

WILLIAMS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

BOARD OF TRUSTEES SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

Monday, December 9, 2019, Special Board Meeting

MINUTES

- 1.0 **CALL TO ORDER**– Board president, Silvia Vaca, called the Special Board meeting of the Williams Unified School District Board of Trustees to order at **5:30 PM** on December 9, 2019, in the College & Career Center, located at 260 Eleventh Street, Williams, California. A quorum was established.

2.0 **ROLL CALL**

Trustees Present: Silvia Vaca, President
Ana Leos-Vera, Member
Yareli Mora, Member
George W. Simmons, Vice President

Administrative Staff: Dr. Edgar Lampkin, Superintendent

Audience: Alejandra Lopez, Susan Meeker

- 3.0 **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – Board president, Silvia Vaca, led the Board and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

4.0 **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

A **MOTION** was made by George W. Simmons and **SECONDED** by Yareli Mora to **APPROVE** the agenda. **Motion passed. Ayes _4_ Noes _0_ Absent _0_ by the following vote: Leos-Vera – aye, Mora – aye, GW Simmons – aye, Vaca – aye.**

- 5.0 **AUDIENCE/VISITORS PUBLIC DISCUSSION** – Anyone wishing to address the Board on any school-related item scheduled on the agenda or any item within the jurisdiction of the Board may do so at this time. Please state your first and last name. The meeting is being taped and all comments are being recorded. Board bylaws limit 3 minutes per speaker and 20 minutes per item.

5.1 No public comment.

6.0 **INTERVIEW FOR PROVISIONAL APPOINTMENT TO THE BOARD**

6.1 Alejandra Lopez

The Board interviewed Board Candidate Alejandra Lopez regarding two challenges that our school district is facing. Ms. Lopez stated parent engagement is a challenge for all school districts. The posada event was a huge turnaround for Williams. It can be difficult to get parents on campus. Another challenge is that we live in a rural community and our students lack access to resources. There is also limited visibility of higher education campuses. Ms. Lopez discussed issues that have recently affected our community and recommended trauma counseling for students and informing all staff members of these events and how they affect students.

Trustee George W. Simmons discussed the Learning Support Specialist positions at Williams Unified. Trustee Simmons discussed that trustees have no individual power and strongly encouraged Ms. Lopez to read Board policies, Board bylaws and the Brown Act.

Ms. Lopez was asked about supporting a Board decision that she was not in favor of. Ms. Lopez stated that she would be willing to support a Board decision if it was in the best interest of the community.

7.0 **DISCUSSION**

7.1 Open Discussion of Candidate

Trustee Yareli Mora stated Ms. Lopez understands the background of our students and has faced similar Challenges herself. Ms. Mora believes that the district would continue to move in the direction we want with Ms. Lopez on the Board.

Trustee George W. Simmons stated the district implemented the Family Leadership Institute but the turnout was not great. We are trying to increase parent engagement. Mr. Simmons stated his top priority is students, then community, teachers and lastly admin.

Trustee Ana Leos-Vera stated she agrees with the importance of having parents involved with their students education. Ms. Leos-Vera agrees with supporting our students' mental health. Staff should be aware of what is happening in the community and how it impacts our students.

Board president Silvia Vaca stated this is not an easy position. There is a lot to learn that can be gained with Board trainings. Ms. Vaca thanked Ms. Lopez for applying and said she will be a great addition.

8.0 ACTION ITEMS – NEW BUSINESS – Protocol for action items includes a staff presentation, questions from the Board, public input, closing of public input, deliberation by the Board, and voting by the Board. During public input there will be a 3-minute time limit per person.

- 8.1 Consideration and possible action concerning the appointment of a candidate to fill the Board vacancy caused by a Board member resignation. The candidate selected will be sworn in at the organizational meeting of the Board in December and will hold office until the next regularly scheduled election for Governing Board members, set to take place on November 3, 2020.

A **MOTION** was made by George W. Simmons and **SECONDED** by Yareli Mora to **APPOINT Alejandra Lopez** to fill the Board vacancy until the next regularly scheduled election for Governing Board members, set to take place on November 3, 2020. **Motion passed. Ayes __4__ Noes __0__ Absent __0__ by the following vote: Leos-Vera – aye, Mora – aye, GW Simmons – aye, Vaca – aye.**

9.0 ADJOURNMENT (5:46 PM)

A **MOTION** was made by Silvia Vaca and **SECONDED** by Ana Leos-Vera to **APPROVE** the Adjournment. **Motion passed. Ayes __4__ Noes __0__ Absent __0__ by the following vote: Leos-Vera – aye, Mora – aye, GW Simmons – aye, Vaca – aye**

Please note that additional information distributed to the Board during the meeting and not included in the agenda packet can be obtained by calling the District Office at 530-473-2550, x11409.

Respectfully submitted,



Dr. Edgar Lampkin, District Superintendent
Secretary to the Board
erl/jdc