

MARIN COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION
1111 Las Gallinas Avenue/P. O. Box 4925, San Rafael, CA 94913

MARIN COUNTY COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL DISTRICT ORGANIZATION

Special Meeting

July 10, 2013
5:00 p.m. – Board Room

The Special Meeting of the Marin County Committee on School District Organization was held on **July 10, 2013 at 5:00 p.m.**, in the Board Room at the Marin County Office of Education, 1111 Las Gallinas Avenue, San Rafael.

1. Call to Order Chairperson Richard Sloan called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. in the Board Room at the Marin County Office of Education
2. Roll Call Members present: Karen Crockett, Alan Harris, Carlos Porrato, Elizabeth Robbins, Richard Sloan and Stuart Tanenberg
Aaron Brown arrived at 5:07 pm

Guests present: Robert Henry, attorney, attended by Skype, and Lori Parrish, Assistant Superintendent, Finance and Facilities for the Tamalpais Union High School District

ACTION ITEMS

- 1 Approval and Adoption of Agenda
M/s/c Karen Crockett and Terena Mares to approve and adopt the Agenda as submitted.
(Vote: 8 ayes – 0 nays – 0 abstain – 4 absent)
- 2 Approval of Minutes, Marin CCSDO Regular Meeting March 4, 2013 Minutes were approved with no changes.

INFORMATION ITEMS

1. The proposed 2013-14 CCSDO Meeting dates were announced.

2. Ms. Mares reported on inquiry from the Marin County Registrar of Voters regarding a 2012 boundary change as a result of the census. These issues were researched, all processes were handled according to the Education Code and information was provided to Marin County Registrar of Voters resolving this boundary change inquiry. Ms. Mares provided a timeline of the inquiry and resolution. No further action required.
3. Ms. Mares reported on County of Marin Mapping and GIS Department inquiry entitled *Changed or Inconsistent School Boundaries: Inquiry and Findings* showing changed or inconsistent school district boundaries. This document was forwarded to the nine (9) districts involved.

Three of the districts reviewed the inconsistencies and are in agreement with either the boundaries as presented by the County of Marin's maps or the boundaries as identified by the CCSDO boundaries:

- Larkspur-Corte Madera and Kentfield School Districts
- Dixie/San Rafael and Novato Unified School Districts
- Larkspur-Corte Madera and Mill Valley School Districts

Member Harris asked if there would be retroactive tax adjustments required due to these changes. Mr. Henry responded this question would be decided by the County of Marin offices.

No further action is required on these three inquiries.

The inquiry regarding San Rafael Elementary and Ross Valley School Districts boundaries is not resolved. Ms. Mares summarized the boundary questions for these districts explaining that this may be a question of mapping or legal description.

Member Harris asked if these issues would require retroactive tax adjustments. Mr. Henry responded that this would be a question for County of Marin, but that he will send his thoughts on this following the meeting through Ms. Mares.

Chairman Sloan commented that they CCSDO Committee had heard about the first three issues previously, but this issue was not familiar.

Ms. Mares identified the parcels at question and the CCSDO Committee discussed.

Mr. Henry reported this issue needs to be researched to learn the history of this mapping. He stated that these issues must be considered with both the California Education Code 2600 and Section 35511(b) to determine if any transfer of territory is needed. If the issues are not resolved with the County and the Districts, the Marin County Superintendent of Schools will need to be informed by the CCSDO Committee. A hearing of the interested parties would be held and boundary issues would be addressed. If the research discovers that there was an error in the mapping and this can be verified, it would lead to a quick decision.

The CCSDO Committee would need to be involved if there is any transfer of property as this could impact property taxes, school boundaries and school board candidates.

Member Sloan commented that it is not clear if it clerical error or there was a transfer. Mr. Henry agreed and confirmed that if there is a mapping error, a correction could be made and no action would be needed. If this is not an error, the CCSDO Committee may need to hold a hearing.

Member Tanenberg asked if there were attendance records for this area. Guest Lori Parrish commented that Tam High does have attendance records. She reported on the number of students from the impacted addresses. Some of the students attended schools on interdistrict transfers.

Committee reviewed the boundary map of the impacted addresses and discussed history of determining district boundaries.

Guest Lori Parrish asked if the Committee had looked into the history of this boundary.

Member Crockett asked if we had records on this boundary map question.

Mr. Henry reported that the boundary map was provided by Marin County and that at this moment, no action is required by the CCSDO Committee. We need to get the information and be aware of the issues in case property transfers should take place.

Member Harris asked if taxes have been paid to what appears to be the appropriate district, would there be any action needed?

Mr. Henry responded that this would be an administrative decision that would need to be investigated by the County of Marin. There is a three-year statute on taxes. At this time, we will need to fix the error and then talk about the taxes. This would not necessarily be a CCSDO issue.

Mr. Henry concluded that if it was determined that the County of Marin exercised judgment in setting the boundaries, then a hearing would be required, but we are not there yet. We need to gather more data and this will start with the County of Marin.

Member Porrata – this is opening a can of worms.

Mr. Henry re-emphasize that this issue cannot be considered alone. We need to take Education Code 2600 into account. We will get more information and then determine if action is required. At this time, there is no action required by the CCSDO Committee. Ms. Mares will keep you informed as we learn more details.

Ms. Mare CHECK – Did ask questions – did not receive a response?

Mr. Henry thanked the Committee for allowing him to participate in the meeting.

Chairman Sloan thanked Mr. Henry for his participation.

DISCUSSION/INFORMATION ITEMS

1. Report of County Committee Members – No report
2. Report of Secretary of County Committee – No report

ADJOURNMENT

M/s/c Carlos Porrata and Stuart Tannenberg to adjourn the meeting at 5:50 pm

Un-Approved Minutes