TO:

BOARD OF EDUCATION

FROM:

SUPERINTENDENT

DATE:

MARCH 17, 2015 (ACTION)

SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF MEASURE I BOND CITIZENS' OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MEMBERS

ISSUE:

Should the Board of Education approve the Measure I Bond Independent Citizens' Oversight Committee Members, as submitted?

BACKGROUND:

In November 2014 the voters of Conejo Valley Unified School District overwhelmingly approved Measure I, a \$197 million general obligation bond to support technology and facilities improvements. Pursuant to Proposition 39 and Education Code 15278, the Board of Education must establish an Independent Citizens' Oversight Committee (the Committee). The Committee's responsibilities are established in statute, and include:

- Inform the public concerning the District's expenditure of Measure I bond proceeds;
- Review expenditure reports produced by the District to ensure that Measure I bond proceeds were expended only for the purposes set forth in Measure I; and
- Present to the Board in public session an annual written report outlining their activities and conclusions regarding the expenditure of Measure I bond proceeds.

The Committee shall be made up of at least seven members appointed by the Board, and based upon criteria established in statute:

- One (1) member shall be the parent or guardian of a child enrolled in the District.
- One (1) member shall be both a parent or guardian of a child enrolled in the District and active in a parent-teacher organization, such as the P.T.A. or a school site council.
- One (1) member active in a business organization representing the business community located in the District.
- One (1) member active in a senior citizens' organization.
- One (1) member active in a bona-fide taxpayers association.
- Two (2) members of the community at-large.

On January 20, 2015, the Board of Education approved Oversight Committee Bylaws, Application Form and Timeline. On January 22 a notice soliciting applications for membership on the Oversight Committee, as well as an Application Form, were posted on the District website. A notice was also published in the Thousand Oaks Acorn newspaper. The application period was open from January 21 through February 12, 2015. A total of ten applications was received. A subcommittee made up of Board President Dr. Betsy Connolly, Board Member Mike Dunn and Superintendent Dr. Jeff Baarstad reviewed the applications and recommend the following individuals for Oversight Committee positions. For each recommendation, the name, type of committee member, term of office and a brief description of qualifications are provided.

<u>Parent</u> – Wendy Goldstein (one year term). Ms. Goldstein has two children in the District, one at Madroňa Elementary and one at Newbury Park High School. She has served on the PTA Boards of Madroňa and Sequoia Middle School, as President of the PTA at Madroňa, and on the Madroňa School Site Council. She has prior experience in budgeting and vendor sourcing.

Parent/Parent-Teacher Organization - Marshall Denninger (two year term). Mr. Denninger has two children in the District, both attending Banyan Elementary School. Mr. Denninger has served on the PTA Board at Banyan Elementary School

and as President. He has served on the Banyan School Site Council and as the school's representative to the District Advisory Council. He is the Conejo Council PTA representative to the District Technology Committee. He served on the "Yes on Measure I" Campaign Committee, and has recently accepted a position on the Board of the Conejo Schools Foundation. Mr. Denninger is a facilities engineer for a major corporation.

<u>Business Organization</u> – Charles Lech (two year term). Mr. Lech is a local realtor and serves as the President of the Conejo Simi Moorpark Association of Realtors. He also serves as a Commissioner of the Area Housing Authority of Ventura County. He was previously employed as a Vice President of Purchasing for a major corporation, and holds an MBA from Pepperdine University.

<u>Senior Citizens' Organization</u> – Tony Gitt (two year term). Mr. Gitt is a member of AARP. He is a retired aerospace program manager, and was responsible for leading and monitoring complex projects as large as \$200 million.

<u>Taxpayers Association</u> - No applications were received from members of a local taxpayers association. The District will solicit applications from several local organizations and bring a prospective appointment to the Board at a later date.

<u>At-Large</u> – Gail Ginell (one year term). Ms. Ginell attended and graduated from CVUSD schools, as did her two children. She has been an active volunteer for over two decades, serving on PTA, School Site Council, District Advisory Committee, GATE DAC, Wellness Committee and most recently, on the Thousand Oaks High School 50th Anniversary Committee. She is a Certified Public Accountant.

<u>At-Large</u> – Bill Gorback (one year term). Mr. Gorback is a retired educator, having served as a teacher, testing coordinator and counselor in several school districts. During his career he worked on committees that studied the impact of facilities on student learning, as well as technology. Mr. Gorback ran for the CVUSD Board of Education in 2014, and is a frequent attendee at Board and DAC meetings.

Oversight Committee Bylaw 5.4 – Term, establishes that members will serve two year terms, and may serve no more than three (3) consecutive two year terms, as determined by the Board of Education. However, the initial appointments will be staggered, such that some of the initial appointments will serve one year terms, and will be eligible for reappointment by the Board for two additional two year terms.

ALTERNATIVES:

- 1. Approve the Oversight Committee Members, as submitted.
- 2. Do not approve the Oversight Committee Members, as submitted.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve alternative #1.

RATIONALE:

The Education Code requires the Board of Education to appoint a Measure I Bond Independent Citizens' Oversight Committee. The Board approved Committee Bylaws and an application process. A Board subcommittee has reviewed applications for membership on the Committee and has recommended a slate of members for full Board action.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey L. Baarstad, Ph.D.

Superintendent

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