The Tulare County Committee on School District Organization met and held a special meeting and public hearing on July 31, 2018 at Palo Verde Union School District – Cafeteria, 9637 Avenue 196, Tulare, California.

The County Committee meeting was called to order by Chairman Joe Hallmeyer at 6:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT
Robert Aguilar, John Beck, Carl Carlson, Rick Chappell, Mary Helen Espino, Joe Hallmeyer, Mickey Hirni, Melissa Janes, Bob Line, and Helen Renteria

MEMBERS ABSENT
Bob Pugh

COUNTY STAFF
Jim Vidak, Tulare County Superintendent of Schools
Craig Wheaton, Ed.D., Deputy Superintendent, Administrative Services
Shelly DiCenzo, Administrative Legal Assistant

OTHER GUESTS
Phil Anderson, Superintendent, Palo Verde Union School District
Rose Machado, Assistant Principal, Palo Verde Union School District
Gloria Hauff, Board President, Palo Verde Union School District
Roberta Rowe, Partner, Lozano Smith Attorneys at Law
Leila Alamri-Kassim, Associate, Lozano Smith Attorneys at Law
Dr. Justin Levitt, National Demographics

PUBLIC COMMENT
Liz Gomez addressed the County Committee. She stated that she objects to the action of the school district and County Committee because parents were not involved.

MINUTES
A motion was made by Rick Chappell, seconded by Melissa Janes and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of November 14, 2017 as written.
Vote:  Aye – Aguilar, Beck, Carlson, Chappell, Espino, Hallmeyer, Hirni, Janes, Line, and Renteria; No – None; Absent – Pugh

REVIEW OF PROPOSAL PRESENTED BY PALO VERDE UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT TO ESTABLISH SPECIFIC TRUSTEE AREA BOUNDARIES AND TRANSITION FROM AT-LARGE TO TRUSTEE AREA ELECTIONS
Leila Alamri-Kassim gave a PowerPoint presentation with relevant background and historical information regarding Palo Verde Union School District’s proposal to establish specific trustee-area boundaries within the district and transition from at-large to “trustee-area” elections in which each trustee must reside within the designated trustee area boundary and elected only by the voters in that trustee area.

Dr. Levitt also provided information regarding the legal requirements for drawing the boundaries and reviewed the three (3) plans that were considered by the district.

PUBLIC HEARING
At 6:23 p.m. the Public Hearing was opened to take public comment.
Members of the public and County Committee members asked questions regarding the process and steps the district has taken.

The Public Hearing was closed at 6:41 p.m.

APPROVAL OF PALO VERDE UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT’S PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH SPECIFIC TRUSTEE AREA BOUNDARIES AND TRANSITION FROM AT-LARGE TO TRUSTEE AREA ELECTIONS

A motion was made by Mickey Hirni, seconded by John Beck and unanimously carried to approve the proposal from the Palo Verde Union School District to establish specific trustee area boundaries within the district and transition from at-large to “trustee area” elections in which each trustee must reside within the designated trustee area boundary and elected only by the voters in that trustee area (County Committee Resolution 2018/19-01)

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

ADJOURN

As there was no further business, Chairman Hallmeyer adjourned the meeting at 6:42 p.m.