

FWISD CITIZENS' OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MEETING

Notes

Date: October 5, 2009
Location: FWISD Board Conference Room
Prepared by: Kaylynn Loftis
Project Name: FWISD Capital Improvement Program
Purpose: Quarterly Meeting of the Capital Improvement Program Citizens' Oversight Committee
Meeting Start: 6:04 PM
Meeting End: 6:33 PM

Attendees:

- Paula Batts
- James DeMoss
- Harold Hebson
- Jack Larson
- Isaac Manning – Co-Chair
- Lisa Savage
- Larry Shaw
- Willett Stallworth
- Daniel Villegas
- Ben Cruz – FWISD
- Walter Dansby – FWISD
- Sherman Harris – FWISD
- Dr. Melody Johnson – FWISD
- Jim Kram – FWISD
- Kaylynn Loftis – FWISD
- Greg Miller – FWISD
- Robert Palmer – FWISD
- Ray Castillo – AECOM
- Gary Griffith – AECOM
- Danilo Lopez – AECOM
- Kristabel Lopez – AECOM
- Conan Mathson – AECOM
- Wayne Warren – AECOM
- Gary Wilttrout – AECOM

Absent:

- Dionne Bagsby
- Kyle Davie – FWISD
- Victor Garcia – Chair
- Cheryl Kennon – FWISD
- Dr. Dan Short
- Barb von der Heydt – FWISD
- MaryEllen Whitlock Hicks

The following items were discussed:

1. Call to Order

Committee Co-Chair Isaac Manning called the meeting to order at 6:04 pm. A motion was made by Jack Larson and seconded by Harold Hebson to approve the minutes of the July 13, 2009 Citizens' Oversight Committee meeting.

2. Discussion of Committee Requests for Information and Distribution of Written Responses

Questions were submitted by the Committee to the Deputy Superintendent, Capital Improvement Program staff and AECOM Program Management team regarding the Capital

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Improvement Program's payment of invoices. Walter Dansby provided an overview of the distributed handout which included the answers to these questions (attached).

3. Progress Update

A. Capital Improvement Program Update Report

The AECOM Program Management Team presented a PowerPoint presentation which provided an update on the Capital Improvement Program (attached).

Questions and comments during the presentation are as follows:

Larry Shaw stated that the teachers love the Interactive Whiteboards (IWBs) that have been installed in the classrooms. They report that the use of the IWBs opens up education and allows them to get students more involved. Dr. Johnson added that the IWB installations are an excellent example of the cooperation that has gone on throughout this program. Dr. Johnson further added that it has been a collaboration across departments which has resulted in the IWB installations being 18-months ahead of schedule. Dr. Johnson continued by commending Walter Dansby for his leadership efforts.

Daniel Villegas asked how under budget is the Capital Improvement Program budget. Mr. Dansby reported that the Capital Improvement Program is currently \$12 million under budget. This figure is based on projects that have been bid. Mr. Dansby further added that \$3.7 million of this savings has been moved to Program Contingency. The Capital Improvement Program will be going back to the Board of Education with recommendations on how to spend the realized savings.

B. Technology Update

There was no official Technology Update provided at this meeting.

4. Discussion of CIP Requests for COC Input

Jim Kram reported that a request was sent to members of the Citizens' Oversight Committee in September asking for their input regarding the scheduling of project site visits. Mr. Kram stated that the general consensus of the Committee was that site visits are important in providing thorough proposal responses. Mr. Kram further stated that the consensus was discussed internally and the decision of the Capital Improvement Program and AECOM is that most projects up to this point have been fairly standard but as the Program begins to enter into more complex work proposers should either be allowed additional time or additional visits.

Harold Hebson asked what generated the original inquiry. Conan Mathson replied that the inquiry was based on complaints that the Capital Improvement Program had received from contractors.

5. General Discussion

Mr. Dansby stated that he appreciates the members' commitment to the Citizens' Oversight Committee. Mr. Dansby added that the Capital Improvement Program was designed to be a transparent program. It is the Committee members that ensure the transparency of the CIP and report the information present to their respective communities. Unfortunately, there are two current members of the Citizens' Oversight Committee that do not wish to renew their term once it expires in January. The Capital Improvement Program staff will recommend

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candidates to Dr. Johnson and the Board of Education to fill these vacant seats. Dr. Johnson added that she would too like to thank the members of the Citizens' Oversight Committee for the gift of their time and expertise.

Mr. Hebson added that he likes the notion that when there is an issue the issue is presented to the members of the Committee immediately for their input. Mr. Hebson continued by saying that he encourages the Capital Improvement Program to continue with this process.

6. Future Meetings

The next meeting of the Capital Improvement Program Citizens' Oversight Committee is scheduled for Monday, January 11, 2010 at 6:00 pm. Mr. Mathson added that when we meet again it is expected that the Capital Improvement Program's two new middle schools will be under construction and the two new elementary schools will be bid shortly thereafter.

7. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:33 pm.

APPROVED

 Victor Garcia, Chair January 11, 2010
Date

Cc: All attendees
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