



# WCCUSD

## CITIZEN'S BOND OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

Kathy Fleming  
Vice Chairperson

Don Gosney  
Chairperson

Cameron Moore  
Secretary

### **CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

**07/30/18**

#### **Part 1**

**At the Board meeting of June 27, 2018 I reported on behalf of the CBOC. Here is the text of my report:**

The CBOC met twice since my last report and at our May meeting the role of the CBOC was brought up by the Board Liaison. There was a difference of opinion between the CBOC and the liaison that necessitated further discussion.

At the CBOC meeting last week we initiated a discussion and we expect for the subject to be brought up again at subsequent meetings. The CBOC members were asked to give it some thought, look up Board policies, Ed Code directives and even Prop 39 language so when it's brought up at our next meeting we can have a conversation where we're armed with actual facts.

I believe the consensus of the CBOC was that no one would want to continue to serve on any oversight committee where they're expected to either sit back and accept anything and everything or to rubber stamp the actions of the Board and the District staff carrying out their directives.

We're also trying to set up some dates and times where the CBOC and members of the public might be able to visit some of the schools that need work and the schools where bond dollars are being spent.

We're told, though, that allowing members of the public to join in on a site visit that is actually required to be a public meeting might be logistically challenging. Because the site belongs to the construction company, the District would need permission for the CBOC and the public to visit. We can't really exclude the public and be in compliance with the Brown Act but if we insist that the public be allowed on the site visit, we might expect that the contractor could bar even the CBOC from doing their jobs by denying a site visit.

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We have some logistical issues to work out and we need to do this quickly before the summer's over.

Timing all around has been an issue with vacations, personal days off and being extremely short staffed being just some of the roadblocks that make what would seem like a simple task a daunting task.

Because our regularly scheduled CBOC meeting of July 25<sup>th</sup> conflicts with a freshly scheduled meeting by the Board—a meeting where the Board liaisons, the public and the CBOC all need to be in attendance—the CBOC took the high road and elected to reschedule their meeting. Our rescheduled meeting will be held on Monday July 30<sup>th</sup>. Everyone is invited.

The District is required to support the CBOC but because of severe funding issues, we're all looking at ways that we might be able to cut the cost of that support.

The CBOC Chairperson (me) has volunteered to put the agenda packet together saving a considerable amount of staff time. The CBOC Secretary has volunteered to take the minutes—once again saving the District considerable staff time.

To cut down on printing costs for the agenda packet—often between 100-150 pages each—many of the individual CBOC members will be using their own laptops or tablets instead of requiring printed packets. I've spoken with Lisa LeBlanc about the possibility of getting a small number of older tablets preloaded with the packet for those CBOC members and the public that won't have their own devices.

Please take note that the CBOC is doing it's share—we're doing what we can to minimize the costs associated with the CBOC. Putting together the agenda packets and handling the minutes can easily save the District 35 man-days per year. It may not seem like much but it's about 1/7<sup>th</sup> of a Full Time Employee. A little here and a little there and pretty soon you can outfit a handful of classes with paper for a year.

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The Board should have two applications to process for some of the vacancies. We still need help filling vacancies on spots designated for the Building Trades Council, and residents of Pinole, Richmond and two from the unincorporated areas.

And lastly, the CBOC is in the process of updating their By-Laws so they accurately reflect the current laws, Board policies and even how the CBOC conducts their affairs. This will be a long and time consuming process but long overdue and necessary.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ron Gosney". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial 'R' and a long, sweeping tail on the 'y'.



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### **CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

**07/30/18**

#### **Part 2**

**At the Board meeting of July 25, 2018 I reported on behalf of the CBOC. Here is the text of my report:**

Since I last reported to the Board and the public here and at home the CBOC hasn't had a chance to meet.

We were scheduled to meet tonight but when the Board changed their schedule and there was a conflict, we took the high ground and rescheduled our July meeting so it will be held next Monday evening at the Facilities Building at 1400 Marina Way South here in Richmond. The meeting will commence at 6:30 PM. The public is welcome.

We are continuing the slow process of updating our By-Laws so they comply with Board policies, the laws of the land as well as common sense.

We are finalizing the 2017 Annual Report and hope to have it made public in just a few weeks.

We are also actively scheduling site visits of the projects being worked on or may be worked on in the foreseeable future.

Before Pinole Valley High School is completed, though, we want to tour both the inside and outside.

Work on Wilson Elementary will commence next week so we want to see what it looks like now so we'll have a better feel for it's condition and the need for it to be razed and replaced.

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We're hearing from the school communities surrounding both Lake and Fairmont Elementary Schools so we're scheduling visits to both sites. On both of those tours we want to ensure that there are parents and teachers with us because they can be the greatest sources of information to learn where the real problems are. A drive-by visit won't suffice.

When the CBOC visited Pinole Middle School, it was the teachers that took us aside that showed us things we otherwise never would have seen.

We have a strong interest from the community to visit Pinole Valley High but because the contractor technically owns the \$200 million site that we're paying for, they have concerns about allowing people on the site that they don't have to let on site. Our first visit will likely be limited to CBOC members only but there's a chance that we can invite a small number of members of the public at a later date. There will always be safety concerns when civilians are allowed on construction sites and one thing we know for sure and for certain is that everybody has access to an attorney. If someone gets hurt, the lawsuit is likely to be filed before they get to their car so the attorneys for the contractors are telling them to lock the gates and keep the civilians at arm's length. Compromises need to be made on both sides—especially if any contractor wants a second bite at the apple if there are more projects they want to be a part of.

We are, of course, reviewing the finances of the Bond Program as much as possible with the limited information available to us. Staff is so short handed these days there's hardly anyone left to serve as support for the CBOC. We understand that with all of the lawsuits, ballot measures and the new contract for District Staff that the belt needs to be tightened. We're doing what we can to help out because, in the long run, we're all in this together.

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We're still actively working to fill the vacancies on the CBOC. We're still looking for community members to represent Pinole, Richmond, two from the unincorporated areas and one from the Building Trades Council.

Just last week the Facilities Subcommittee met and interviewed one person to fill the Parent or Guardian position. We still have an application on file to fill the Employee Unions position.

In September we're scheduled to host a joint meeting with the Board. We'll see if we can make some progress at that meeting on bridging the divide that seems to separate the two bodies.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ron Gosney". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping 'G' at the end.