

**CITIZENS' OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE  
OF THE PALM SPRINGS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
150 District Center Drive  
Palm Springs, CA 92264

June 7, 2021 – 4:30 pm  
Conducted via Zoom

**REGULAR MEETING  
MINUTES**

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 4:31 pm by Member Abercrombie.

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Member Abercrombie led the pledge of allegiance.

3. **ROLL CALL (Establishment of a Quorum)**

Roll call was conducted at 5:18 pm and a quorum established by Member Abercrombie.

Members present:     Mark Abercrombie (Chair)  
                              Scott Fenton (Co-chair)  
                              Richard Clapp  
                              Linda Scudder

Members absent:     Jane Lescure  
                              Helene Kalfuss

District staff present:   Brian J. Murray, Ed.D., Assistant Superintendent, Business Services  
                                  Julie Arthur, Executive Director, Facilities Planning Development  
                                  Kristina Murphy, Senior Administrative Assistant, Business Services

Public present:       None

4. **PUBLIC COMMENTS (solicited online and in writing 72 hours prior to the meeting)**

None

5. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Member Clapp made a motion and member Fenton second to approve the COC Regular Meeting Minutes from February 8, 2021. The committee unanimously agreed.

6. **BOND EXPENDITURE REPORTS**

The committee reviewed the quarterly expenditure reports provided by the district.

7. **UPDATE ON DISTRICT FACILITIES PROJECTS**

Julie gave an update on the current bond projects:

**Agua Caliente Elementary Modernization**

Project is complete. \$165K moved back into the bonds fund.

**DLA 500 Building Remodel**

Project still on hold. Has seismic and flooding issues. Meeting with new cabinet in July for direction.

**DHSHS Locker Room HVAC**

The swamp cooler system is being replaced with HVAC units. The design for this project is complete and has gone out to bid. We are looking for the project to be awarded at the Board of Education meeting on February 23, 2021. Project completion is slated for the end of summer.

**Elementary Parking Lot Renovation projects**

- Cathedral City Elementary – project 100% complete.
- Rio Vista Elementary – project 100% complete.
- Della Lindley Elementary – project 100% complete.

**Facilities Master Plan**

The California Department of Education requires California school districts to prepare and/or update their Facilities Master Plan (FMP) for their district every five years. Projects are prioritized with high priority going to safety and security of campuses and buildings with aging infrastructure.

**Fire/Alarm System Replacement**

The fire alarm system replacement has been incorporated into the modernization projects for James Workman, Cathedral City High, Landau and Sunny Sands elementary schools.

**M&O Bond Projects**

There are a series of projects currently underway, including the drinking fountain replacement project, which is in the last phase, (phase 5), asphalt work at various sites and roofing projects.

**Nellie Coffman Chiller**

Project is complete. The remaining funds were moved back into the bond general fund and have been reallocated to another project.

**Palm Springs High School Seismic**

Palm Springs High School Seismic Building Renovations project includes 5 buildings that were built prior to 1980 that are on the AB 300 list and need seismic upgrades:

- Library
- Cafeteria
- Gymnasium new ADA bleacher compliant bleachers.
- 500 Building
- Multi-purpose Room

The addition of a new mini gym is complete and ready for use. Finishing up concrete work in front of the main gym. ASB, kitchen and dining areas are also close to completion. We were able to take advantage of students not being on campus and have saved close to \$700K on interim housing. Demo has begun on the existing gym, (should be completed in December 2021). Storm drain system completely redone, which will take care of flooding concerns on campus.

**Elementary School Shade Structures**

Project is complete. Finishing up with planting trees on every campus which will provide additional shade.

**Palm Springs High School Chiller**

Palm Springs High School Chiller project is underway. Funding for this project was allocated with let over funds from the Nellie Coffman Chill project.

Brian shared renderings for the proposed 1 and 2 story buildings for the modernization projects at Landau and Sunny Sands Elementary schools.

Julie asked members for questions:

Member Abercrombie asked if the PSHS auditorium chiller replacement would be the same project type as the NNC chiller project.

Member Clapp commented that the Agua Caliente modernization project came in higher than projected and asked if the Palm Springs High School seismic project is going to stay under budget?

- Julie stated that it should.

Brian asked Julie to elaborate on why ACES modernization project came in over budget.

- Julie explained that students remained on campus while we essentially flipped the campus around. With the extended time of construction needed, prices went up in cost as the project progressed. The project was completely new construction unlike PSHS modernization.

Member Abercrombie asked what the hopes are for replacing metal modular buildings that are still on the campus at Sunny Sands ES, wood vs. steel framed?

- Julie stated that we are assessing our options to make that decision now.

8. **COC VACANCIES**

Member Abercrombie noted that Member Jane Lescure resigned from her seat due to health concerns. We are actively recruiting for the following positions:

- Taxpayer Organization Representative
- Parent/Guardian of a PSUSD Student and Active in PTO/PTA/PTG/ Site Council

Brian asked if members have recommendations, to please forward names to the Business Services office or direct them to the website to complete an application for consideration.

9. **DISCUSSION OF FUTURE COC MEETING DATE**

The next COC Regular Board meeting will be held Monday, October 18, 2021, at Palm Springs High School from 6pm-7pm. We will convene for a Special Meeting and project tour at 4:30 pm. Dinner will be provided upon conclusion of the tour.

Member Clapp – encourages meeting at different sites for the committee to see projects that are underway or that have been completed.

10. **ADJOURNMENT**

Member Abercrombie asked for a motion to adjourn. Member Fenton made a motion to adjourn and Member Clapp second; all in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 5:14 pm.

Minutes approved on October 18, 2021, during the Regular Meeting.

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Chair Mark Abercrombie  
Co-Chair Scott Fenton

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Chair Mark Abercrombie  
Co-Chair Scott Fenton

— meeting changed  
to  
November 1,  
21