

**BANNING UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
161 W. WILLIAMS STREET
BANNING, CALIFORNIA**

**MINUTES OF THE 17th GENERAL MEETING OF
CITIZENS OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE, MEASURE M**

**Monday, May 11, 2020
6:00pm**

Meeting held:

Via ZOOM from home due to COVID-19 Health Emergency

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m.

2. Roll Call and Establishment of Quorum

Present: Ron Duncan; Richard Krick; Chris McCallum, Diana Benhar, Susan McQuown, Frank Diaz; Veronica Topete

Absent: None

Community Member Present: There were four persons identified only by phone numbers on Zoom

BUSD Staff Present: Dr. Natasha Baker, Acting Superintendent; Kookie Williams, Executive Secretary; Cornell Williams, Director of Maintenance Operations and Transportation

Guests Present: Tom Kruse and Mason McCarthy, PJHM Architects; Joe Ledesma and Tim Ledesma, Ledesma & Meyer Construction Management

3. Approval of Minutes

Susan McQuown motioned to approve the Minutes for the November 18, 2019 meeting. Frank Diaz seconded, motion carried.

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Abstains: 0

Motion Carried

4. Communications

Community Concerns

None

Committee Concerns

Diana Benhar expressed her concern with Superintendent Robert Guillen leaving office earlier than expected and member's inability to say goodbye. She reiterated that she felt he should receive credit for the part he played in construction of the Performing Arts Center and Construction Academy once complete. Members discussed this and Richard Krick stated that those who worked on the project will be invited to the opening ceremony as honored guests.

Cabinet Comments

Dr. Baker introduced herself to the members, saying that it is her goal to make sure the District is fiscally sound and responsible.

5. Information/ Discussion

5.1 Measure M Financial Report

There was discussion about whether the District would get interim financing to finish the project in case the third CTE grant does not get approved. The District may not be in a position to get financing.

Mr. Krick asked what the chances of the District being approved for the third grant are. Mr. Kruse answered that it is hard to second-guess, but because OPSC will view our application as Rural (they are separated according to Rural, Urban or Suburban), he is optimistic. He added that he would bring Char Yarnell to the next meeting, as she is the expert in this area.

Ron Duncan added that OPSC committees may not be holding any Board meetings for approvals because of COVID-19.

Dr. Baker is researching all District projects to weed out "Vanity Projects" to stop unnecessary spending and release funds for what is necessary. Members had questions, wanting more information but realize that Dr. Baker needs more time to understand details about the various projects, including BHS new construction.

Tom Kruse offered to get Dr. Baker the detailed information she needs to understand the projects that PJHM is, or has been involved in.

5.2 Update on Construction

Joe Ledesma gave an update on construction of the two buildings. Richard Krick asked if the buildings were water-tight. The answer was yes. Tom Kruse added that construction is on schedule, even with the wet season that we had.

Sue McQuown asked about the solar at the high school, which is going in at the parking lot area of the new construction, wondering if it was compatible with the City, being that they had

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5.2 Update on Construction, cont'd....

held up solar projects at other sites. Cornell Williams answered and explained progress of the solar projects.

5.3 Annual COC Report—2018-2019 Expenditures & Committee Activities during 2019-2020

Mr. Krick asked how he should get the signed Report back to Kookie Williams. Kookie said he could either mail it to the District address to her attention or scan and email it, as long as she receives it in time to have it added to the agenda for the June 24th Board meeting.

Mrs. McQuown moved to accept the draft report as is. Mr. Diaz and Mr. Duncan simultaneously seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

**Ayes: 7
Nays: 0
Abstains: 0
Motion Carried**

5.4 Current COC Members and their terms

Members asked Ms. Williams to re-send the application for appointment to the Oversight Panel so that they can renew their terms for another 2 years, to be sure they see the project to its completion.

5.5 Review Tentative Meeting Schedule for COC 2019-20 School Year

Monday, June 8, 2020 at 6:00pm, via ZOOM from home. Ron Duncan motioned to accept this date. Chris McCallum seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Ayes: 7
Nays: 0
Abstains: 0
Motion Carried**

6. Action

6.1 Confirm Next Meeting Date and Time

June 8, 2020

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7. Future Agenda Items

Richard Krick would like a follow-up on hopeful approval of third CTE grant.

8. Adjournment

Ron Duncan motioned for meeting to adjourn, Frank Diaz seconded the motion. Motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 7:19pm.

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Abstains: 0

Motion Carried