



**MINUTES
CITIZEN OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE
SOCORRO ISD
EDUCATION CENTER – BOARD ROOM
JULY 13, 2006 | 6:00 PM**

MEMBER PRESENT

Linda East, Co-Chairman; Herb De La Rosa, Co-Chairman; Robert Valles, Member; Victor H. Valdivia, Member; Christy Guereque, Member; David Amaya, Member; Betty Vigil, Member; Hector Muñoz, Member; Thomas A. Eyeington, Assistant Superintendent of Operational Services; Barry Edwards, Assistant Superintendent of Administrative Services; Juan Jaime, GIS Administrator; Gracie Tovar, Administrative Specialist II.

MEMBERS ABSENT

Dolores Acosta, Member; Ernest Ramirez, Member; Keenan Greseth, Member; Amelda Hermosillo, Member; Susan Hill, Member; Enedina Serna, Member

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mr. Herb De La Rosa, Co-Chairman.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Committee approved the minutes for the Citizen Oversight Committee Meeting held on January 12, 2006 & April 11, 2006.

SUMMARY OF 2004 BOND PROGRAM

A PowerPoint presentation of the 2004 Bond Projects was provided to the Committee. The presentation summarized the new construction, additions & renovations, major improvements & repair, land banking and technology, furniture & equipment.

Project	In Progress	Completed	Cost
New Construction	62%		\$132.5 Million
Additions & Renovations	12%	88%	\$19.5 Million
Major Improvements & Repairs	27%	30%	\$14.38 Million
Land Banking			\$4.4 Million
Technology, Furniture & Equip.	38%	10%	\$17.9 Million

NEW CONSTRUCTION

Ituarte Elementary School was completed

ADDITIONS & RENOVATIONS

Hueco addition is in the design phase and will start construction this fall.

Montwood High School is under construction.

MAJOR IMPROVEMENTS & REPAIRS

Mechanical and HVAC Upgrades are being done to various campuses throughout the District.

LAND BANKING

The District has not done anything on land banking.

TECHNOLOGY, FURNITURE & EQUIPMENT

Technology, furniture and equipment for new construction fall under this category.

Mr. De La Rosa asked Mr. Eyeington if projects were within budget. Mr. Eyeington referred to a PowerPoint presentation which shows that Desert Wind Addition, El Dorado H.S. Phase III, Loma Verde Addition and SAC Upgrade are under budget and ahead of schedule. Montwood High School Addition exceeded the budget because of the construction costs, but the District was able to proceed due to savings and contingency funds. On the Combo #4 in round numbers the District has saved about 1.2 million. The contractors are still working on Hernando. District might run into increased construction costs and would need to use some of the savings on future projects.

Mr. De La Rosa asked where the savings came from. Mr. Eyeington mentioned from buying the project after a GMP is established. Once the bids are out the District along with the design team, looks at various packages for any cost savings. Some of the saving comes from contingency funds that are not spent.

Mr. De La Rosa asked if the Montwood High School Addition included the ROTC Firing Range. Mr. Eyeington mentioned that the ROTC Firing Range is a separate project. The ROTC Firing Range will be a centralized project.

Socorro High School Upgrades consist of three phases. The first phase has been completed, which was within budget and had forty thousand in savings. The District is in the process of doing phase II, which is the remaining portion of the HVAC work. This project was a hard bid and came in under budget. The District is getting ready to award a roofing project which consists of a portion of the

cafeteria, locker rooms and gym. Under the 2004 Bond Program the District allocated 400,000.00 for the project, but it came in 100,000.00 under. After it has been awarded and a contract has been signed the re-roofing job would take about sixty-five days to complete.

Other projects that have been completed are the abatement projects at Robert R. Rojas and H.D. Hilley Elementary Schools.

Mr. De La Rosa asked if Robert R. Rojas & H.D. Hilley were the only two schools' that have been identified with asbestos. Mr. Eyeington mentioned that Robert R. Rojas & H.D. Hilley were the only two schools identified with asbestos. He also mentioned that phase III of the abatement will be conducted next year. Because the abatement has to be done during the summer intercession, phase I was done last year, phase II was done this year and phase III will be done next year.

The District has purchased a warehouse for the Alternative School/School of Choice. This warehouse is the replacement for K.E.Y.S. Academy. The District will convert roughly eighty thousand square feet and still have about thirty-two thousand square feet to grow into.

Mr. De La Rosa asked what the completion time is for Socorro High School Upgrade Phase II. Mr. Eyeington mentioned that the completion time is early spring.

The District is in negotiations on purchasing a site for Dr. Sue Shook School.

Mr. Amaya asked where the new site for the Education Center is located. Mr. Eyeington mentioned that the site for the New Education Center is located on Rojas Dr. It is the old CFI Facility. The District purchased 39.5 acres and 23 acres will be the new transportation facility and 12 acres for the Education Center.

Mr. Amaya mentioned that CFI had fueling stations. Mr. Eyeington mentioned that the District already converted the tanks and will be buying the gas at wholesale price.

Mr. De La Rosa asked if the District had done a projection on the savings for the fueling station. Mr. Eyeington mentioned before purchasing the site Mr. Bustamante did some projections along with Hector Silva, Director of Transportation. Mr. De La Rosa asked if he could see the projections. Mr. Eyeington will provide the projections to the Committee.

The District is feeling the effects of the raising on construction costs on some of the projects, while others have some savings. Overall the projects for 2004 Bond Programs have come within budget or under.

REPORT ON PROJECT ENROLLMENT

Mr. Edwards provided a report of the enrollment projections to the Committee. He showed the Committee the long term projected enrollment from 2000-01 through 2012-13 school year, an enrollment by campus and current population density. He explained that the largest growth is in pre-kindergarten, followed by kindergarten, then freshman students.

Mr. De La Rosa asked if the District could identify students that are related to military families. Mr. Edwards mentioned that he had a report that gives us the military (BRAC) students coming into the District. Mr. De La Rosa requested a copy of the report to look at the growth pattern.

Mr. Valdivia asked what would be the percentage of students who would be transferred from Paso Del Norte to Ituarte Elementary School. Mr. Edwards mentioned that one of his major functions is the overflow and the demographics in the District. He added that Ituarte Elementary will help with the overflow at Paso Del Norte, but the District still needs more elementary seats. Paso Del Norte is still very full, what he would consider a close campus. Anyone who is registering at Paso Del Norte is automatically transferred to Ituarte.

Mr. Valdivia asked if Hernando Middle School will be opening in December 2006. Mr. Eyeington mentioned that Hernando Middle School will not be opened until July 2007. The school will be completed by December of 2006, but will be used for overflow.

NEW BUSINESS

SUMMARY OF 2004 BOND (REMAINING PROJECTS)

The District has sold three different bonds. The first bond sale was for twenty-five million to start off the initial projects. Last year, the District sold ninety million dollars. The money is being used for projects that are underway. In round numbers the District has about seventy-four million left to make up the \$188,680,000.00 of the 2004 Bond Program. The remaining construction projects are as follows:

- 9th Grade Center
- Prek – 5th School
- Combo School
- ROTC Firing Range
- Land Banking
- Miscellaneous Project

Mr. De La Rosa asked if the District had identified a location for the ROTC Center. Mr. Eyeington responded that the District had not yet determined a location for the ROTC facility.

Mr. De La Rosa asked if there was a priority list on the above referenced projects. Mr. Eyeington mentioned the priority might be the prek-5th school due to the need in pre-kindergarten and kindergarten seats. The site for the prek – 5th school has been reserved. The site has all the utilities and streets. This would be a school that the District could start on immediately. The combo school and the 9th Grade Center would follow. Mr. Eyeington expressed that he would like to work on all three project's at one time because of the need.

SELECTION OF NEW HIGH SCHOOL SITE

Mr. Eyeington and Mr. Edwards provided maps showing the potential sites for the new high school. The first site is in the area that is owned by Hunt Communities. The problem with the site is the master plan for the area is not completed. This situation will delay the construction of the high school and will not be completed within the time frame that the District needs. The developer has suggested a different site, but the site has no infrastructure and this site would cost the District an extensive amount to develop and build the school. The third site is an alternate and is located in the area owned by Doug Schwartz.

NEXT MEETING

The next Citizen's Oversight Committee Meetings has been tentatively scheduled for October 19, 2006, January 11, 2007 and April 12, 2007.

ADJOURNED: 7:25 P.M.