



## Citizens Oversight Committee

### Bond Measure L

April 1, 2014

Meeting Minutes

Attendees: Bill Beecher, Shira Coleman, Leonard English, Paul Henderson, Doug Keegan, Juana Ponce, Dan Johnson, Dan Weiser, Silvia Diaz, Regina Kelbert, Paul Anderson, Rick Mullikin, Brett McFadden, Erik Slaughter, Brian Peoples Absent: Daniel Dodge Jr., Rene Paz

Visitors: Aaron Garcia

Dan Johnson welcomed committee members and asked for introductions. Terms of committee members and the need to have them staggered was discussed. Dan asked for volunteers to come forward and accept serving only one year then re-up for another two year term if desired. Brian Peoples will serve one year and a new member Aaron Garcia. Daniel Dodge can be considered to serve only one year. Brett said we have an Aptos parent who volunteered to be on the committee and could serve one year and Shira Coleman volunteered to serve one year then again for a two year term.

An RFQ has gone out for auditor selection. The district will choose between 4 - 6 audit firms to interview depending on the number of proposals received. Results of the interviews will be brought to the committee to recommend for final board approval. Brett will provide a draft of interview questions for the committee to review and a COC sub-committee will be formed as the interview panel. Brett advised the committee select an auditor close to the end of the year so audit work can begin in 14-15.

Paul Anderson provided a bond update saying we are prioritizing projects based on need because we have \$100,000,000 worth of projects more than available funding. Erik Slaughter and Steve Brinkman were brought in as consultants. Brett explained that the old firm Total School Solutions was not meeting deliverable dates and the decision was made in conjunction with the superintendent, chair and vice chair to execute the 30 day out clause and discontinue their contract. Brett worked with the board and cabinet and decided to use the experience of existing staff to bring the work in-house saving several millions of dollars in potential consulting fees to be applied back to the bond. Over 80 projects have launched simultaneously between Construction and Technology. We are still utilizing a construction management firm as staff would be impacted if they had to project manage as well.

Paul reviewed the first phase of the bond work. Ten play structures are complete and most safety locks have been re-keyed. Shira asked which rooms got locks and Rick replied all rooms with five or more occupancy. If any rooms are missed we will add to the list to be re-keyed. Mar Vista and other

school staff are thrilled with the re-keying according to staff. Work on Freedom Field below Aptos High will begin on April 16. Brett noted they dealt with five government agencies for protection of wildlife, storm water damage as well as neighbors to be able to get the field. The Aptos High water tank has been replaced as well. Design work has begun on Pajaro Middle School kitchen, the first of seven kitchens to be redesigned into a more intelligent flow plan. Hall and Bradley schools will be turned on for solar and the dedication for Hall will take place April 22. Bradley will have a small press release that afternoon.

Brett mentioned the IRS and Federal Securities and Exchange Commission are now requiring bond disclosure statements to investors. All district financial indebtedness must be posted to their website and get a credit rating. We want to maintain our A+ credit rating and remain fiscally sound. Paul mentioned that required costs come off the top of the bond funds so he considers the bond to be \$118,000,000. Endowments are \$500,000 per year for Technology and M & O to keep systems upgraded.

Dan Weiser gave an update on Technology projects including Intelligent Classrooms, the WAN (wide area network), basic network deployment, switch, data drops, virtual desktops, backup of critical systems, MAC network security systems, security and video surveillance. Aptos schools don't qualify for erate (75% of students must be eligible for free and reduced lunches) so bond money helps by offsetting their costs. Regina wants technology equipment to be better supported such as efficient and affordable bulbs for document cameras. Dan wants to make sure there is maintenance available for new technology adding that the ITAC will review and recommend technology options.

The Data Center at the district office is moving quickly and the core network structure will be completed this summer as well as data drops for phones. The Technology Department had just hired an administrator for bond projects the recent implementation of hand-held tablets for students to eliminate text books to help save students from back pain. Lakeview School implemented a pilot program and each student takes home a chrome book every night.

Brett discussed Prop 39 passed by voters in 2012. 4.2 million dollars of funding was available for energy efficient projects such as upgrading windows, HVAC systems, and lighting (already in the bond). We will be launching these projects as well. The proposition is administrated by the State Energy Commission who wants to reduce energy utilization first, not generate new energy sources. We have been awarded a planning grant and may develop a sub-committee. Doug Keegan asked if the extra \$4,000,000 will be used to supplement bond money and other projects. Paul says it will help augment bond money. Regina added that in the campaign it was mentioned that bond money could be used as leverage for other projects. Brett said an example of this is qualifying for state funding for Alianza and WCSA because they receive bond money.

Brett said part of the committee's responsibility is community outreach and the committee should help facilitate and arrange this. Doug wants to send notices to schools that the committee is available to help with information to site councils and community outreach. The next Citizens Oversight Committee meeting will be on June 10, at the district office. The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm.