

VENTURA COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

Citizens Oversight Committee (Bond Measure S)

MINUTES April 21, 2003

Committee Members Present: Randy Churchill (chair), Jack Dickenson, Don Facciano, Gerald Gooss, Mary Howard, Bob Huber, Lee Ingraham, Rex Laird, Ted Martens, Ashlee Omary, Jere Robings, Jane Rozanski, Connie Tushla, Michael Wesner, Kay Wilson-Bolton

VCCCD Administration Present: Eva Conrad, Mike Gregoryk, Bob Liebling, Mary Anne McNeil, Jim Walker

Others Present: Handel Evans, Les Dickey, Rod Rose

Mr. Churchill called the meeting to order at 3:03 p.m.

I. Roll Call

Roll call was taken. It was noted that the presence of two more members was necessary to establish a quorum.

II. Chairman's Comments

Mr. Churchill asked the committee to defer approval of the minutes until a quorum was established. He then introduced Interim Chancellor Jim Walker.

III. Interim Chancellor's Comments

Dr. Walker welcomed the committee and briefed the members on the District's fiscal situation and the possible ramifications on the Measure S bond program.

IV. Old Business

A. Financial Oversight and Report on Audit Firm RFQs

Mary Anne McNeil, District Budget Officer, gave a financial overview of the current bond expenditures to date. The submission deadline for the posted Audit RFQ is Friday, April 25, 5 p.m. After that date, a committee will be formed to review the materials.

(At this point, a quorum was established. The minutes of January 13, 2003, were approved as submitted.)

B. Oxnard College Student Services Building

In addition to retiring the COP, the supplement to this project was \$1.6 million. These additional funds will be taken from other projects on the Oxnard College bond project list, specifically, the Student Services Building project.

V. New Business

A. General Overview of Bond Program and Report on Current Projects

A significant planning process, which has evaluated individual campus requests in the light of bond language and constraints, is culminating. CEQA issues are being addressed, and the first meeting with regard to EIR preparation has been held at the Oxnard campus. The other two campuses will hold meetings in the near future. The results of these studies will be presented to a special Board meeting yet to be scheduled in June. Members of the Citizens Oversight Committee are invited to attend this special Board meeting.

B. Actions Taken by the Board Involving Bond Funds

The committee was apprised of the actions taken by the Board of Trustees involving bond funds since the last Citizens Oversight Committee meeting on January 13, 2003. It is the Board's intention that local firms be hired as much as possible, and that direction has been followed. While some architectural firms located out of the County have been appointed, such firms have been asked to utilize the work of local consultants, wherever possible.

C. Emerging Issues

1. Architectural Selections

It is anticipated that after the Board approves the facility master plans, other architectural selections will be made to allow the program to continue over the summer with preliminary designs ready for discussion with the individual campus constituencies on their return in the Fall.

2. EIR Process

The Environmental Impact Report process has commenced at Oxnard College, to be followed in the near future by initial public meetings at Ventura, Moorpark and the Camarillo site (for the Fire/Sheriff's Academy).

3. Moorpark College Learning Resources/Telecommunications Center and Ventura College Learning Resources Center

Both projects are on time and on budget.

4. Infrastructure Projects
A list of proposed infrastructure projects was presented to the committee. Infrastructure projects will begin on all campuses this summer. Although some State funding is available for these projects, it will be necessary to utilize bond funds as well, particularly since matching funding is not available from the general fund of the District due to the State budget crisis. This is an opportunity to repair significant maintenance problems. These projects will be carefully scrutinized to ensure that they will not be subjected later to change or demolition as part of a larger project.

5. Parking Lots
Major parking lot projects are presently under construction at Moorpark College and in the planning stages at Oxnard College. These projects do not involve CEQA at this time.

6. Bond Language
Using the infrastructure projects presented to the Board as an example, discussion took place as to the interpretation of Measure S language with regard to individual projects. Reference was made to the discussion regarding district athletic facilities at the last meeting of the Citizens Oversight Committee in January, at which time the District described its intention of treating each campus' projects in a similar manner and interpreting their requirements within the overall language of Section A of the actual bond measure as laid out to the voters. Bond counsel clarified the correctness of this interpretation, which is now germane to these infrastructure projects. While some of these individual infrastructure projects may not be directly attributable to individual campus projects as outlined in the bond description in Section B (many are), considering this interpretation, we are interpreting such projects under the general description of Section A. Members were encouraged to inform the District if there were concerns about individual projects that members felt were not covered under the language.

7. Renovations vs. New Buildings
A number of renovation projects on the individual campuses will require a significant amount of work. The State demands that, should renovation exceed 50% of the value of the building, that building will be brought up to all current codes. Because this could prove to be an expensive issue and probably not cost effective, it is possible that alternatives to these projects will be discussed in the future.

IX. Public Speakers

None.

X. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: Monday, July 21, 3 p.m., Room CA-8 at the Camarillo Airport site