



**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
February 23, 2023
Special Meeting 5:00 p.m.**

Board Members Present: Mr. Joe Nava, President; Mr. Gary Knackstedt, Vice President; Ms. Sherry Alexander, Clerk; Mrs. Susan Macfarlane; Mr. Courtney Porter; and Mr. Jeff Stroh

Administrative Staff: Mr. Neil Young, Associate Superintendent

Call to Order

President Nava called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. at the James Areida Education Support Center, 1305 East Vine Street, Lodi, CA, and broadcast on YouTube.

Roll Call/Pledge of Allegiance

Attendance was recorded and President Nava led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board Reorganization

Receive Report of Provisional Appointment Ad Hoc Committee

Board Members Susan Macfarlane and Sherry Alexander were appointed by President Nava as the members of the Board Ad Hoc Committee. Mrs. Macfarlane reported that the committee met on February 15 to review the letters of interest received from six candidates. It was determined that one of the candidates, Kelley Marable, did not reside in Area 6. Mrs. Macfarlane announced that the following were eligible candidates: Rommel Bal; Elisa Bubak; Daisy Dickens; Jeffrey Lewis; and Fiaz Shah. She further reported that on February 22, the Superintendent's Office received written notification from candidate Fiaz Shah of his intent to withdraw from the provisional appointment process. The remaining four candidates were present for the interview process that would be conducted at this Special Board Meeting.

Provisional Appointment Due to Vacancy in Trustee Area 6 (Board Bylaw 9223)

President Nava and Associate Superintendent Young explained the various aspects of the interview/appointment process. In an effort to ensure fairness, candidates were called up, in alphabetical order, to select a number for the order to start the interview portion of the meeting. Board Members presented questions to the candidates in a rotational manner.

After the interviews there was time set aside for public comments prior to the Board beginning the deliberation process.

Public Comments

Aaron Lange, Community Member
Lisa Lennon-Wilkins, President, Lodi Education Association
Omar Guerrero, Community Member

Mr. Knackstedt motioned, Mrs. Macfarlane seconded, a nomination to appoint Rommel Bal as the provisional appointee for the Area 6 Board vacancy.

Mr. Porter stated he believed that another candidate was above all others and Mr. Stroh agreed.

Mrs. Macfarlane noted that Dr. Bal has a lot of volunteer experience and engagement with the community.

The nomination to appoint Rommel Bal as the provisional appointee for the Area 6 Board vacancy, was voted on as follows:

Ayes: Alexander, Knackstedt, Nava, Macfarlane

Noes: Porter, Stroh

Abstain: none

Absent: none

Motion carried

Oath of Office

Mr. Nava, Board President, will administer the Oath of Office to the new appointee to Trustee Area 6

Board President Nava administered the Oath of Office to Dr. Rommel Bal, as the Provisional Appointee for the Area 6 vacancy. Dr. Bal then took her seat at the Board Dias.

Mr. Nava thanked the Board Members and the candidates for taking part in the process.

Adjourn

The Special Meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

Clerk of the Board

President of the Board