

Local Planning Committee Meeting

April 19, 2016

5:30 pm

In attendance: Mike Genton, Kerrie Stewart, Sharon James, Debbie Beeles, Danny Black, Kristy Center, Shelly Ginn, Angela Brown, Carolee Kunkel, Chris Abbott, Jodi Ginn, Jessica Wilcoxson, Melissa West, Betsy Liston, Todd Pollock, JW Sachleben, Christy Cull, Paula Ames, Todd Bryan, and Steve Miracle.

1. The April 19, 2016 meeting of the Local Planning Committee was called to order by Chairperson Shelly Ginn at 5:36 pm at BES following the tour of TCHS. The next meeting will be on Monday, April 25th at Milton Elementary at 5:30 beginning with the walk-through of the building.
2. Minutes to the April 12, 2016 meeting were read and approved. No additions or corrections to the minutes.
3. Meeting was turned over to facilitator Mark Ryles.
4. Dr. Robert Tarvin from Ross Sinclair and Associates (in lieu of Joe Nance) presented Bonding information to the committee.
 - a. Restricted Capital Revenue is money that can only be used for building purposes (this is separate from General Fund Revenue that is used for educational expenses controlled by the Board of Education).
 - b. Dr. Tarvin described the nickel tax, FSPK calculations, and SFCC local need program (facility needs) and how these monies can be used for building purposes.
 - c. Dr. Tarvin described the recallable nickel process and how it can work toward increasing a district's bonding potential. When a district passes a nickel tax, the state provides extra funding through FSPK and SFCC. There is potential for our district to have as much as \$14 million in the future if a nickel tax were to be put in place.
 - d. Dr. Tarvin presented the plan of finance for Trimble County (bonding potential). He described what we currently owe and our current building fund sources from local and state revenues. We currently have bonding capacity of \$200,000. After July 1st, our bonding potential will be \$560,000.
5. Dr. Bob Wagoner, OVEC financial consultant, presented information on Trimble County demographics, SEEK funding, and enrollment trends.
 - a. Dr. Wagoner described SEEK funding provided from the state. 66% of our operating budget comes from the state through SEEK funding and is based on enrollment.
 - b. Since 2005-2006, TC has lost approximately 250 students which equates to 1.1 million dollars in SEEK funding lost as well.
 - c. SEEK funding for 2016-17 will be approximately \$400,000 less than 2015-16 due to an enrollment loss of 86 students the previous year.
 - d. Current trends show declining enrollment through 2025-2026 (projected enrollment for 2025-26 is 1139 students. Current enrollment is 1311 students for 2015-16. There is no increase by the state in SEEK funding.
 - e. Teacher mandated raises over the last 2 years (mandated by KDE) were not funded by the state. The money for that was found through cutting expenses and raising taxes.

- f. Dr. Wagoner described the TCBOE budget for 2016-17 showing a decline in SEEK funding for 2016-17 and a deficit of approximately 1 million dollars coming from the general fund or contingency/emergency fund.

6. A committee member asked if it is possible to look at the restructuring plan that was presented to the board earlier in the year (November). A motion was made by Todd Pollock to have that plan presented to the LPC and seconded by Christy Cull. Motion passed.
7. Sign in sheet for the public forum was passed around to the audience.
8. A motion was made by Carolee Kunkel to adjourn the meeting at 7:38 pm and seconded by Jessica Wilcoxson.

Public Forum comments:

Frederica Congleton: My question or idea involves possibly levying a payroll or occupational tax on people who work in Trimble County but don't live here as a way to generate revenue.

Gregg Fisher: Are the Trimble County people interested in students—we've built two new schools here, so I think the people of Trimble County are interested in students. As far as enrollment is concerned, maybe we need to focus on why we have the declining enrollment before looking at the LPC. Is there an option of asking for a waiver to the LPC process and look at it again in four years?

John Higgins: We need to focus on the students and the teachers because they are the most important part of what we do. We need to manage the money that we have, look at the programs that produce money, and programs that support the system.

Bob Yowler: The students and the teachers are the most important segments of the schools—so are the employees. The student is the customer. If they aren't given the product they need, then they will not stay in the system. Look at the complete education of all students, think outside the box, make necessary cuts, look at increasing taxes, generating more revenue. Focus on the students.

Tara Isley: Thanked the administration for the level of transparency for this process, the documents that have been provided on the website, but requests documents be provided to the public during the LPC meetings.