



**SHASTA UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE GOVERNING BOARD
Large Conference Room
2200 Eureka Way
Redding, CA 96001**

**October 24, 2023
ADOPTED MINUTES**

A special meeting of the Governing Board of the Shasta Union High School District was called to order at 5:06 p.m. by Trustee Zufall in the Shasta Union High School District Large Conference Room. Trustee Zufall led the pledge of allegiance and recited the mission and vision statements.

ROLL CALL: Trustees Ron Zufall, Mike Doran and Andrea Hoheisel were present. Also present: Superintendent Jim Cloney, Chief Business Official David Flores and Associate Superintendent of Instructional Services Leo Perez.

RES. 23-198 That the Board approve the agenda, as presented. (Motion Doran, second Hoheisel, carried 3-0)

RES. 23-199 That the meeting adjourn. (Motion Doran, second Hoheisel, carried 3-0)

PUBLIC COMMENT:

There were no comments.

DISCUSSION:

Trustee Area Boundaries: National Demographics Corporation (NDC) Demographer Jeff Tilton conducted a presentation regarding the demographic process to draw trustee-area boundaries. He provided background on the California Voting Rights Act (CVRA) and its impact on school Districts. Mr. Tilton reported that CVRA makes it significantly easier for plaintiffs to force jurisdictions from an “at large” to a “by-trustee area” election system. He stated that in order for a district to switch from an “at large” to a “by-trustee area” election process, a series of Board meetings must be held. Mr. Tilton stated that tonight’s meeting is to educate the community and solicit input from the public. He reported that draft maps will be posted online by November 7, allowing the public time to review them. The Board will review the maps at the November 14 regular Board meeting and the November 27 special Board meeting. The maps will consist of five trustee areas based on census data.

Jim Cloney inquired if there could be three trustee areas for all five seats. Attorney Tom Gauthier explained that a multimember trustee area consisting of three boundaries is considered a form of “at large” voting under CVRA.

Trustee Zufall stated that if the zones were broken down by elementary schools, the voting population would not be equitable. He raised concerns regarding the interest of the public in certain areas of the community. Trustee Zufall noted that in the past there has not been a lot of participation when there is a vacancy on the Board and that by switching to a by-trustee area, the Board may end up appointing in the event nobody runs.

Mr. Cloney inquired if the map would look more like the spoke of a wheel rather than a checkerboard. Mr. Tilton stated that the maps could look like that and recommended the Board review Anderson Union High School District’s draft maps that he created as an example. Mr. Tilton stated that the voters elected this Board to serve and that he would like the maps to respect the voters choices.

Trustee Doran inquired if NDC uses the data from past elections to draft the maps. Mr. Tilton stated that if they were to look into that data to draft the maps, it would delay the proposed timeline. He noted that they use census data to ensure the areas are equitable.

Public Hearing – Trustee Area Boundaries: At 5:22p.m., Trustee Zufall declared the meeting open to Public Hearing to provide interested parties an opportunity to speak regarding the composition of trustee area boundaries pursuant to Elections Code section 10010(a)(1).

Andrea Cota stated that the spirit of switching is to avoid gerrymandering and get equitable representation from the community on the Board. She stated that the District has a large percentage of families and students who are not currently represented. She reported that she believes the Board will find people to run. Ms. Cota stated that the process seems fast and inquired how to solicit more feedback from the public.

Mr. Cloney stated that the Board will hold another public hearing on October 27 to educate the community and solicit input. The maps will be posted online seven days prior to the regular meeting on November 14. The Board is required to have a minimum of eight days between the public hearings once the maps are posted. Mr. Cloney stated that given the timeline, he is hopeful the public will have ample time to give feedback.

Trustee Doran stated that this transition goes against the Board's interest politically since they will be serving a smaller area. He stated that he would like to save the District money and avoid a demand letter. Trustee Doran reported that it is his job as an elected Board member to do what is in the best interest of the District, and in this situation, it is to follow the law.

Mr. Cloney stated that the Board will meet again on October 27 at 10:00am where the demographer will conduct the same presentation and the Board will ask for community input.

ADJOURNMENT:

The public hearing was closed and the meeting adjourned at 5:33 p.m.

Ron Zufall, Clerk
Board of Trustees

Jim Cloney, Executive Secretary
Board of Trustees