

## ESPLOST COMMUNITY OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE – MEETING SUMMARY

**Meeting Date:** November 14, 2023 8:30 am in Room 123, BOE HQ, 595 Prince Avenue.

**Attendees:**

Alex Sams	Andrew Malec	Tad MacMillan	Leara Rhodes
Erwin Greene	Smith Wilson	Greg Davis	Ana-Maria Neal
Patricia Jager	Niki Jones	Garrick Askew	John Gilbreath
Troy Bassett	Gerald Arscott		

Patricia Jager was in attendance, substituting for Mark Evans who was absent for health reasons.

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

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

**West Broad Campus:** ACC, in conjunction with the Land Trust, have made a proposal, which the BOE is considering. There is no ESPLOST involvement, so this item will be removed from the agenda.

**Old Gaines - Roof:** This work is now completed, so it will be removed from the agenda.

**Clarke Central HS Roof:** This work is now completed, so it will be removed from the agenda.

**BOE HQ:** Sale of the two houses has been completed. Relocation of a water meter, water lines and sewer lines, required for the separation of the properties, and erection of a boundary fence has all been completed. No further action has been proposed for Ellard Hall at this point. ESPLOST work has been completed, so this item will be removed from the agenda.

**Clarke Middle School:** Progress photos were shown. The project is progressing well and on schedule for summer, 2024 occupancy. Brickwork is about 50% complete and the schedule is to have the building dried in, with temporary heat in December. Discussions have been held with teaching staff concerning furniture. There is standard furniture across middle schools for general classroom furniture. A “topping out” event was held recently, giving the opportunity for Board Members and school administrators to view the building. A staff tour is planned for December. COC asked if they could be given a tour, without causing any disruption to the works. Proposals have been put forward for some solar energy capacity at the campus. Consideration is being given to installing solar panels on the barn, the intention being for this to be an educational project. There was a general discussion on energy conservation and the place of solar energy in buildings. This will be considered by the Sustainability Committee being established by the BOE.

**School C/Easom:** October student numbers indicate that overall numbers are steady, with an increase in high school students, but a drop in middle schools.

**Cedar Shoals Fieldhouse:** All work is now complete. This item will be removed from the agenda.

**Cedar Shoals School Renovation:** Bids for phase 1 have been issued for return in November. The intention is to report mechanical bids to the Board in December, to ensure early ordering of any items with long lead times and to report the remaining bids to the Board in January. The modular classrooms have been installed and work is currently under way for necessary connections to be made; 9<sup>th</sup> grade will occupy them from January.

**HT Edwards Culinary Kitchen:** All work is complete. This item will be removed from the agenda. Plans will be made to hold a future COC meeting there.

**Facilities Review:** It is planned for HVAC systems in five schools to be replaced in summer 2023. This is at the design stage and creating a bid package. Funding is to be from ESPLOST.

Consideration is being given to creating a bio-manufacturing lab at HT Edwards. If this is to go ahead it will entail bids in January, for a design and build project to be carried out in summer 2024.

**Transportation & Technology:** A decision on the bid for grants for EV buses is awaited.

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

**Sales Tax Revenue:** The September collection was \$3.41m, a record high.

#### **Future Meetings**

Future meetings are scheduled for:

December 12, 2023

January 9, 2024

The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 am.