

Citizens Oversight Committee
Minutes
February 27, 2023

At approximately 5:09 p.m., Cathi Eredia, Citizens' Oversight Committee (COC) Chair greeted everyone present. Ms. Eredia called roll and a quorum was reached. The meeting was called to order and Ms. Eredia conducted the meeting.

1. Introductions:
 - a. Roll Call

Present:

- Pablo Tamashiro
- Luis Aguilar
- Cathi Eredia
- Joanna Haro (5:17 pm)
- Cynthia Arredondo
- Erica Mondragon
- Jennifer Cobian

Absent:

- Heidi Carrillo
- Julia Ruedas-Alternate

b. Flag Salute: led by Pablo Tamashiro

c. Approval of Agenda:

A motion was made by Pablo Tamashiro and seconded by Erica Mondragon to approve the agenda for February 27, 2023.

6 Ayes 0 Nos 0 Abstained 3 Absent

Ms. Eredia thanked everyone in attendance. She stated the reason the meeting was called was to discuss the action taken by the Board to cancel the DLR Group in which 1.1 million dollars from the bond have been used and will now be wasted. It is now up to the district to see what they can do to recoup it. This COC is an independent meeting outside the Board and administration. By law, we have to enforce oversight over the bond dollars being spent as the bond money has restricted use. We can hire an attorney to represent this group to make sure the board is doing what they are supposed to do.

Ms. Eredia asked if Zuzanna Tkaczow, the District's attorney could comment on what was going on. She stated she was only in attendance to observe and listen to the meeting.

Ms. Eredia said the COC needs a separate attorney, not the District's. The District will incur the fees for the attorney. She asked if the committee was ok moving forward to hire an attorney.

Pablo Tamashiro, COC Co-Chair, asked what will happen to what is left of the bond money since we're not using it for this project. Wael Elatar, Chief Business Official, said we will be using the bond dollars for other projects. It will be used for all the approved board projects. Mr. Tamashiro asked if we convince the Board to change their mind, can we move forward with the project? Mr. Elatar said it is suspended right now but yes, we could move forward with the project, but as of right now the project has been stopped as directed by the Board. If we move forward with DSA approval, the District will have four years to start construction with the approved plan. If we exceed the four years, the District will have to resubmit.

Jennifer Cobian, COC member, asked how long the contract with Pasadena City College (PCC) is for. Mr. Elatar stated the existing contract is set to expire on June 30, 2023, and the District is currently negotiating a new contract as directed by the Board. The initial contract was a 7-year contract which expired June 2020, and the Board directed a short-term contract for two years that expires June 2023.

A discussion regarding the Adult Ed. program took place regarding enrollment, funding, and history. Ms. Eredia asked if