

Bond Advisory Committee (BAC)

Meeting Summary

October 16, 2018

Committee Members:

Present:	Hillary Calavitta	Erik Eff	Kim McMath
	Ray Clayton	Virgil Flathouse	Tom Shea
	Mike Dansby	Greg Greeson	Wendy Smiley
	Dina Dreifuerst		

Not Present: Matthew Wernli

EISD Staff:

Chris Scott, Executive Director of Business Services
Jeremy Trimble, Executive Director of Facilities and Operations
Brian Bolek, Director of Maintenance & Operations
Eric Wright, Director of Technology Services
Cindy Weeks, Accounting Manager

Proceedings:

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m. by Virgil Flathouse, BAC Chair. Summary of the September 18, 2018, meeting was reviewed and discussed.

Chris Scott provided a brief explanation of the two tax rates: Interest & Sinking (I&S) and Maintenance & Operations (M&O), and the four broad Topics in the proposed 2019 School Bond. Discussion of the need to reduce M&O expenditures, and the timeline for reviewing Projects and possibly moving forward with a 2019 Bond.

Overview of Proposed Energy Efficiency & Conservation Bond Projects:

Jeremy Trimble introduced the Topic and provided an overview of each proposed project.

In 2017-18, the District’s annual energy expense was \$1,287,000. The 2018-19 budget is \$1,480,000. Discussion of “hard Return on Investment (ROI)” vs. “soft ROI.” Hard ROI consists of direct monetary benefits like reductions in energy bills and replacement bulb expenses. Examples of soft (non-monetary) ROI: LED lights offer a better learning environment for students and require less staff time to maintain.

LED Pole Lighting Retrofit at Athletic Fields

Most District fields use High Intensity Discharge (HID) lights. WHS Field #3 and some HCMS fields were fitted with LED lights with donated funds. Converting fields at WRMS and WHS is projected to save \$6500 in annual M&O funds. 90% of the District’s external lights (parking lots, canopies, etc.) are already LED. Discussion of community feedback re: LED lighting at HCMS, potential “dark skies” benefits, and maintenance costs. The BAC assigned this Project to **Category 3**.

Solar Panel Installation (Sloped Metal Roof Surfaces)

This project would install solar panels on the 6 school campuses (not HCMS, CCE, or BCE) with sloped roofs, which would cut annual M&O spending by approximately \$114,000. The panels have a 25-year warranty; 10-15 years for the inverters, which cost \$10,000 to replace. Austin Energy is currently offering rebates valued at approximately \$9,500/campus; the potential savings are not included in the Project budget. The BAC assigned this Project to **Category 3**.

LED Lighting Retrofit (District Wide)

This Project would replace indoor fluorescent bulbs and ballasts with LED lighting. Potential savings of \$223,000/year, with a payoff of about 15 years. All new buildings & remodeled space since 2016 have LED, including the DOC and Fine Arts additions. Discussion of LED benefits, such as better student experience, possible rebates, and reduced maintenance expense. The BAC assigned this Project to **Category 2**.

Room Occupancy Sensors Retrofit (District Wide)

Installing room occupancy sensors could cut the M&O budget by \$59,000/year. Many districts have already installed sensors, and sensors were installed in recent District construction. The BAC assigned this Project to **Category 1**.

Building System Enhancements

Replacing some windows at EE and in the WHS Field House Gym would improve the learning environment. Discussion of shatter-resistant film vs “bullet-proof” glass. The BAC assigned this Project to **Category 1**.

If all Energy Efficiency & Conservation projects were included in a 2019 Bond at a cost of just over \$8.8 Million, the estimated annual M&O savings would be approximately \$400,000. Over the life of a 20-year Bond, that could add up to \$8 Million.

Open Forum:

Heather Felder requested a status update on the 2015 Bond, including which projects were included and have been completed, before the next BAC meeting.

Other Business:

The next meeting of the Bond Advisory Committee will be held on Tuesday, November 13, 2018, in the EISD Central Administration Board Room at 6:00 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:59 p.m.

Summary submitted by Dina Dreifuerst, BAC Secretary.