Merced City School District

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Merced City School District

Facilities Services Department
Serving to Support Educational Excellence

Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee Meeting
ZOOM Meeting
June 16, 2020 4:00 PM
Minutes

I. **Call to order:** By Debbie Furtado at 4:02 PM

II. Roll call:

Debbie Furtado	**X**	**Robert Garcia**	
Robin Kuhls	**X**	**Tsia Xiong**	
Michelle Symes-Thiara	**X**	**Steve Bottjer**	
Kelly Phillips		**Tuccoa Polk**	

Not Present: Kelly Phillips, Robert Garcia, Steve Bottjer, Tsia Xiong and Tuccoa Polk.
Others in Attendance: Superintendent Al Rogers, Ed.D., Deputy Superintendent Doug Collins, Ken Testa, Angelica Failing, Julio Rodriguez, Linda Parker
NOTE: Tuccoa Polk has moved to the LA area and has resigned from the committee. This will be discussed under topic IX, Membership.

III. **Flag Salute:** Led by Debbie Furtado

IV. Approval of Agenda:
Motion: _N/A_ **Second:** _N/A_ **Vote:** _N/A_
NOTE: Since a quorum was not established, the agenda from the June 16, 2020 meeting could not be formally approved.

V. Approval of Minutes from meeting on *March 5, 2020*:
Motion: _N/A_ **Second:** _N/A_ **Vote:** _N/A_
NOTE: Since a quorum was not established, the minutes from the March 5, 2020 meeting could not be approved and the item would be considered at the next meeting.

VI. Welcome and Introductions:
Ken thanked Debbie for kicking off her first meeting as Chairperson and welcomed the members who were in attendance. Dr. Al Rogers was also introduced. This meeting is also the first meeting that District Superintendent Dr. Al Rogers was able to attend.

VII. Bond Report and Current Projects Updates:
Ken began a brief update to the Committee in mentioning progress of the John Muir Irrigation and Landscape Project, noting how nice the project is turning out, as the landscaping and infrastructure updates were much needed. New shade trees and shrubs were planted, asphalt was placed on under the solar arrays as recommended by the Maintenance and Operations department, and new

irrigation pump and systems have been installed. Ken also reported on the roofing projects underway at Sheehy Elementary School, Cruickshank Middle School, Hoover Middle School, and at the Maintenance, Operations and Transportation facility. The roofing projects are funded by Deferred Maintenance but do support the aims of Measure M.

Ken referenced the biggest project going on is the District's Master Plan update. TETER Architects has been selected by our Board to guide the district in updating the Master Plan. The state has adopted guidelines which requires a current Master Plan update every five to six years. An advisory Committee has been assembled and has been working alongside TETER to inform initial steps, with members selected by cabinet. Members of the Committee, including Board members and District Administration, directed a District-wide equity study of conditions to evaluate gaps in conditions in every classroom at all sites where learning is conducted. The focus is to upgrade classrooms to 21st Century technology and updated environments. The relocation of a portable classroom at Hoover Middle School to Ada Givens Elementary school to house additional students is planned for the upcoming 2020/2021 school year. There were no questions or comments from meeting attendees of the report.

VIII. Quarterly Financial Report

Julio Rodriguez-Rivera provided an updated version of the financial report. As of June 11, the total bond expenditures reflected $43,668,222.87 and a fund balance of $4,147,083.98. Ken mentioned the recent receipt of $6.7 Million in State Facility Program Grant reimbursements is held in a special Fund 35 Account to ultimately be assigned to priority projects per Bond Measure commitments. There is some concern whether state funds will be received on time due to COVID-19 pandemic and State budget issues, but Ken mentioned there is a good deal of confidence the State will ultimately make apportionments according to Proposition 51 authority and annual State bond sales. There were no questions or comments from meeting attendees.

IX. Membership

Ken mentioned that Tuccoa Polk moved to southern California and unfortunately had to resign from the Committee. Regarding recruiting new members, it is up to the Committee to decide how recruitment is to be approached, as well as the Board of Education. Discussion about past recruitment including outreach to civic groups such as the Rotary Club, American Legion, etc. The last time there was an opening it was posted on the District Facebook page and via social networks, which is what resulted in recent new membership. Michelle suggested looking at the bylaws to ensure that all positions are filled accordingly and that there are representatives for parents, community members, etc.

A list of Committee members and their terms was presented. Ken informed the group that the term limit for members is formally for two consecutive terms, pursuant to California Education Code Section 15282, yet some Districts have maintained provisional membership beyond the requirement in order to maintain interest and continuity of community member participation. This helps keep community members in the process. The District has gained input from legal counsel that lack of membership and participation could be challenged. In addition, not having enough

members that review and understand the financial reports and bond audits could also be challenged.

No decisions as to membership were made since a quorum was not present. The topic will be brought up again at the September meeting, including outreach to the community. Discussion about how members were notified of the meeting occurred, including email, voicemail, and text reminders. Debbie mentioned maybe making multiple phone calls at different times of the day. Robin suggested maybe starting a text group message, that is probably the best way to reach most of the members. Debbie, Ken, and Angelica will confer prior to the next meeting to reach the committee members.

X. Public Relations

No public relations update was provided.

XI. Open Discussion/Questions

Debbie Furtado asked about the plans for the STEAM center and how it will be utilized the next school year. Doug Collins mentioned that plans are still under review. There will be a Board workshop to be held on school reopening. The focus is the master planning and getting students back into school. Can the STEAM Center be used by neighboring school? Doug ensured that the center will be utilized this coming year and that discussion was underway.

XII. Proposed 2020-2021 Meeting Dates:

09/15/2020 11/17/2020 02/16/2021 05/18/2020

Ken discussed the potential proposed meeting dates above and presented for Committee consideration. Ken mentioned that the meeting times can be changed, and more meetings can be added if the committee chooses to do so. The members in attendance agreed to continue with the proposed September 15, 2020 meeting date and discuss the other dates with the full committee for formal action at the meeting.

XIII. Adjournment:

Michelle Symes-Thiara suggested the meeting be adjourned at 4:49 pm, which was seconded by Robin Kuhls.

Note: Respectfully submitted by Angelica Failing, Facilities Services Department Secretary