



HOOD RIVER COUNTY
SCHOOL DISTRICT
Excellence. Every student. Every day.

Finance Advisory and Bond Oversight Committee Minutes
November 21, 2019

Committee Members:

Present: Dr. Sara Hahn-Huston, Sandra Buchanan, Chrissy Reitz, Rich Truax, Kelly Beard, Brent Emmons, Rich Polkinghorn, Michael McElwee, Jesus Becerra, Nancy Rowley, and Charlene Ames. Sandra Bielen came at 4:13. Brief introductions were made.

Absent: David Russo

Welcome & Call to Order – 4:10 pm

Dr. Sara Hahn-Huston called the meeting to order at 4:10 pm on November 21, 2019, in the conference room at Hood River Valley High School, 1220 Indian Creek Road, Hood River, OR 97031.

Public Comment

Sandra Buchanan opened the meeting for public comment, but there were no comments shared.

Reports & Discussions – 4:11 pm

Bond project report – 4:11 pm

Cascade Locks: Concrete island in place to increase student safety. Installed a one-way sign to help with traffic flow. An upcoming ODOT project will interface with the Cascade Locks Elementary School parking lot revision (may remove a stop sign). Vestibule is being worked on. The future work involves rekeying the doors, some carpet installation, replacing some damaged ceiling tiles, and fixing some items in the covered playground.

May Street Elementary School: The parking lot paving was able to be completed before winter weather set in. The bus loop is being completed and light poles are being put in place in the near future. It will be ready for use soon. Safety for pedestrians was discussed and a plan is in place to protect them.

Next steps for May Street Elementary School: The play fields will be winterized to protect the soil against erosion until spring when the fields will be seeded. Sod was discussed, but it will not save as much time to be worth the cost of sod. Seeding the field will cause a stronger lawn to take root and be more cost effective. The heating and cooling are being monitored and adjusted as needed. Much of the control can be done through the computer program. One issue that has been addressed is the

ventilation in the gym. The air flow has been increased so that any fumes are not trapped inside the building. It will continue to be monitored.
The remaining ADA ramps will be installed.

Hood River Middle School: the new entry project was covered to highlight the changes which will occur. The main security feature is that the entry will be facing May Street and most classes will be able to be traveled to inside the building. The new entry will be ADA compliant. The old entries will be for exit use only. A new classroom is being created. The north side of the building was analyzed and there was a need for renovation of the restrooms. They will be added for staff, parents, and students will be able to use them. The estimate of costs was provided – after many deliberations, the project was able to be estimated within the budget constraints.

Hood River Valley High School: A hallway is being added to connect the shop/CTE rooms to the main building. Wood shop, some plumbing access, and some gas access will be added. Shop area will have easy access to changing rooms so students who need to change can engage in shop class. The hope was to remove the need to change as a barrier of entry. There will be room for the Gorge Fab bus. Additional natural lighting will be added with windows and making use of existing skylights. Overhead doors were added so the projects students work on are able to be moved in and out of the building more efficiently. The project is within the budget.

Financial Report – 4:59 pm

COSA summary of finances. Since the September forecast, lottery fund revenues have increased, median household incomes in Oregon have risen to more than the national average for the first time in 40 years.

The audit has been finished, and the official report will be done by the end of 2019. There is a big push to get reports and data submitted/files and review comments from the auditors.

Total operating revenue was very close to 100%. About 27% of our monies are in and the budget is on target as planned. Last year the budget was spent with 4% left in the account. Instruction and Support Services are mostly salaries for employees. For salaries and capital outlay (and other expenditures) 96% of the budget was spent in the 2018-19 school year. About 84% of the overall budget is spent on salary and benefits for employees.

For the bond projects report, the finances spent are right on target for the commitment made for the bond. About 93% of bond proceeds have been spent as of October 31, 2019. The timing of the bond was very good – interest rates were very low on almost the whole life of the projects.

Discussion was made about how to make the communication known of the excellent progress the bond projects have had to the whole community. The grants that were added

to the bond and good will of the community to bring it about is a very positive report. Some ideas were shared about how to spread the word about the great things that have been accomplished through the bond.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:40 pm by Dr. Hahn-Huston.

SB:cw