERSONS DESIRING TO ADDRESS THE COUNTY COMMITTEE ON ANY PROPER MATTER NOT ON THE AGENDA:

No comments from the public.

9. NEXT MEETING:

Chairperson Benecke asked Mr. Marinier to update the Committee on the status of future meetings.

Mr. Marinier stated that no meetings are scheduled at this time.

10. ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business Chairperson Benecke requested to adjourn the meeting. The motion was moved by Karin Freeman, seconded by Suzie Swartz, and approved unanimously by all members present. The meeting was adjourned at 5:15 p.m.