



**CITIZENS' BOND OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE**

MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, July 21<sup>st</sup>, 2010 - 6:30 PM

Student Center, Room SC 204, San Jose City College  
2100 Moorpark Avenue, San José, CA 95128

<u>Attendees:</u>	Benjamin White	Community At-Large
	Hector Cortez	Taxpayers Association
	Kathy Kyne	Senior Citizens Community
	Tony Estremera	Community-At-Large
	Robert Dias	Executive Director of Facilities, SJECCD
	Dr. Rita Cepeda	Chancellor, SJECCD

Meeting was called to order at 6:45 PM

1. Robert Dias requested that the agenda be amended to include the following 3 items:
  - Public Comments
  - Formation of a sub-committee to address the Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee (CBOC) 2009-2010 Annual Report
  - Meeting schedule for the 2010-2011 year.
2. The amended agenda was moved by Hector Cortez and seconded by Tony Estremera.
3. Public Comments:

Mr. Steve Kline expressed his concerns about the proposed General Obligation Bond (G.O. Bond) that is being considered by the Board of Trustees for placement on the November 2010 ballot. He stated that with all the negative publicity associated with San Jose/Evergreen Community College District (District) it would not be advisable to go out for another bond at such a short notice. He felt that more time needs to be spent in consideration of the future bond especially in terms of buy-in and support from internal and external communities.
4. Dr. Rita Cepeda, the new Chancellor for the District, was introduced to the committee and made opening remarks. She stated that she truly appreciates the work done by the committee and recognizes the importance of the role of the committee in meeting the requirements of Prop 39. Chancellor Cepeda advised that in her previous position as President of Mesa College in San Diego she worked in support of their bond program and interacted with the CBOC. She indicated that she would prefer to have the college Presidents attend these quarterly meetings and stated that she would make every effort to attend future scheduled meetings. Chancellor Cepeda stated the importance of developing a more effective line of communication with the committee and proposed initiating a monthly newsletter that would include ongoing project and

budget updates. She also mentioned that any future action taken by the Board of Trustees be presented to the CBOC prior to submission to the Board for formal approval. This information could be posted on the Measure G website for easy access.

5. The draft meeting minutes of the April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2010 meeting were reviewed. Tony Estremera moved to approve the 01-20-10 minutes, Ben White seconded.
6. Robert Dias presented the committee with the Summary of Capital Projects Update, the CBOC Quarterly Summary Report including details of the capital projects status, and the fourth quarter summary of expenses by college campus and project category.

Kathy Kyne expressed her concern that these summary reports did not contain enough detail to ascertain what bond expenditures were appropriate and what were not. She stated that when questions are raised at the community level it was difficult to respond when the committee was not given complete details of actual expenditures.

Robert Dias advised that since each project included hundreds of budget line items it would be impractical to get to any level of higher detail. The committee was assured that all expenditures charged to the bond typically fit within the project categories that are on the master project list at the College and District level.

Chancellor Cepeda indicated that while some expenditures were questionable in the recent past, the District took action to remove those expenses from bond fund expenditures.

In addition, it was mentioned that the bond fund expenditures and accounting methodology are subject to review by the annual external independent audit, which provides the committee with its findings included in the CBOC Annual Report.

7. Sub-Committee 2009-2010 Annual Report:

The committee proposed that the sub-committee be made up of the CBOC Committee Chair, Co-Chair and one other member. Ben White volunteered to serve on this sub-committee. If the Chair and Co-Chair cannot confirm membership on this committee, other members would have to consider volunteering to include three members.

It was decided that it would be advisable to determine when the report is due to be submitted to the Board of Trustees and work the schedule back from that date. It is also necessary to know when the annual external independent audit would be completed to include with the report.

8. New Bond Development:

Robert Dias advised to the committee that the San Jose Evergreen Community College District is considering the option of going out for a new G. O. Bond that could be placed on the November 2010 ballot. The Board of Trustees will be voting on this important issue at a special meeting scheduled for August 3<sup>rd</sup> 2010. The new bond is proposed to include projects that will complete the facility master plans for both college campuses and include infrastructure upgrades

focused on energy efficient projects. The intent is to establish bond funded projects that would reduce utility and other ongoing costs currently charged to the district general fund.

The committee expressed concern about the new bond; that it would take time planning to define the project needs and to generate support within the community. Tony Estremera stated that it is critical to ensure a thorough evaluation of the chance of success, otherwise it would not be worth going out in November.

Mr. Steve Kline provided an example in which the City of San Jose formed a local coalition of community involvement in a major development program where support was generated at the grass roots level. A similar approach could be adopted by SJECCD in its consideration and development of a comprehensive future bond program. Since this takes time, the District should rethink this important decision and reconsider November 2010.

9. Future Meeting Schedule:

The committee decided that future meetings in the next year must be scheduled in the months of October, January, April, and July. The committee agreed to tentatively schedule these meetings on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month noted. Locations will alternate by campus.

10. Motion to adjourn by Ben White, seconded by Hector Cortez.  
Motion carried, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Robert Dias

SJECCD Executive Director of Facilities, Construction Management & Operations