MEMBERS PRESENT
Karen P. Blaine, Board President; Craig A. Patton, Board Vice President; Tony Ayub, Board Secretary; Guillermo Gandara; George L. Salas; Gary Gandara; Michael A. Najera and Dr. Xavier De La Torre, Superintendent of Schools

MEMBERS ABSENT
None

CALL TO ORDER
The meeting was called to order at 6:05 pm by Board President Karen Blaine. All members were present and a quorum was established.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the audience present.

PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED 2009-2010 SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET AND TAX RATE
Susan Olson, Director of Budgeting, invited the public to comment about the adoption of the proposed budget and tax rate.

Herb De La Rosa asked questions relevant to the per Pupil expenditure total from last year and strategies for revenue per student. Administration responded that Local expenditure per Pupil has increased and State expenditure per Pupil has decreased; revenue increase is based on growth; and adjustments would be made accordingly.

Dr. De La Torre clarified that based on the proposed tax rate would allow the allocation of $2,107 per pupil expenditure rate offsetting the State decrease in terms of their contribution. The District has already increased the per pupil revenue while the tax rate has decreased.

ADOPTION OF THE 2009-2010 SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET
Mrs. Olson presented the 2009-2010 operating budget of $404.6 million for the Board’s consideration. A motion was made by Craig Patton and seconded by Tony Ayub to adopt the 2009-2010 school district budget as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

ADOPTION OF THE 2009-2010 MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS TAX RATE
Herb De La Rosa signed up to speak to this agenda item. Mr. De La Rosa asked questions relevant to difference in M & O tax rates and reasons for M & O tax rate decrease. Administration responded that the M & O tax rate decreased from last year and the District feels that the proposed district budget can be supported by the proposed tax rate.

Mrs. Olson presented a request for the adoption of the 2009-2010 Maintenance and Operations Tax Rate of $0.946140/$100 for the Board's consideration.

Presented for Board approval on 9/22/2009
Following a brief discussion, a motion was made by George Salas and seconded by Michael Najera to adopt the 2009-2010 Maintenance and Operations Tax Rate as presented. The motion carried with the following vote: Aye: George Salas, Michael Najera, Craig Patton, Karen Blaine, Tony Ayub and Gary Gandara; Nay: Guillermo Gandara.

ADOPTION OF THE 2009-2010 INTEREST AND SINKING TAX RATE
Mrs. Olson presented a request for the adoption of the 2009-2010 Interest and Sinking Rate of $0.233640/$100 for the Board’s consideration.

A motion was made by George Salas and seconded by Michael Najera to approve the 2009-2010 Interest and Sinking Tax Rate as presented. The motion carried with the following vote: Aye: George Salas, Michael Najera, Craig Patton, Karen Blaine, Tony Ayub and Gary Gandara; Nay: Guillermo Gandara.

ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE WHICH LEVIES THE TAX RATE FOR 2009-2010
Mrs. Olson presented an Ordinance which officially levies the tax rate at $1.179780/$100 in the Socorro Independent School District for the 2009-2010 school year. A motion was made by George Salas and seconded by Tony Ayub that property taxes be increased by the adoption of a tax rate of $1.179780 per $100 of valuation of property in the School District. The motion carried with the following vote: Aye: George Salas, Michael Najera, Craig Patton, Karen Blaine, Tony Ayub and Gary Gandara; Nay: Guillermo Gandara.

BUDGET AMENDMENT
Mrs. Olson presented one budget amendment reallocating funds to areas of need for the Board’s consideration. A motion was made by Tony Ayub and seconded by George Salas to approve the budget amendment as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT
The meeting adjourned at 6:33pm.

THESE MINUTES WERE APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES ON SEPTEMBER 22, 2009.