

The Bond Oversight Committee met July 23, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. in the conference room at the district's Mountain View site located at 5780 Hendrickson Road, Ferndale.

1. CONVENE

1.01 Call to Order

Riley Cornelsen called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m.

1.02 Roll Call

Committee members present: Riley Cornelsen, Mark Harting, Sandi McMillan and Ryan Kimball. Alternate member Brian Lynch was also present.

Also present were Ferndale School District's Assistant Superintendent Mark Deebach, Construction Services Group Representatives Tex Ladish and Heidi Hansen, and Ferndale School Board Member Andrew McLaurin.

1.03 Adopted the Agenda

Mark Harting moved to adopt the agenda. Sandi McMillan seconded the motion. Motion passed.

2. MATTERS FOR COMMITTEE ACTION

2.01 Approved Minutes

Mark Harting moved to approve the May 21, 2019 meeting minutes as attached hereto and made a part of the minutes. Ryan Kimball seconded the motion. Motion passed.

2.02 Alternate Member Selection

Member Ryan Kimball informed the committee that he will be moving out of the school district and is no longer eligible to serve on the committee.

Committee members considered and discussed the selection of an alternate member. Riley Cornelsen suggested that Brian Lynch be designated as a voting member from an alternate member.

Riley Cornelsen moved to appoint Brian Lynch as a voting member of the committee. Mark Harting seconded the motion. Motion passed.

In order to fill the vacant alternate member position, Sandi McMillan suggested that the committee again advertise it is seeking an additional alternate member. Committee members agreed. It was also agreed the committee would consider the appointment of the alternate member at its September meeting.

Riley Cornelsen suggested that applications be placed on the district website, as in the past, available at the district's street fair booth and be shared with applicants of the Design Advisory Committee. Sandi McMillan also requested that the committee and district look at ways to connect with diverse segments in the committee. Mark Deebach said the district will assist with these requests.

3. OLD BUSINESS

3.01 Update on the Development of a Dashboard for the Work of the Committee

Committee members discussed the dashboard on the district's website for community members to view the work of the committee. They made suggestions of having the following information on the site: committee's agendas, notices and minutes; budget information and a timeline. They suggested the information be presented in the simplest format as possible.

Mark Deebach said he would bring a couple sample dashboard concepts to the committee for its review at its August meeting.

Committee members said they have heard positive comments about the weekly bond updates that are being shared.

4. MATTERS FOR COMMITTEE REVIEW

4.01 Reviewed Bond Related Spending for June 2019

Mark Deebach reported there was no bond related spending in June. He did note that in July there were a few expenses for consultants. Those will be included in the July budget report that the committee will review in August.

Mark Harting asked about the sale of the recent bonds. Mark Deebach reported the district sold \$39 million in bonds which provide \$47 million in funds to the district. The district was able to sell them at a lower rate than promised. Monies have been deposited in the district's account to start earning interest.

Also, Mark Deebach briefed the committee on the changes the legislature has enacted with regard to the levy lid, staff benefits, class size funding and more. Further, he noted the Ferndale School Board is drafting a letter to the state legislature about the impact on school districts. The board is hoping other Whatcom County school district boards will add their endorsement to the letter.

- 4.02 Received an Update on Items Related to the Bond from Ferndale School District and Construction Services Group about: Ferndale High School, critical maintenance needs and safety / security needs.

Ferndale High School

Heidi Hanson and Tex Ladish reviewed some of the items that are occurring with regard to the new high school—surveying, geotesting, archeology study, traffic, hazmat and more.

Riley Cornelsen asked if the district had heard from the city regarding “Old Main.” Mark Deebach said the district has asked the city to provide an answer to the district by August 31, 2019 as to whether or not the city wants to acquire the “Old Main” building.

Heidi Hanson reported the district will be attending a hearing this week about its use of a GC/CM model. Also, she reported the district is working on a contract with Dykeman, architect for the project.

Riley Cornelsen asked when work would begin on the high school. Heidi Hanson said actual physical work is scheduled for June 2021. She said a longer visioning process was put on the schedule in order to make sure the community is given opportunity to be involved in that. It also allows time for discussions with focus groups such as staff and students.

Critical Maintenance

Tex Ladish reported that inspections has been done of the Central, Custer and Vista sites. Initial reports are due tomorrow for these schools.

Sandi McMillan said that during Bond Task Force meetings, a list of maintenance needs was presented by the district’s maintenance department. Is that list still current? Tex Ladish said he wasn’t sure if the list remains the same as what was presented to the task force. Mark Deebach said it’s the district’s commitment that if anything varies from the list that was presented to the committee, the district will bring it to the Bond Oversight Committee.

Safety and Security

Tex Ladish reported walks with the architect have been made at each of the district's facilities. One of the priorities is looking at access control.

On another note, Brian Lynch asked if the district would consider having businesses and individuals sponsor certain projects. Mark Deebach said the school board has discussed that matter in the past. He said he would take it to the board at their next meeting and report back to the committee.

Riley Cornelsen asked about when the school board would like a report from the committee. It was decided that the committee will provide a report in September.

Mark Deebach reported that at the next school board meeting a resolution is being brought forward that authorizes the GC/CM process.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

4.01 Receive Public Comment
No public comment was received.

6. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

The next meeting of the committee is scheduled for August 20, 2019. The agenda and materials for the meeting will be available to the committee for review one week in advance of the meeting.