

**VENTURA COUNTY COMMITTEE
ON SCHOOL DISTRICT ORGANIZATION**

**MAY 10, 2006 MEETING
ON THE PETITION TO FORM A
CAMARILLO UNIFIED (K-12) SCHOOL DISTRICT
FROM THE EXISTING TERRITORY OF THE
PLEASANT VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT
AND SOMIS UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT
UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF
SENATE BILL 1537 (Chapter 1186/1994)
AND ASSEMBLY BILL 780 (Chapter 652/2004)**

*Ventura County Office of Education
Administrative Services Center – Conejo Room
5189 Verdugo Way, Camarillo, California*

1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

The meeting was called to order by Doyleenne Johnson, Chairperson and Member-at Large of the Ventura County Committee on School District Organization, at 7:00 p.m. in the Conejo Room of the Ventura County Office of Education Administrative Services Center.

Janet Lindgren led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Welcome and Introductions

The following members of the Ventura County Committee on School District Organization were in attendance:

*Jan Iceland, representing Supervisorial District #2
Tim Stephens, representing Supervisorial District #2
Janet Lindgren, representing Supervisorial District #3
Greg Stratton, Representing Supervisorial District #4
Al Jacobs, representing Supervisorial District #4
Richard Duarte, representing Supervisorial District #5
Doyleenne Johnson, Member-at-Large*

Also in attendance:

*Frank Fekete, Legal Counsel
Stan Mantooth, Secretary to the VCCSDO; and Associate Superintendent,
Administrative Services, Ventura County Office of Education
Sandy Wade, Administrative Assistant to Stan Mantooth – (Recorder)*

3. **Approval of Agenda**

A motion was made by Janet Lindgren to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Jan Iceland.

Mr. Mantooth stated that there should be a correction on the agenda under item #7. Senate Bill 1537 was erroneously referred to as an Assembly Bill in the agenda which was previously sent to the County Committee members and interested parties. Tonight's agenda has been corrected accordingly; and previous reference to the Thompson bill legislation will be corrected to Senate Bill 1537.

The motion to approve the agenda with the above cited correction carried by a unanimous vote.

4. **Public Comments** – *(Limited to items on the agenda – 3 minutes per speaker/30 minutes total allocation)*

Stan Mantooth informed the County Committee that he received an email at 5:20 p.m. today from Sandra Berg concerning comments to the County Committee. A copy of the above email was distributed to the Committee members for their information.

Ms. Johnson stated that under the Public Comments portion of the agenda tonight, because the County Committee has copies of all comments received to date on the Initial Study, if the public has no new information for the Committee, the Chair asked that the public not address the Committee at this time so that others may speak. She also stated that the Committee will only take comments on the Initial Study this evening.

Mrs. Johnson then opened the meeting for Public Comments. The following individuals spoke on the Initial Study/Environmental Impact Report of the proposed Camarillo unification from the order in which Speaker Cards were submitted:

Dr. Thomas Dase, Superintendent, Pleasant Valley School District – (written remarks submitted)

Val Rains – Read a letter into the record from Kathy Van Slyke since she was unable to attend tonight's meeting.

Sol Chooljian – (Letter dated April 26, 2006 previously submitted)

Roger Lund, representing the Camarillo Unified group

Tom Griffin, Attorney representing Oxnard Union High School District

Dean Dennis, Attorney with the firm of Hill, Farrer & Burrill – representing Oxnard Union High School District – (written remarks previously submitted)

Dick Jacquez

Pam Cwiklo

John Alamillo

There being no further persons to address the Committee, Mrs. Johnson closed the Public Comments section.

5. **Approval of March 15, 2006 Meeting Minutes**

A motion was made by Janet Lindgren to approve the minutes of the March 15, 2006 meeting. The motion was seconded by Al Jacobs and carried by a unanimous vote.

6. **Update from Special Counsel and Environmental Consultant on California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Process**

Mitch Kahn, Attorney for the Committee's CEQA process, came forward. He stated that since the County Committee is the lead agency of the AB 780 process for the proposed unification of the Camarillo Unified School District, it is the Committee's obligation to undertake the CEQA process. He explained that if there is a fair argument that there may be a substantial impact upon the physical environment as a result of the proposed unification which cannot be mitigated by the design of the project itself, then an Environmental Impact Report (*EIR*) is required. Mr. Kahn then outlined the steps which must be taken in the CEQA process and invited Tony Locacciato, the Environmental Consultant from Impact Sciences, Inc., to come forward to describe the course of action proposed for the development of the EIR itself. Mr. Locacciato noted that in the Impact Sciences proposal which the Committee members received in their agenda packet, a timeline schedule was included encompassing major tasks involving preparation of the EIR. It is projected that it will initially take five to five and one-half months to prepare the draft EIR, which includes a mandatory 45-day review period. Mr. Locacciato stated that it is optional under CEQA, but not required, that the County Committee may chose to hold a Public Hearing to accept comments on the draft EIR during the review period (between September 1st and October 16th as specified in Impact Sciences' tentative timeline). Subsequently, after the final EIR is prepared, there will be a review of the document and the County Committee's ultimate decision of the certification of the EIR which is anticipated to take place by the end of November 2006.

Answering Mr. Mantooth's question of whether there are circumstances which could allow the EIR timeline process to be either lengthened or shortened, Mr. Locacciato responded affirmatively to both.

7. **Approval of Contract with Impact Sciences for Preparation of an Environmental Impact Report and Continued CEQA Related Activities Relative to the Petition to Form a Camarillo Unified (K-12) School District from the Existing Territory of the Pleasant Valley and Somis Union School Districts Under the Provisions of SB 1537 and AB 780**

It was moved by Jan Iceland to approve a contract with Impact Sciences, Inc. for the preparation of an Environmental Impact Report and continued CEQA related activities relative to the Pleasant Valley and Somis Union School Districts under the provisions of SB 1537 and AB 780. The motion was seconded by Richard Duarte.

Mrs. Lindgren questioned the dollar amount on the above-identified contract of which Mr. Mantooth responded that a not-to-exceed amount of \$65,000, as specified in Impact

Sciences proposal, should be included as the total contract amount. Mr. Mantooth further stated that it does need to be recognized that if there are extenuating circumstances and the necessity evolves that Impact Sciences has to do additional work, that the contract amount will be amended accordingly.

The above motion to approve a contract with Impact Sciences for preparation of an EIR unanimously carried by a roll call vote.

8. **Next Meeting Date(s)**

Legal Counsel Frank Fekete suggested that the Committee not set a meeting date at this time and that the meeting be adjourned subject to a County Committee meeting called by the Chair.

After some discussion, a motion was made by Janet Lindgren to authorize the Chair to reconvene a meeting of the County Committee at a date to be determined. The motion was seconded by Jan Iceland.

Under discussion, Mr. Fekete reminded the Committee that there is no mention in the law that requires a Public Hearing be held on the CEQA process. Further, Mr. Fekete noted that many agencies do this entirely on a written submission of comments. Al Jacobs voiced his support of this process.

There being no further comments, the above motion carried by a unanimous vote.

9. **Adjournment**

There being no further business, Greg Stratton moved for adjournment. The motion was seconded by Al Jacobs. The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

By: _____
Stan Mantooth
Secretary to the County Committee on School District Organization