

Minutes
Citizens Oversight Committee

November 4, 2025

DO Board Room

5:30 pm

Present: Karli Vorderstrasse, Sean Johnson, Jerry Boudreaux, Bob Archer, Greg Locke, Micky Garus, Bethany Henry, Candy Posey, Bill Masei, Lee Schlenker, Walt Markee, Sara Croxford, Tara Townley, John Hockman, Gary Suderman, Marleen Gillis, Gabe Hayes

Absent: Tami Larson, Angela Munkers

Start Time: 5:30 pm

1.0 Welcome

Introductions: Greg Locke of Locke Engineers: Local resident and also aware the group wants to spend money wisely.

2.0 Approval of Minutes

Discussion of minutes was held. Clarifications, and corrections were made according to discussion

Approval of Oct min: Approval as corrected

3.0 Financial Report

Bob: Tami is out and I will review and send out with amended min from last month. We are also on track with projects and closed out from the summer projects.

Jerry: 14 million after completion of current projects, 14 million is a ballpark number.

4.0 Old Business N/A

5.0 New Business

Bob Archer introduced the subject of future bond allocations given the remaining bond funding, declining enrollment, and district needs. Finalizing current projects, LMS gym, District multiuse facility and DHS stadium all became options for funding. Significant time was spent on DHS stadium upgrade options.

Marlene Gillis (Soderstrom) and Greg Locke (Locke Engineering) presented information to the committee. This included ideas for the DHS stadium, multiuse facility, and LMS gym at three levels of expenditure- good, better, and best with estimated cost factors for each one.

Significant discussion was held regarding DHS stadium with specific areas of concern- Bleachers, stairs, restrooms, ground level storage, rooftop and exterior, and various systems including structural, electrical, mechanical. Plumbing, fire suppression and demolition.

While very detailed and informative, this presentation and subsequent discussion resulted in no action or recommendations on the part of the committee. As the discussion continued and the normal meeting stop time came and went, the chair asked members if they wished to continue. Members, by consensus, agreed to continue to conclusion. It was decided to revisit LMS gym and district multi- use facility at the next meeting.

Discussion of DHS stadium specific included current condition, technical drawings (provided to all members), options regarding wood seating and specific bathroom and stairway upgrades. Comments were made about seating replacement with wood or metal and wood seemed to be indicated. In addressing these concerns, Greg Locke suggested that while maintaining sound engineering practice, we need to be aware of levels of upgrade that would trigger massive reviews and total re-design.

Additional specifics from committee members regarding the DHS stadium included sustainability and maintenance for planned upgrades. Some members preferred wood over metal as it has been a tradition for this community. There was a concern for ADA compliant restrooms. Also, fire suppression upgrades will be important. There was discussion about the bleacher storage area including options for asphalt or concrete surface and framed vs. chain link separations. Roofing concerns include cost of 20-25 year roofing material and use of thermal imaging to decide roof areas in need of attention.

A question about grant money availability, matching funds and other funding options was raised. Marlene agreed to look into this for the district. Additionally, Greg advised that all remodeling and repairs be done with an eye on seismic upgrades.

Comments were made regarding the committee being wise stewards of the taxpayer's money. It was also stated that we need to value community tradition and communicate/market these values to the community.

There is a specific window of time for stadium work to happen that minimizes impact on school and community programs. It was suggested that, although no hard deadline exists for the stadium project, substantive recommendations should be developed during the next meeting to give time for the school board, district planning and bid process to play out. A construction timeline of 12-14 weeks minimum may be realistic.

During the meeting, a specific question arose regarding committee members legal liability for decisions made. Some information seems to suggest liability exists for members. Steve Spencer responded indicating legal council for the district advises no liability exists either severally or individually for committee members.

It was brought up that the DHS stadium was not part of the original bond language. Now it appears to be a major concern and raises the question about how it became a pressing need. It appears that staffing changes and other priorities may have contribute to this situation. Comments regarding investing in an iconic and existing structure to maintain community traditions to ne a wise use of limited funds. It also appears to be in the best interest of students and district/ community programs.

A comment was made that we need to move forward with the stadium project. The stadium, multiuse facility and LMS gym are all big projects and need to be carefully considered at the next meeting.

6.0 Public Input Gabe: N/A

Jerry: Tonight's meeting went 38 min over and given the focus and common courtesy of everyone and task oriented of the group it was a massive amount of work. As chair I thank you.

7.0 Next Meeting Dec 2 2025 5:30 Dist Office Board Room

Adjourn 7:39pm

Jerry Boudreaux Committee Chair

Date

Karli Vorderstrasse Committee Secretary

Date