



Measure B Citizens Review Panel Minutes

July 17, 2024

Woodward Park Regional Library

Members Present: Jim Poptanich, Linda Renn, Aimee Kawasaki, Debbie Ikeda, Deb Janzen, Judith Pruess, Tammie Wenter, and Bradley Miranda

Staff Present: Sally Gomez, Joel Cadenasso, Mary Leal, and Karen Coletti

Regrets: Rhoda Gonzales

Guest: None

1) **Call to Order:** Jim Poptanich called meeting to order at 5:58 PM.

2) **Introductions: None**

3) **Adoption of Agenda:** Motion to Approve agenda **Ikeda; Second: Pruess.**

4) **Approval of April 3, 2024, Minutes.** Motion to Approve Minutes as presented **Pruess; Second: Miranda, abstained from vote Poptanich.**

5) **Coalinga Librarian - Mary Leal**

a) Mary shared letter written by the Coalinga Express, by the Coalinga Library Staff.

Everyone was given a copy of the letter to review and discuss. Jim Poptanich requested Joel Cadenasso to write an outline letter to go over Measure B funds. Mary reported that in 2012, Measure B did not pass in Coalinga. The Coalinga/Huron Library employees are not paid through Measure B, all the MOU's and salaries are paid through the Board Special District. The budget is pending as of now.

b) Report by Grand Jury was shared and discussed. Panel reviewed and spoke about the not being in website compliance.

c) Our construction has been delayed for the Coalinga Library.

d) We are in the middle of union negotiations on salary increases, vacations, sick leave, newspaper articles.

e) Summer Reading theme was Read, Renew, Repeat. We had a sponsorship of \$3,000 from AERA, which is an oil company in Coalinga. We had 361 participants for Summer Reading. We have had 4 events so far, and attendance was 417 total, which is great.

6) **County Librarian – Sally Gomez.**

Collection Development

- Our State Park Pass program is continuing and we are receiving more at our branches. There is a list of the parks that are a part of this State Library program.

Community Engagement

- Summer at Your Library is in full swing, it has added programs this year. We are trying preregistration, and it is working well. This has been a positive change, helped for better programs and not overcrowded. We will follow up with surveys at the end of summer and share statistics.
- We will be doing Fresno County Reads, the book is, *Remarkably bright creatures: a novel*. It starts in October and runs through November.

Public Services

- We have been approached by Public Health, for libraries to help with Cooling Centers. We are extending hours at San Joaquin, Auberry, Caruthers, and Bear Mtn. We are going to try and get through next week. We do not provide library services with the extended hours.
- We have 20 new Library Assistants. We will work on Library Aides next. We are actively working on the Librarian 1 interview process.
- There was interest in asking for extended late fees due to extreme heat. Sally is meeting with CAO next week.

Facilities

- The RFP for Clovis/Reedley has 3 vendors, the original due date was extended for them to bid the facilities together. A tentative date in mid-September is now what we are looking at according to Public Works Department.
- Our new Politi Branch lease is coming up and will have updates at next meeting. It is in the process of getting Board approval.

7) Measure B Sales Tax Collection Report – Joel Cadenasso

- **Fresno Countywide Financials**
 - Budget Recommended FY 24-25 pending Budget Hearings on September 16th, Operational Budget: \$43.9 million. Estimated Fund Balance Reserve surplus \$600,000.
 - Prior Year Expenses: FY 23-24 Expenses, through June 30, 2024, \$34.352 million with revenues collected \$42.562 million.
 - The Annual Comprehensive Financial Report for FY 22-23 is now available at the County website. Feel free to visit under Auditor-controller/Treasurer to view year-end financial statements for the County of Fresno by fiscal year and County budget.
 - Fresno Library Past History Summary, Existing costs based on 1989-99 (Pre-Measure B funding) provided by Property Taxes and MOE. Cumulative Excess 69,437,175.
- **Measure B Revenues-Fresno & Coalinga Monthly Tax Proceeds**
 - Measure B expires March 2029. The collections from State are distributed to jurisdiction percentage: Fresno 98%/Coalinga-Huron 2%.
 - Revenue in the current year has decreased 0.62%. Growth in the previous year's revenue was 1.08%.
 - Currently Collection: The reports for Fresno, Coalinga, and combined Sales Tax Proceeds. A. FY 23-24 Fresno \$21,499,881. FY 23-24 Coalinga-Huron \$527,305.
 - Fresno the FY 23-24 budgeted amount of \$26.2 million for total revenue represents a slight decrease of 0.9% (\$232,086) from FY 22-23 collections at \$26,432,086. FY 22-23 collections were \$287,977 more than in FY 21-22, 1.08% increase.
 - Coalinga prior year collections at \$648,272 revenue in FY 22-23 , were \$6,940 more than in FY 21-22, a 1.08% increase. Anticipate a slight decrease of 0.9% (about \$5,700) to \$642,600.
 - Combined Measure B collected: The last page reflects the history of actual receipts since FY 2012-13: Since FY 2013-14, (ten years, ten months), the combined receipts are \$222.6 million. Since 1998, the combined receipts are \$400.4 million.

- **Construction**
 - Construction on Clovis and Reedley tentative board approval for late September. Clovis Library construction is \$24,000,000 and interior furniture and equipment \$2,500,000. Reedley Library construction \$13,000,000 and interior furniture and equipment \$1,500,000.
- **Facilities**
 - Selma branch remodel and fire suppression upgrades
 - Easton parking lot replacement and roof replacement.
 - Parlier HVAC.
 - Woodward Park chiller and cooling tower replacement.
 - Building Forward Library Facilities Improvement Program for Central Library.
 - Building signage.
 - Other facilities HVAC and security.
- **Technology**
 - AWE Learning Stations.
 - Tech annual allocation \$600,000 to support replacement and new potential improvements.
 - Library Book Vending Kiosk looking for alternative.
 - Tech to Go Hotspot \$50,000.
- **Library Materials and Programming**
 - Library Materials Acquisitions funding available from Measure B Sales tax annual allocation of \$3.2 million and library book donations from public up to \$318,000 to continue to add new books and other digital material as needed to serve residents.
 - Programming services annual allocation \$212,400 to support Early Learning Centers the Fall Big Read, and expand programming services further for children, teens, and adults.
- **Literacy**
 - Annual Literacy Allocation is \$200,000 for services and \$436,500 for staff related costs.
 - Cal Humanities Grant Project at Betty Rodriguez Regional Library.
 - Public Library Association grant project.
- **Talking Book**
 - Has been relocated to Central while work is being done at original space.

9) Next Meeting will be at Woodward Park Regional Library on October 10th, 2024, at 6:00 PM.

10) Roster is all up to date with no corrections noted.

11) Everyone is in good standing with their attendance.

12) Motion to Adjourn at 7:14 PM **Pruess; Seconded: Janzen .**