



OLIVE GROVE CHARTER SCHOOLS, INC.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, July 3, 2025, 1:00 pm (Pacific Time)

MINUTES

1. **CALL TO ORDER** Deb Willems called the meeting of the Olive Grove Charter Schools, Inc. Board of Directors to order at 1:00pm.

2. **ROLL CALL**

Deb Willems, Board Chair	present
Terry Dickinson	present <i>arrived 1:02pm</i>
Hank Gallina	present
Jackie Heidt	present
Ivette Martinez	present

3. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

MOTION: Deb Willems moved to approve the agenda as presented.
SECONDED: Jackie Heidt
DISCUSSION: None
APPROVED by a vote of 4-0
Deb Willems (Y) Hank Gallina (Y) Jackie Heidt (Y) Ivette Martinez (Y)

4. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

5. **APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

MOTION: Deb Willems moved to approve the consent agenda as presented, which included the minutes from the Board meeting on June 12, 2025.
SECONDED: Jackie Heidt
DISCUSSION: None
APPROVED by a vote of 5-0
Deb Willems (Y) Terry Dickinson (Y) Hank Gallina (Y) Jackie Heidt (Y) Ivette Martinez (Y)

6. **REPORTS/ TRAININGS/ PRESENTATIONS**
 - A. **Reports**

None

 - B. **Presentations**

None

 - C. **Trainings**

None

7. ACTION ITEMS

A. Approval of resolutions authorizing submission of charter renewal petitions for each of the four Olive Grove Charter Schools

- i. Resolution Authorizing Submission of Olive Grove Charter-Buellton Charter Renewal Petition to Santa Ynez Valley Union High School District
- ii. Resolution Authorizing Submission of Olive Grove Charter-Lompoc Charter Renewal Petition to Lompoc Unified School District
- iii. Resolution Authorizing Submission of Olive Grove Charter-Orcutt/Santa Maria Charter Renewal Petition to Santa Maria Joint Union High School District
- iv. Resolution Authorizing Submission of Olive Grove Charter-Santa Barbara Charter Renewal Petition to Santa Barbara Unified School District

MOTION: Deb Willems moved to approve the resolutions authorizing submission of charter renewal petitions for each of the four Olive Grove Charter Schools.

SECONDED: Jackie Heidt

DISCUSSION: Meg Rydman explained that approval of these resolutions officially authorizes her, as lead petitioner, to proceed with the submission of the charter renewal petitions to the indicated Districts for each of the four schools.

APPROVED by a vote of 5-0

Deb Willems (Y) Terry Dickinson (Y) Hank Gallina (Y) Jackie Heidt (Y) Ivette Martinez (Y)

B. Approval of revised Bylaws of Olive Grove Charter Schools, Inc.

MOTION: Deb Willems moved to approve the revised Bylaws of Olive Grove Charter Schools, Inc.

SECONDED: Jackie Heidt

DISCUSSION: Meg Rydman explained that the Bylaws are reviewed periodically, and it was important to do so ahead of charter renewal. Revisions were recommended and reviewed by legal counsel. Meg highlighted some of the revisions, including reserving four seats for representatives from the authorizers, reduction of the total maximum number of Directors from 11 to nine, and the removal of the election of a parent/guardian Director by the parent/guardian body. Deb expressed an interest in maintaining the ability to get input from the parent/guardians, if more than one individual came forth for that role. The Bylaws maintain flexibility in the process that the Board uses to appoint its members, so it will be possible to engage others in that appointment process, should the Board so choose.

APPROVED by a vote of 5-0

Deb Willems (Y) Terry Dickinson (Y) Hank Gallina (Y) Jackie Heidt (Y) Ivette Martinez (Y)

C. Approval of revised Olive Grove Charter Schools, Inc. Conflict of Interest Code

MOTION: Deb Willems moved to approve the revised Olive Grove Charter Schools, Inc. Conflict of Interest Code.

SECONDED: Jackie Heidt

DISCUSSION: Meg Rydman explained that minor revisions were made and those changes were reviewed by legal counsel.

APPROVED by a vote of 5-0

Deb Willems (Y) Terry Dickinson (Y) Hank Gallina (Y) Jackie Heidt (Y) Ivette Martinez (Y)

D. Adoption of 2025-26 Regular Board Meeting Schedule

MOTION: Deb Willems moved to adopt the 2025-26 Regular Board Meeting Schedule.

SECONDED: Jackie Heidt

DISCUSSION: Meg Rydman explained that the Bylaws indicate formal adoption of the schedule is necessary.

APPROVED by a vote of 5-0

Deb Willems (Y) Terry Dickinson (Y) Hank Gallina (Y) Jackie Heidt (Y) Ivette Martinez (Y)

E. Delegation of authority to the Superintendent to determine most effective use of funds already allocated for employee benefits

MOTION: Deb Willems moved to delegate authority to the Superintendent to determine most effective use of funds already allocated for employee benefits.

SECONDED: Hank Gallina

DISCUSSION: Meg Rydman explained that there is a potential alternative structure for benefits coverage, which could provide medical, dental, and vision coverage of each eligible, full-time employee, regardless of age, without exceeding the total dollar amount approved by the Board and budgeted for employee benefits in the 2025-26 adopted initial budget. Out of pocket would still be required for dependents and ancillary benefits. Meg needs to do some additional research, and as the considerations are ongoing and the decision is time-sensitive with regards to the upcoming open enrollment period, this action will allow her the authority to proceed with making the final decision before the next scheduled Board meeting. Deb inquired as to who else is involved in the research and consideration. She suggested involving representative others as much as feasible at this time of year. Meg will inform the Board of the final decision at the next meeting.

APPROVED by a vote of 5-0

Deb Willems (Y) Terry Dickinson (Y) Hank Gallina (Y) Jackie Heidt (Y) Ivette Martinez (Y)

F. Delegation of authority to the Superintendent to determine Broker of Record for OGCS, Inc.'s benefits

MOTION: Deb Willems moved to delegate authority to the Superintendent to determine the Broker of Record for OGCS, Inc.'s benefits.

SECONDED:

DISCUSSION: Meg Rydman explained that Tino (HR Manager) has been researching other options for brokers and has found one that is located on the Central Coast. The current broker is adequate but this other broker may offer more services and certainly offers more local knowledge. There is no fiscal impact to changing brokers. Some additional consideration is necessary, but the decision is time-sensitive with regards to the upcoming open enrollment period. This action will allow Meg the authority to make the decision, and she will report it to the Board at the next meeting.

APPROVED by a vote of 5-0

Deb Willems (Y) Terry Dickinson (Y) Hank Gallina (Y) Jackie Heidt (Y) Ivette Martinez (Y)

8. DISCUSSION/INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

A. Board Business

None

B. New Business/Future Agenda Items

Meg asked the Board for direction on how they would like to review the charter renewal petition. The Board directed Meg to email them a copy for their review and to make a presentation at the August meeting.

Meg asked the Board for their input on when they would like to schedule the ethics training. They directed her to decide on which agendas it will best fit.

9. NEXT MEETING DATE

- August 14, 2025

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 1:30pm.

Minutes submitted by Terry Dickinson, OGCS, Inc. Board Secretary

Terry Dickinson
