

**El Paso Independent School District
Budget Review Committee
Minutes April 21, 2011 – Regular Meeting**

Dean Hester, Co-Chairman, called the meeting to order at 07:32 a. m. Dr. Rosas arrived during the end of the presentation of the financials statements.

Committee members present

Dr. Rene Rosas, Delia Camacho, Rich Chumsae, Pete Euzarraga, John Kirby (Fort Bliss Rep), Al Patino, Ronnie St. Clair (for Lucy Clarke), and Jamey Wiggs

EPISD personnel present

Walt Byers, Sandra Dea, Isabel Fernandez, Esther Jacobo, Jose Lopez, Kenneth Parker, Martha Piekarski, and Teresa Thompson

Welcome

Dean Hester welcomed BRC members and new member, John Kirby from Fort Bliss. Mr. Hester also welcomed Retired Lt Colonel St. Clair, attending for Lucy Clarke.

Approval of March 2011 Minutes

Approval of the March 2011 minutes was unanimous.

Presentation of Financial Statements for March 2011

Sandra Dea presented Financial Statements for March 2011. She provided handouts to BRC members. The Special Revenue Progress Report for next month will include additional information on Potential Roll-forward and Potential Loss.

Ken Parker provided handouts on the Self Insurance Funds 7 Months ending March 31, 2011. EPISD went from a self-insured program to state program. The District is down to \$1.8 million in processing claims. The remaining amount decreases each month. This month will go down to \$100 thousand. Under the contract, this will stay open for the year before closing out (until December 2011). At this time, it appears that this fund will be in good shape.

Discussion on EPISD Tennis Center

Ken Parker provided a presentation on the EPISD Tennis Center. The district has been unable to run this center. Mr. Parker told the committee that we tried running the Tennis Center ourselves but encountered problems. EPISD went through the bid process and has now contracted Xplora Group, an established international company to run the Tennis Center. This facility has not been properly maintained; most of the courts need resurfacing and repainting. Opening this facility would cost the district. As part of the arrangements, EPISD will have access to the use of the facility free of charge for District tennis teams. EPISD employees and students will pay half the standard fee. District tournaments will be held at the facility at no charge.

Dr. Rosas stated that he was on the committee that constructed the complex when it was first built and that the Tennis Center is a great facility. He affirmed the District's decision and expressed his relief to hear EPISD was no longer going to run the facility and that we stick to education. Since Tennis is now at an elevated level of education production as other acknowledged sports, students that excel in Tennis will have the opportunity to obtain scholarships around the nation.

Update on 2011-12 Budget

Esther Jacobo presented an Update on 2011-12 Proposed Budget via PowerPoint. This update is based on a projection of five percent state revenue reduction.

Ken Parker informed the BRC that Cabinet met yesterday and that the decision is to stay with this proposed budget until the District receives indication of what the final numbers will be from the state.

Other Budget Issues

Ken Parker presented topic on Other Budget Issues.

Status of State Budget Bill Effects on EPISD

Ken Parker presented an update on the current legislative session. He informed the BRC that there are two (2) sets of bills being considered in the House and Senate. Texas SB22 shows a \$15 million decrease to EPISD. A substitute bill (hybrid bill) also being considered would take a 75% cut by lowering targeted revenue across the state and 25% by taking a straight cut. The 2nd bill presents a reduction of \$8.8 million to EPISD by taking away *all* targeted revenue and returning to the former system. Neither bill takes the Jobs Education Bill into consideration. At this time, we stand to lose \$29 million in the 2nd biennium. EPISD is hoping that the \$22 million - \$25 million will be close to the range of reductions. When we receive final information, we will go back and decide how we will make up the difference, if any.

Questions and Comments from Committee

Mr. Parker will invite Eric Winkelman, Principal at CCTE and Director for CATE, to next scheduled BRC meeting

Dr. Rosas thanked Dean Hester for commencing the meeting this morning. He also thanked staff for providing materials.

The next BRC meeting will convene on Thursday, May 19, 2011.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 a. m.