

El Rancho Unified School District Minutes

Joint Board of Education / Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee

September 09, 2015
6:00 PM

El Rancho Unified School District
Technology Room
9333 Loch Lomond Drive
Pico Rivera, CA 90660

Attendance Taken at 6:00 PM:

Present:

Delia Alvidrez
Rachel Canchola
Alfred Renteria, Jr.
Dr. Aurora Villon

Absent:

Jose Lara

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Aurora Villon, President at 6:00 p.m.

1.A. ROLL CALL - Members of the Board of Education

Dr. Aurora R. Villon, President
Jose Lara, Vice President (absent)
Alfred Renteria, Jr., Clerk
Rachel Canchola, Member
Delia Alvidrez, Member

1.B. ROLL CALL - Members of the Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee

Esther Mejia, Chairperson
Dr. Teresa Merino, Vice Chairperson
John Chavez, Member
Vincent Chavez, Member
Javier Pacheco, Member
Susana Rodarte, Member

1.C. ROLL CALL - Members of the Administrative Cabinet

Martin Galindo, Superintendent
Ruben Frutos, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

RECORDER - Sandy Watkins

VISITORS - Register No. 06-2015/2016

3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

- 3.A.** Approved the Agenda for the Joint Board of Education/Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee Meeting of September 9, 2015.

Motion Passed: Passed with a motion by Delia Alvidrez and a second by Alfred Renteria, Jr.

Yes Delia Alvidrez

Yes Rachel Canchola

Absent Jose Lara

Yes Alfred Renteria, Jr.

Yes Dr. Aurora Villon

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS - Blue Speaker's Cards

Public Comments is the time when members of the audience may address the Board. Please be aware that Government Code 54954.2 prohibits the Board from taking action at this meeting if the item does not already appear on the posted agenda. In the interest of time, your remarks will be limited to three (3) minutes. We ask that you confine your comments to new ideas to avoid repeating what has already been said. Comments on the same topic will be limited to a maximum of fifteen (15) minutes. Please do not refer to students, employees, parents or other individuals in a derogatory or potentially offensive manner. For your information, Board and Cabinet members may take notes, either written or on an electronic device during Public Comments.

- Esther Mejia applauded the District on the introduction of Google Apps at the elementary level. She shared a concern about there no longer being RTI coaches to provide differentiated instruction. Ms. Mejia is also concerned about the District Advisory Council (DAC) recommendations not being presented to the Board. She asked the Board to value parent input and their recommendations.

5. STUDY SESSION

- 5.A.** Presentation of Annual Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee Report

Esther Mejia, Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee Chairperson, presented the Annual Report to the Board of Education.

- 5.B.** Review of Annual Report Critical Questions

Esther Mejia presented the critical questions and recommendations. It was determined the critical questions and recommendations will be addressed at the next joint Board/CBOC meeting.

5.C. Status of Performance/General Obligation Bond Audit Timeline for 2014/2015

The Performance/General Obligation Bond Audit was finalized late. It has been completed and submitted to the Los Angeles County Office of Education then will be sent to the California Department of Education. Once notification of approval has been received, staff will report back to the Board of Education and the Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee.

5.D. Status of Request for Proposals for new audit firm

The Request for Proposals for an audit firm have been sent out. At the Board Ad-Hoc committee's request, three firms will be interviewed with the goal being to bring forth to the Board a firm for approval on September 15, 2015.

5.E. Status of Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee Training - Performance Audit

Two firms have responded to the inquiry regarding providing training for CBOC members. Both firms can customize the training to fit the needs of the Committee at an estimated cost of \$250 per hour. Training would take place at a regularly scheduled CBOC meeting.

A request was made to obtain a description of the training as well as what will be presented in order for the Board and Committee to make a decision.

5.F. Status of Microsoft Settlement Reimbursement

The latest balance is \$510,561 with submitted expenditures of \$571,074 clearly exceeding the balance. In addition we have submitted another \$78,000 for warranties for the servers which were declined by Microsoft. We will submit another \$100,000 of expenditures for consideration for reimbursement. Per the Microsoft website, the turnaround time for reimbursement is 30 days.

Question: Why is there a delay in receiving the reimbursement?

Answer: The District has received a positive response most likely due to the nature of our requests.

Question: Has the District received assurances that all the submitted requests have been received being the deadline is September?

Answer: We continue to submit requests for reimbursement in excess of the \$510,000 cap to assure that we receive full funding. The September deadline is for purchases; requests for reimbursement are accepted after September.

Question: The Microsoft license that was purchased, was that a request for reimbursement?

Answer: Yes, it has been submitted for reimbursement. The use for students and

staff is free, although the District chose to use Google Docs and has not finalized the rollout of Microsoft.

Question: Can Microsoft Office 365 be used in a student's home?

Answer: At this time Microsoft Office is unavailable for student home use. We have made it available to staff last year.

Question: Is there a way to ensure that reimbursement funds for purchases made with bond funds are credited back to the bond?

Answer: We must credit the account that originated the expenditure.

5.G. Status of Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee Vacancy

There are two areas where the District continues to advertise for the vacancy; the Pico Rivera Profile, the recent District newsletter as well as the District and school's websites.

Question: Is there anything preventing the Committee from recruiting a past Committee member?

Answer: District personnel will contact legal counsel to inquire if we can qualify for a waiver. If approved, a letter of invitation will be sent to the past Committee member.

Question: Has the District received a response about changing the regulations?

Answer: There is no change in regulations that allows us to completely change it without petitioning a waiver.

Question: Can an invitation be extended to a student to become a member?

Answer: District personnel will inquire as to a student fulfilling one of the required member categories.

A suggestion was made to list on the recruitment materials examples of tax payer organizations.

5.H. Request for Proposals for Bond Counsel

An ad-hoc committee needs to be formed to begin the process.

5.I. Glossary of District Bond/Business Terms

At the request of the Board and the CBOC, an initial document was produced - District Terminology and Acronyms. Once approved, the document will be placed on the website and updated annually.

The Board and Committee were asked to provide feedback and/or recommended changes to District staff within the next week.

5.J. Board Approved Bond Projects - Engaging the Community

A presentation was provided by Jaime Ortiz, HPLE. Mr. Ortiz shared a copy of a current newsletter that focuses on the schools and students.

5.K. Bond Budget Update

The bond budget closed with a balance of \$13,778,310 as of June 30, 2015. The goal was to be as close as possible to the \$14,000,000 to maintain the original information provided to the Board.

5.L. Update on Project Closeouts

Within the last eight years the District closed seven projects. Recently, 39 projects were closed. Eight DSA projects were voided due to no rationale for closeout. Four projects remain uncertified.

The Committee requested a list of all outstanding DSA projects.

6. ADJOURNMENT

- A suggestion was made to provide a laptop or iPad to the CBOC chairperson and district secretary for ease in preparing for the meetings and for producing the minutes.

- The next joint Board/CBOC meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 9, 2015.

6.A. Adjourn Joint Board of Education/Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee Meeting of September 9, 2015.

The meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Motion Passed: Passed with a motion by Alfred Renteria, Jr. and a second by Delia Alvidrez.

Yes Delia Alvidrez
Yes Rachel Canchola
Absent Jose Lara
Yes Alfred Renteria, Jr.
Yes Dr. Aurora Villon

6.B. Future Board of Education Meetings

- Tuesday, September 15, 2015, Regular Public Meeting (6:30 pm Open Session) at City Hall.

Joint Board of Education/Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee Meeting: September 9, 2015

- Tuesday, October 6, 2015, Regular Public Meeting (6:30 pm Open Session) at City Hall.

NOTE: Exhibits listed herein are a part of these minutes and are filed in the Official Board Minutes Record Book of the Board of Education, which is open for public inspection.

Minutes approved, as written , as corrected

Board President

Superintendent
