

**Fremont Unified School District  
2014 Measure E  
Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee  
Wednesday, May 30, 2018**

**Meeting Minutes**

Meeting held at the FUSD District Office Central Meeting Room

**Call to Order:** Meeting called to order at 7:11 p.m.

**Attendance:** (Quorum established)

**Members Present:** Jeff Bowen, Carla Cox, Ashok Desai, Bryan Gebhardt, Kathy Lang Newman, Kathryn McDonald, Eric Tsai, Sunil Pandey

**Members Absent:** Siv Mahanty, Chip Koehler, Soraya Torres

**FUSD Staff Present:** John Chwastyk, Director, Construction and Facilities; Ken Blackstone, Public Information Officer for Construction and Facilities; Robin Michel, Communications Consultant

**Others Present:** Aaron Kael, Vanir Construction Management

**1. Welcome and Introductions:**

Ken Blackstone, the new FUSD Public Information Officer for Construction and Facilities, was introduced to the Committee. He started on May 22.

**2. Approval of previous month's Minutes:**

The May 16, 2018 meeting minutes were approved.

**3. Community Outreach:**

Robin Michel informed the Committee of the successful groundbreaking at Washington High School on May 22 for the two new buildings that will house six additional classrooms and six science labs. A news release of the event is being sent to the local media and will be posted to the FUSD website.

**4. Oral & Written Communications; Voicemail & Email Report:**

There was no public comment and there were no written communications. Since the last meeting, the CBOC has not received any voicemails or emails.

**5. Bond Audit Report, Review and Approval:**

Answers to questions about the Bond Financial and Performance Audit submitted by CBOC Member Siv Mahanty were recently emailed to the Committee; however, Mr. Mahanty wasn't present to discuss. The Committee voted to approve the audit contingent upon Mr. Mahanty's questions being answered satisfactorily and the topic

being revisited at the September meeting. The audits, which were presented at the April 11, 2018, CBOC meeting, were very good and resulted in no findings. The bond audits were received by the FUSD Board of Education at the March 28, 2018, meeting.

#### **6. Updated Bond Implementation Plan:**

Aaron Kael from Vanir Construction Management reviewed the updated Implementation Plan that was presented at the May 23, 2018, Board meeting. Much of the conversation centered on the most current budget summary, particularly the contingency fund, and risk mitigation. In response to this new Implementation Plan, the Board directed the District to focus on the middle schools as the top priority, hold off on projects not yet started, and discuss other projects that are in progress on a case-by-case basis. Aaron explained to the Committee the dilemma of not wanting to make upgrades that might be torn down in just a few years if future plans called for complete building replacements, which, for example, is a possibility with the high school projects. On the other hand, there is a significant cost escalation if projects are delayed due to the continuing explosive market growth. The District has already expended a majority of the overall bond contingency funds due to this escalation. CBOC Chair Bryan Gebhardt asked for clarity on the formula used to account for contingency funds, and felt that this needed to be more clearly explained to community. He also recommended that contingency funds be added as a separate line item and not rolled together with funds labeled "other."

Chairman Gebhardt asked for the Committee to be provided the updated financials (since Dec. 2017) for the Measure E Bond, plus the list of projects in progress and budgets for each, including the high schools. He plans to send a letter to the Board on behalf of the Committee expressing concern regarding the reduced contingency fund balance, agreeing with prioritizing middle school projects, and recommending an expedited conversation with the community about long-term plans for elementary and high schools. The letter will also suggest prioritizing bond funds only for projects on the original long-range facilities plan until the budget deficit is resolved, allocating Proposition 51 funds to the contingency program, and not mixing Proposition 39 funds with Bond funds.

#### **7. Update on Board Actions:**

At its May 23, 2018 meeting, the Board:

- Authorized staff to enter into an agreement with company IT Management for the procurement and installation of the new Voice Over IP telephone, clock, bell and public address system (VoIP project), and with Infinity Communications to provide construction management services for the VoIP project. The Board authorized an additional \$661,068 in contingency funding, bringing the total amount for the VoIP project to \$6,661,068.
- Elected the following individuals to fill seats on the Facilities Advisory Committee (FAC), Irene Shen, parent/guardian in the American attendance area; Rachelle Currie, parent/guardian in the Irvington attendance area; Tarrah Henrie, parent/guardian in the Kennedy attendance area; Antonio Birbeck-Herrera parent/guardian in the Mission attendance area; Bryan Gebhardt parent/guardian in the Washington attendance area; and Sharon Coco community member for the American attendance area.

- Received an updated Measure E Bond Implementation Plan from Vanir Construction Management, as mentioned above in agenda item 6.

**8. Monthly Status Report:**

Item tabled as there was no change in status since the last CBOC meeting.

**9. Review of Future Meeting CBOC Dates, Topics and Board Calendar:**

Chairman Gebhardt requested an agenda item at the next meeting regarding possible CBOC and Facilities Advisory Committee (FAC) coordination. Topics would include potentially targeting joint work, possibly holding one or more joint meetings, and seeing what might make sense to align between the committees, such as their ongoing meeting schedules.

Another item for the next meeting is a recap of and response to the proposed letter from the Committee to the Board and a review of the other information items requested in item 6 above. A third agenda item is the finalization of the Bond Audit per item 5 above.

The Committee asked staff about how the District is publicizing the need for additional committee members for both the newly formed FAC, as well as the CBOC in light of several members' terms expiring. Staff reported that information has been widely publicized but that it would be publicized again and additional publicity opportunities would be explored.

Chairman Gebhardt thanked Eric Tsai for his service as his term expiring. The Committee also thanked Robin Michel for her communication work.

The next meeting for the CBOC will be held on September 5, 2018. It was requested to hold the meeting at Kennedy High School, if possible.

Adjournment: 9:09 p.m.