

Redlands Unified School District
Measure J
Citizens' Oversight Committee

Minutes

District Office Conference Room
20 West Lugonia, Redlands, CA 92374
October 18, 2012

I. Opening - Chairperson Rendler called the meeting to order at 5:19 p.m.

A. Pledge of Allegiance

B. Roll Call

Members Present: Patrick Garcia, Ross Jones, Beth Kolpien, Jeff Martinez, Michele Rendler, Betsy Starbuck, David Wilson

Staff Present: Brad Mason, Cameron Brown, Michelle Cole, Antonette Llamas

C. Approval of Minutes – On motion of Beth Kolpien, second by Jeff Martinez, the minutes of April 12, 2012 were approved as submitted.

II. Public Participation

A. Community Input – none

III. Presentations and Reports

A. Budget Review and Project Update – Cameron Brown

Mr. Brown welcomed five new members to the Committee and began his presentation with background information on Measure J. Measure J is a \$65.5 million bond passed under Proposition 39 which requires 55% voter approval, Measure J passed with 66.4 % voter approval. The bond is funded by a parcel tax collected through the County which is then disbursed to the District. Dr. Mason gave brief history on Proposition 39 mentioning the requirement of an Independent Citizens' Oversight Committee to monitor proper spending of bond funds.

Mr. Brown reviewed projects that have been funded by the bond including, the completion of Citrus Valley High School (CVHS), a District wide camera project which includes several cameras that are tied in to the Redlands Police Department and fencing at most school sites. Current outstanding projects include fencing at Redlands High School (RHS) and a parking lot at CVHS. He informed the committee that \$46 million of bonds have been sold with \$13 million remaining for future projects.

Dr. Mason discussed the upcoming RHS Fencing Project stating that since the high school is on two sides of Citrus Avenue in downtown Redlands, the District is going to have a design committee and asked if one or two members would like to join. Michele Rendler, Jeff Martinez and David Wilson volunteered to be a part of the future design committee.

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Mr. Brown gave an update on the Measure J budget noting that of the \$46 million in bond funds received by the District approximately \$13 million remain available. Dr. Mason noted that when the bonds were passed, costs were much higher than they are now due to the change in the economy which accounts for the savings. He also mentioned that at this time there are no plans to sell the remaining \$15 million in unsold bonds. Mr. Brown informed the Committee that Measure J funds were used to complete the gymnasium, theater, C building (classrooms) and the stadium at CVHS. Approximately \$11 Million remain in the budget for CVHS. A portion of the funds will be used for the future parking lot and some additional furniture and equipment.

Mr. Brown gave a brief update on Safety and Security Projects. Member David Wilson asked why the "Multiple Schools" Projects showed a negative remaining balance. Mr. Brown said that extra data storage was needed for the security cameras. Mr. Wilson asked how long data is stored, Mr. Brown said he would get specifics on data storage from our Technology Services Department and report at next meeting. Member Jeff Martinez asked for clarification of the Bond Measure being passed for \$65.5 million and the report showing \$60 million. Mr. Wilson asked questions including what the interest rate is on the bond and how quickly the District plans to expend the remaining \$13 million, commenting that perhaps the District is losing interest by having such a large cash balance. Mr. Wilson inquired specifically what the Citizens' Oversight Committee duties are. Dr. Mason informed the members that the COC is responsible for making sure the District is using the bond funds only for items specified on the Measure J Bond Project List, noting that there is an annual audit. Member Betsy Starbuck asked for specific language of how bond funds are to be spent, requested a copy of the Committee bylaws and inquired as to how often the committee meets. Dr. Mason thanked the members for their questions and informed the Committee that the District will log these requests and respond as soon as possible. Mr. Brown informed the Committee that they will meet three times a year with the next meeting in February. Mr. Wilson inquired as to why there were still remaining balances in the Security Projects and what the delay in the projects was. Mr. Brown clarified that the remaining balances are savings and most Security Projects are complete with the exception of Redlands High School.

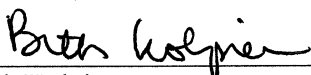
IV. For the Good of the Order/Member Comments

Mr. Brown informed the Committee that the District is currently looking for two additional members to join the COC who are members of a taxpayer organization and/or a senior citizens organization. Mr. Brown shared with the Committee that the auditor would be presenting the Independent Auditors Report and the Committee would be selecting members to be on the Annual Report Writing Committee at their next meeting. Dr. Mason thanked the members for their service on the committee. Mr. Wilson asked if the District used the same auditor for Measures R and J. Dr. Mason shared with the Committee that Vavrinek, Trine, Day & Co., provides the audits for both Measures.

V. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:55 p.m.

Attest:



Beth Kolpien
Vice Chair

Adopted:

February 7, 2013