

**BEVERLY HILLS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**CITIZENS' BOND OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE** May  
May 1, 2025, MEETING MINUTES

The Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee (CBOC) held a meeting on Thursday, May 1, 2025, in the District Office Collaboration Room, located at 624 N. Rexford Drive, Beverly Hills, CA 90210 pursuant to written notice as required by law.

**Attendees**

**CBOC Members:**

- ☒ Nathan Kruger
- ☐ Bill Bymel
- ☒ Marc Carrel
- ☒ Paris Elias-Benyamin
- ☒ Harry Kraushaar
- ☒ Jasmine Yadgari
- ☒ Don Wyse

**Board Members:**

- ☐ Rachelle Marcus
- ☒ Judith Manouchehri
- ☐ Sigalie Sabag
- ☐ Amanda Stern
- ☐ Russell Stuart

**District:**

- ☒ Dr. Alex Cherniss
- ☒ Dr. Jason Hasty
- ☒ Will Karrat
- ☐ Shirley Vasquez

**Fonder-Salari**

- ☒ Amin Salari
- ☒ Kimberly Emerson

**Minutes Prepared By:** Shirley Vasquez

**CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting convened at 4:00 pm

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA: APPROVED**

**APPROVAL OF March 202, 2025, Minutes: APPROVED**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None

Mr. Nathan Kruger welcomed everyone to the meeting. He mentioned that although he had received training on the rules of order, a refresher would be beneficial—not just for himself but for the entire committee. He suggested scheduling future Brown Act training sessions, especially when new members join the committee.

He then welcomes Dr. Alex Cherniss to the committee.

Mr. Kruger said that the primary purpose of the meeting was to discuss and work on the annual report, which will be presented to the school board. He thanked Miss Jasmine Yadgari for “knocking out” the bulk of the report.

Mr. Wil Karrat suggested that the committee start with a quick update on the construction. He also suggested that the committee watch the construction update that was presented at the last board meeting. Ms. Yadgari asked if the technology fund was removed from the bond and if that reduces the deficit. Mr. Amin Salari said yes, that will reduce the deficit. She asked if that is something she can add to the annual report. Mr. Karrat said no since the report is for last fiscal year. Mr. Kruger wanted to confirm the budget deficit as of June 30, 2024. Mr. Salari answered that it's \$16.2M, if technology funds are not included.

Ms. Judith Manouchehri said that based on the way things were managed in the last 20 years, there will be a deficit. Not so long ago, we were told that there is going to be a \$90, \$120M deficit and let's go for another bond. In the last couple of years, Fonder-Salari has come in and they've gotten the projects done. They even added the tennis court and the upper athletic fields project, which were not originally there. Now the Board has been asking if we continue using bond dollars for fleeting items like iPads and computers. It's one thing to spend the bond dollars on technology related infrastructure which will stick around but for other items, the Board has discussed with DR. Hasty about setting aside general fund dollars for technology-related refreshers. There will be \$6M or \$7M left that could be allocated and we asked if that can be taken back and move towards construction use.

Mr. Salari said that the deficit is \$14.1M if we don't consider the technology funds. Dr. Jason Hasty added that if technology funds are put back into construction, it will be down \$8M deficit.

Mr. Salari provided a brief update on construction activities. He noted that the only project not yet under contract is the South Site project; all other projects are currently in the execution phase. The B3/B4 buildings are expected to be completed by August. Construction is also underway for the new Konheim building, the swimming pool, and the adjacent retaining walls, which are approximately 90% complete. As a result, the upper athletic fields are also anticipated to be finished by August. The Grand Lawn is scheduled for completion by December. The remaining project—the South Site—includes the football stadium, baseball field, and parking lot. Mr. Kruger inquired whether a contractor had already been selected. Mr. Salari responded that the team plans to move forward with a Request for Proposals (RFP) process.

Mr. Kruger inquired about Proposition 2 state funding. Mr. Karrat explained that the District is eligible to receive at least \$4 million, with the potential to receive up to \$20 million. However, the exact amount will not be known until the state reviews all applications and begins distributing the funds.

Mr. Kruger asked if the Grand Lawn is due for completion in December, instead of the original July/August schedule. Mr. Salari said that the reason was pricing. The team was planning to do an extension to ProWest contract but the proposal they submitted was \$1.3M higher than Swinerton's. The team decided to wait just another six months to finish the project but saved \$1.3M.

Mr. Kruger directed the committee's attention to the key sections of the annual report, which included the financial audit, the performance audit, and the accompanying comments.

The committee started the discussion regarding the performance audit observations that will be basis of the annual report. The observations include Billings to the District were compliant and Master

Planning.

The committee held a vote to elect new officers. Mr. Nathan Kruger was elected as Chair, and Mr. Marc Carrel was elected as Vice Chair.

Discussion about recruiting more committee members and filling in representations that are required.

The next meeting will be on August 21, 2025.

The annual report is scheduled to be presented to the Board of Education on May 27, 2025.

Meeting adjourned at 5:51 pm.

Meeting adjourned at 5:37 pm.