

ESPLOST COMMUNITY OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE – MEETING SUMMARY

Meeting Date: September 12, 2023 8:30 am in Room 136, BOE HQ, 595 Prince Avenue.

Attendees: Alex Sams Andrew Malec Tad MacMillan Leara Rhodes
Nancy Hart Erwin Greene Greg Davis Ana-Maria Neal
Mark Evans Garrick Askew John Gilbreath Troy Basset
Gerald Arscott

Staff Reports: Copies of the following were distributed prior to the meeting:

- August, 2023 Meeting Summary
- September, 2023 ESPLOST Monthly Report
- September, 2023 ESPLOST Contingency/Change Order Report
- September, 2023 ESPLOST Construction Schedule
- July, 2023 ESPLOST 5 Financials
- July, 2023 ESPLOST 5 Budget Projections
- July, 2023 ESPLOST 6 Financials
- July, 2023 ESPLOST 6 Budget Projections

Mark Evans stated that he would be unable to attend the October – December meetings due to health reasons, but he anticipated that a substitute would take his place.

West Broad Campus: This will be considered further at the October BOE retreat.

Old Gaines - Roof: Pictures were shown of the work, which is progressing. The roof is on and the coping and storm drainage is now being done. AC units for the corridor will be re-installed this week. After the EIFS is installed, the gutters and down pipes will then be done, and the remaining air units put back in place.

Clarke Central HS Roof: The roof is on and coping and down spouts are being done. Masonry is about 50% complete.

BOE HQ: Sale of the Hill Street property will close on September 21. The BOE will consider an offer of \$779,000 for the Prince Avenue property this week. The sewer lines to the properties have been separated; re-location of water meters remains to be done. All work will then be completed with a fence to separate the properties.

Clarke Middle School: Steel work has been completed, the entrance slab is being poured and roof trusses are being installed. Overall the project is on schedule. Further discussions are to be held with AT&T to ensure that lines to the site are appropriately programmed. A change order for \$280,568 will be considered by the BOE this week. This is for electrical work hooking up the modular buildings. This work is normally done separate from the main construction contract and funded from the owner's contingency but, in this instance, it proved to be more complex and was therefore performed by the contractor's electrical sub-contractor.

School C/Easom: Student numbers continue to be monitored for any trends that may indicate a future need to go ahead with either of these. Student numbers will be next updated in October.

Cedar Shoals Fieldhouse: All work is now complete. Radio boosters to the 800 MHz radio system have been installed and the County now has to carry out tests.

Cedar Shoals School Renovation: the BOE approved Carroll Daniel as the CM at Risk contractor. Work is now being done on the phasing of the project, with a view to Phase 1 drawings being ready to bid in October for a January 1 start date. There will be critical items for completion during two summers. 9th grade students will be moved to modular classrooms in the parking lot.

There was more general discussion on how decisions as to which projects will proceed are made. It was explained that this is driven by the age of the buildings and building systems and program requirements. The project list is developed as part of the planning for a new ESPLOST referendum and put forward by the Superintendent to the BOE. Historically, additional minor projects have been brought forward when it has been determined that there are surplus funds.

HT Edwards Culinary Kitchen: All the equipment has been installed and the health inspector is due to visit shortly. One of the HVAC rooftop units is delayed until the end of September so there is a delay in the kitchen being available. Classrooms are not affected and classes have commenced with approximately 40 students.

Facilities Review: Work is being done on nine elementary school gymnasium floors. The Timothy Road playground is being updated, to include ADA equipment. Funding for this work is from the general fund.

Transportation & Technology: An application has been made for a grant for EV and propane buses. The technology department is working on their program to upgrade all projectors during summer 2024.

COC Membership: Alex Sams encouraged members to continue to seek out candidates to join the Committee.

Sales Tax Revenue: The July collection was \$3.1m. Notice was also received from the State that, due to a computer coding problem, the District had been underpaid by \$228,227 for the period September, 2022 through August 18, 2023.

Post Meeting Note: It was subsequently determined that this was included in the \$3.1m July collection, received at the end of August.

Future Meetings

Future meetings are scheduled for:

October 10, 2023

November 14, 2023

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 am.