

ESPLOST COMMUNITY OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE – MEETING SUMMARY

Meeting Date: February 13, 2023 8:30 am at the Culinary Kitchen, HT Edwards.

Attendees:

Alex Sams	Rick Parker	Mike Waldrip	Smith Wilson
Leara Rhodes	Erwin Greene	Tad MacMillan	Greg Davis
Mark Evans	Robbie Hooker	Chris Griner	John Gilbreath
Troy Bassett	Gerald Arscott		

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

- January, 2024 Meeting Summary
- February, 2024 ESPLOST Monthly Report
- February, 2024 ESPLOST Contingency/Change Order Report
- February, 2024 ESPLOST Construction Schedule
- December, 2023 ESPLOST 5 Financials
- December, 2023 ESPLOST 5 Budget Projections
- December, 2023 ESPLOST 6 Financials
- December, 2023 ESPLOST 6 Budget Projections

Clarke Middle School: Pictures of the site were shown. The project is progressing and on schedule. The three-storey building is closed in. Switchgear, which is a critical supply chain challenge, has been delivered and the gas contract for the main new supply has been agreed. The choice of finishes throughout the new building was discussed and agreed by the Local Building Committee. The furniture purchase for Phase 1 was approved at the February BOE meeting and has been ordered. A question was asked about the boundary marker adjacent to the cemetery not being visible. It is likely that it is low to the ground. The boundary/property line will be located in order to erect the fence along that line.

There was a wider discussion of solar power and sustainability issues. Erwin Greene reported on his involvement on the Sustainability Committee. The possibility of using solar panels on the Clarke Middle Barn has been pursued, but it is too expensive relative to the barn consumption. It is also being investigated for the Cedar Shoals renovations e.g. for the new ROTC building. Fixed panels on roofs is far less efficient than solar arrays, which automatically track the movement of the sun. The report of the Sustainability Committee will go to the BOE and likely be reflected in policy documents for future building development. Given the likely impact of this work on future ESPLOST funded projects it was agreed that this should be a separate agenda item on the COC agenda.

Cedar Shoals School Renovation: Pictures of the site were shown. The phase 1 GMP of \$25.7m was agreed by the February BOE. Phase 2 is currently being designed. Demolition work is largely completed. As part of an effort to broaden the use of minority owned sub-contractors the main contractor, Carroll Daniel, and SPLOST staff held a session at which the nature of the work available at Cedar Shoals would be explained. In spite of widespread publicity no-one attended the session.

HT Edwards Bio-Manufacturing Lab: The February BOE meeting approved Grahl Construction as the contractor at a cost of \$853,235. The requirements for the work have been derived from discussions

with representatives from bio-manufacturing industries, Athens Technical College and UGA. Work is to be completed in the summer.

BOE – Ellard Hall: The Superintendent reported that he had met with Gwen O’Looney. The Superintendent emphasized that he would not locate any CCSD staff in the building in the future until it had been fully renovated and brought up to standards.

Facilities Review:

HVAC Systems: Proposals to renew the HVAC equipment at five schools are currently out to bid. The outcome will be reported to the March BOE. These are schools that have been identified by Plant Services as having significant HVAC repair/performance problems.

Whiteboards: Proposals for the replacement of Whiteboards at 13 sites, to bring them up to current standards, are out to bid for report to the BOE in March.

Facilities Review: School C & Easom: No change in student enrollment which would require these facilities to be constructed.

Transportation & Technology: Projectors will be replaced this summer across the District as part of the routine replacement program.

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

Sales Tax Revenue: The November collection was \$3.43m, the highest ever. The audit report for FY22, produced by the State Audit Office has been received and is “clean”. At the February BOE meeting a certificate was presented to John Gilbreath recognizing 12 years of clean audit reports. The work required to obtain a positive audit is a team effort by all E-Splost employees including Gerald Arscott, Troy Bassett and Purchasing coordinator Veronica Jackson.

Future Meetings

Future meetings are scheduled for:

March 12, 2024

April 9, 2024

The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 am, following which breakfast was served by students at the Culinary Kitchen.