



## Citizens Oversight Committee

### Bond Measure L

April 17, 2013

Meeting Minutes

Committee Members Present: William Beecher, Shira Coleman, Silvia Diaz, Daniel Dodge Jr., Paul Henderson, Dan Johnson, Doug Keegan, Regina Kelbert, Rene Paz, Brian Peoples, Juana Ponce

Committee Members Absent: Leonard English

Staff Present: Brett McFadden, Tim Landeck, Dennis Dunston, Vern Weber, Paul Anderson, Gene Ely, Kathy Fuentes

Staff Absent: Rick Mullikin

The first meeting of the Measure L Bond Citizens Oversight Committee took place Wednesday, April 17, 2013 at 6:30 pm in the District Board Room. Brett McFadden called the meeting to order by welcoming committee members, district staff, and program management asking for introductions.

Brett identified the focus of the meeting would be committee roles and responsibilities. Information provided included the board agenda and resolution approving the bond and California Ed Code language.

Brett explained the RFQ process through which the Board selected Total School Solutions as the program management firm. He acknowledged that the design & implementation of Measure L has been show-cased statewide and he has received many calls from districts inquiring how our bond was put together and ultimately passed by 68% of the voters.

The committee was informed that meetings are public, including names and emails of members and minutes will be posted to the website. Responsibilities include making sure money is spent

according to bond language and law. They will also draft and adopt an annual report to the board in writing each spring. In addition, they will serve as communication liaisons for the community. Brett feels we have garnered experienced and dedicated members who will take an interest in seeing projects are done right and have a lasting impact on our schools and community.

Committee members may communicate with the Board of Trustees who ultimately retain the primary authority over selection of projects, scope, sequencing, and expenditures. Member Paul Henderson asked if this was the first oversight committee and Brett said there was also a committee for Measure J that issued their final audit in 2010.

Member Bill Beecher nominated Dan Johnson as Committee Chair and Brian Peoples seconded it. Mr. Johnson whose background includes twelve years of engineering work in master planning, design and construction was unanimously selected as Committee Chair.

Primary responsibilities of the Chair will be to make sure agendas are developed with input of the committee, facilitate meetings, and answer member questions. Brett said that by-laws will need to be developed adding that Total School Solutions can assist in the process. Further information regarding committee member terms and responsibilities was presented. It was noted that they are still searching for a 13<sup>th</sup> committee member from a tax payer organization.

Regina Kelbert was nominated by Brian Peoples and selected as Vice Chair by a unanimous vote.

The committee will conduct at least quarterly meetings with the possibility of more when the projects are up and running. The next meeting will be on June 19, 5:30 – 7:00 with a bus tour to three projects – Mintie White, E.A. Hall and Watsonville High School. Meetings will rotate at different school sites to view projects taking place and provide a convenient location for community attendance. A reminder will be emailed and posted to the web approximately two weeks prior to meeting.

For future meetings Chair Dan Johnson asked for color-coded spreadsheets highlighting major expenditure changes and Powerpoints showing project progress. Brian Peoples asked for a cheat sheet showing areas for committee focus such as cost savings, selection processes, etc. Brett says the Master Plan and Facility Analysis also details improvement areas and is posted to the website.

Brett McFadden and Vern Weber showed a slide presentation highlighting committee roles and responsibilities and reviewing the bond program. He explained that members are appointed and thereby subject to the Brown Act requiring notification and posting of meetings 72 hours in advance. A quorum or majority of members are required to be present to vote. Brett explained

that members are Board appointed and have no individual authority only as part of the committee as a whole.

Funding areas for Measure L include two endowments, one for instructional technology, and the other for deferred maintenance. Money for the bond is received from multiple sources including the State School Facility Program, joint projects with City, and developer fees. Dennis will detail funding sources for the committee showing total project cost.

Daniel Dodge Jr. asked if inflation could eat up all the money for a project. Dennis and Brett said money was set aside for soft costs, contingencies and escalation. Contingency money not used on one project could be rolled over to the next project. Vern added that the bidding climate and market make a difference with regard to costs. Projects will be phased in over the years so markets and local contractors aren't overtaxed at a particular time and drive up prices.

Brett talked about AB182 and the need to have the district grandfathered in to the new bond term law. It requires the interest rate on bonds to not exceed 8% per annum and run 25 years. We are currently slated to run 35 years. He has been to Sacramento numerous times in an effort to lobby against the passage of this new law.

Rene Paz asked if projects are being prioritized because we have \$ 260 million of projects and only \$ 150 million bond dollars to spend. Brett says the Board prioritized projects and the committee's focus should be lowering costs and improving efficiency. The lower level of funding means diligence in how we spend the money and clarified the committee's purpose is tied to expenditure review only.

Maria Rocha from COPA asked if schools will get equal funding for technology and how the district decides which schools get money first. Staff commented that the Technology Endowment asks what does each school need to function in 21<sup>st</sup> century not necessarily how they are to be made equal.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 pm.