NOTICE AND AGENDA OF PUBLIC MEETING
ANNUAL ORGANIZATION MEETING
TULARE COUNTY COMMITTEE ON
SCHOOL DISTRICT ORGANIZATION

Wyndham Visalia (formerly Visalia Holiday Inn) – 9000 West Airport Drive – Plaza Room, Visalia, California

NOVEMBER 18, 2015
The County Committee meeting shall commence at 8:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as possible after the conclusion of the Dinner Meeting of the Tulare County School Boards Association in the Plaza Room

AGENDA

1. Call to order

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. ADA Accommodation Requirement: Persons who are in need of a disability-related modification or accommodation in order to participate in the committee meeting must make a request in writing to the Office of the County Superintendent of Schools, 2637 W. Burrel Avenue, Visalia CA 93291; PO Box 5091, Visalia CA 93278-5091, Phone: 559-733-6301. A request for accommodation should specify the nature of the modification or accommodation requested, including any necessary auxiliary aids or services required and the name and telephone number of the person making the request. The written request should be made as soon as possible and no later than 2 days before the meeting. The agenda, agenda packet and any written documents distributed to the county committee during a public meeting will be made available in appropriate alternative formats upon request by a person with a disability as required by the Americans with Disability Act.

4. Any writings or documents that are public records and are provided to a majority of county committee members regarding an open session item on the agenda will be made available for public inspection in the office located at the Tulare County Office of Education – 2637 W. Burrel Avenue, Visalia CA during normal business hours. In addition, the documents may be posted on the agency’s website at www.tcoe.org (Government Code section 54957.5(b))

5. Public comment: At this time, members of the public may address the committee on any agenda item, or other items of interest within the subject matter jurisdiction of the committee. Agenda items may also be addressed by the public at the time they are taken up by the committee. The committee is not able to discuss or take action on any item not appearing on the agenda. A reasonable time limit can be imposed on public input for individuals/issues as deemed necessary.

6. Selection of Chairperson for Calendar Year 2016

7. Selection of Vice-Chairperson for Calendar Year 2016

8. Approval of Minutes of March 18, 2015 (Citrus South Tule School District meeting) – Attachment A

9. Information Item: Assembly Bill 331 amends Education Code 5019 to authorize the county committee to review and approve or disapprove proposals to decrease the membership of a school district governing board from 5 to 3, for school districts with average daily attendance less than 300 the preceding school year. This amendment becomes effective January 1, 2016. – Attachment B

10. Set date, time and place of next meeting, if necessary

11. Adjournment
TULARE COUNTY COMMITTEE ON
SCHOOL DISTRICT ORGANIZATION
MINUTES

The Tulare County Committee on School District Organization met and held a Special Meeting and Public Hearing on March 18, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. at Citrus South Tule School District in Room 2, 31374 Success Valley Drive, Porterville, California.
The County Committee meeting was called to order by Chairman, Joe Hallmeyer at 6:31 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT
Carl Carlson, Rick Chappell, Joe Hallmeyer, Mickey Hirni, Melissa Janes, Bob Line, Bob Pugh, Helen Renteria

MEMBERS ABSENT
John Beck, Mary Helen Espino, and Victor Pérez

COUNTY STAFF
John Caudle, Deputy Superintendent; Marlene Moreno, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent, and Shelly DiCenzo, Administrative Legal Assistant

OTHER GUESTS
Harold Wood, Chief Deputy County Counsel and Stephanie Smittle, Deputy County Counsel
Board members: Susan Qualseth and Jane Dignam (Citrus South Tule School District), Sharon Gill (Porterville Unified School District)
Dave Huchingson, Superintendent, and Denise Young, Executive Secretary, Citrus South Tule School District
Nate Nelson, Ed.D., Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources/Technology, Porterville Unified School District
Other guests in attendance are listed on the sign-in sheet.

DISABILITY-RELATED MODIFICATION OR ACCOMMODATION
ADA accommodations have been met

PUBLIC COMMENTS
Members of the public did not address the Committee on any agenda item, or other item of interest within the subject matter jurisdiction of the committee during the public comment period.

MINUTES
A motion was made by Bob Line, seconded by Melissa Janes and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the November 13, 2014 organizational meeting as written.
Vote: Aye – Carlson, Chappell, Hallmeyer, Hirni, Janes, Line, Pugh, and Renteria; No – None; Absent – Beck, Espino and Pérez

REVIEW INFORMATION IN SUPPORT OF THE LAPSATION OF CITRUS SOUTH TULE SCHOOL DISTRICT INTO PORTERVILLE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Harold Wood provided an overview of the history and process for the lapsation of Citrus South Tule School District into Porterville Unified School District.
Mr. Wood explained that a lapsation is a form of reorganization provided for in the California Education Code. In this particular instance, financial issues are the ongoing concern as well as student enrollment (only one student lives in the boundaries of Citrus South Tule and the remaining 27 students are on Interdistrict Attendance Agreements from Porterville Unified). Due to these
concerns, Citrus South Tule School District requested assistance from the Tulare County Office of Education (TCOE) and the California Department of Education (CDE). CDE recommended simplifying the process and both school district governing boards passed resolutions requesting the lapsation and submitted requests to the State Board of Education for waivers of specific Education Code requirements in order to streamline the lapsation process.

Mr. Wood explained that the County Committee’s role in this process is very narrowly defined – hold the public hearing to take public input and order the territory annexed to be effective July 1, 2015.

**At 6:47 p.m. the Public Hearing was opened to take public comment.**

Nate Nelson addressed concerns raised by several guests. Mr. Nelson stated that Porterville Unified School District recognizes that Citrus South Tule is a special place and the intent is to maintain the site. The staff from Citrus South Tule will be employed by Porterville Unified and Porterville Unified will continue to leverage its resources (trainings, wireless technology, etc) for Citrus South Tule. Other options will be explored such as modifying grade levels served. The students will likely attend Vandelia, Sante Fe or any number of other sites within Porterville Unified if the school closes. A Citrus South Tule board member requested to be notified when Porterville Unified will be making decisions about their students and site so the current board can attend and have input. She said the community wants the school to stay open. The community of Citrus South Tule is concerned about the legacy and retaining the historical value of the school site – the original schoolhouse still stands on the site.

**The Public Hearing was closed at 6:54 p.m.**

A motion was made by Rick Chappell, seconded by Mickey Hirni and carried unanimously to approve the lapsation of Citrus South Tule School District into Porterville Unified School District as stated in the Order of Lapsation (County Committee Resolution No. 2015-1)

Vote: Aye – Carlson, Chappell, Hallmeyer, Hirni, Janes, Line, Pugh, and Renteria; No – None; Absent – Beck, Espino and Pérez

**ADJOURN**

Mr. Vidak announced that this is Harold Wood’s last meeting with the County Committee as he will be retiring as of Friday. Mr. Vidak and the committee expressed their thanks for Mr. Wood’s service.

As there was no further business, Chairman Hallmeyer adjourned the meeting at 6:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Vidak, Ex-Officio Secretary
County Committee on School District Organization
SECTION 1. Section 5019 of the Education Code is amended to read:

5019. (a) (1) Except in a school district governed by a board of education provided for in the charter of a city or city and county, in any school district or community college district, the county committee on school district organization may establish trustee areas, rearrange the boundaries of trustee areas, abolish trustee areas, and increase to seven from five, or decrease from seven to five, the number of members of the governing board, or adopt one of the alternative methods of electing governing board members specified in Section 5030.

(2) For any school district whose average daily attendance during the preceding year was less than 300, the county committee on school district organization may decrease from five to three the number of members of the governing board, or adopt one of the alternative methods of electing governing board members specified in Section 5030.

(b) The county committee on school district organization may establish or abolish a common governing board for a high school district and an elementary school district within the boundaries of the high school district. The resolution of the county committee on school district organization approving the establishment or abolition of a common governing board shall be presented to the electors of the school districts as specified in Section 5020.

(c) (1) A proposal to make the changes described in subdivision (a) or (b) may be initiated by the county committee on school district organization or made to the county committee on school district organization either by a petition signed by 5 percent or 50, whichever is less, of the qualified registered voters residing in a district in which there are 2,500 or fewer qualified registered voters, by 3 percent or 100, whichever is less, of the qualified registered voters residing in a district in which there are 2,501 to 10,000 qualified registered voters, by 1 percent or 250, whichever is less, of the qualified registered voters residing in a district in which there are 10,001 to 50,000 qualified registered voters, by 500 or more of the qualified registered voters residing in a district in which there are 50,001 to 100,000 qualified registered voters, by 750 or more of the qualified registered voters residing in a district in which there are 100,001 to 250,000 qualified registered voters, or by 1,000 or more of the qualified registered voters residing in a district in which there are 250,001 or more qualified registered voters or by resolution of the governing board of the district. For this purpose, the necessary signatures for a petition shall be obtained within a period of 180 days before the submission of the petition to the county committee on school district organization, and the number of qualified registered voters in the district shall be determined pursuant to the most recent report submitted by the county elections official to the Secretary of State under Section 2187 of the Elections Code.

(2) When a proposal is made pursuant to paragraph (1), the county committee on school district organization shall call and conduct at least one hearing in the district on the matter. At the conclusion of the hearing, the county committee on school district organization shall approve or disapprove the proposal.

(d) If the county committee on school district organization approves pursuant to subdivision (a) the rearrangement of the boundaries of trustee areas for a particular district, then the rearrangement of the trustee areas shall be effectuated for the next district election occurring at least 120 days after its approval, unless at least 5 percent of the qualified registered voters of the district sign a petition requesting an election on the proposed rearrangement of trustee area boundaries. The petition for an election shall be submitted to the county elections official within 60 days of the proposal's adoption by the county committee on school district organization. If the qualified registered voters approve pursuant to subdivision (b) or (c) the rearrangement of the boundaries to the trustee areas for a particular district, the rearrangement of the trustee areas shall be effective for the next district election occurring at least 120 days after its approval by the voters.

SEC. 2. If the Commission on State Mandates determines that this act contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement to local agencies and school districts for those costs shall be made pursuant to Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division 4 of Title 2 of the Government Code.