

**Entiat School District Facilities Committee**  
**Meeting minutes**  
**September 25, 2012**

**Attending:** Lori Anderson, Tom Bassett, Jim Brooks, Miles Caples, Tammy Giacomazzi, Diane Grover, Jose Quezada, Keith Vradenburg, Mike Wyant, Julie Zielke

**Absent:** John Barnes, Rick Long, Leo Quezada, Jim Smothers, Randy Whitehall

**Questions from Sept. 4 meeting:** Mike Wyant reported on the board work session on Sept. 20 where bond attorney Jim McNeil and bond underwriter Dick Schober answered the questions regarding debt capacity and multiple propositions on one ballot measure. The short answers are:

*Debt capacity:* There are some issues and concerns with going up to the district's legal debt capacity limit. There are probably ways that exceeding the debt capacity limit for a short time could be done.

*Multiple propositions on one ballot measure:* The 12 year history for multiple proposition ballot measures for schools in Washington State is 8/16 for the first proposition on the ballot and 0/16 for the second proposition on the ballot. According to Mr. McNeil and Mr. Schober, the greatest risks of having more than one proposition on the ballot are the possibility of confusing voters or splitting their votes.

**Committee Recommendation:** Committee members were each given the opportunity to say what they would like to recommend to the school board. Of the nine members attending (as consultant, Tom Bassett did not offer an opinion) eight recommended putting the elementary modernization to voters in February and further studying a track or a sports facility in the context of a comprehensive study of all the district's outside facilities and property. Jose Quezada was the committee member at the meeting who supported putting both propositions on the ballot. Jose agreed that he could support the recommendation of the rest of the committee. John Barnes could not attend the meeting. John sent an e-mail in which he recommended putting both propositions on the ballot.

**First Recommendation:** The committee's first recommendation is to run a bond measure in February, 2013 to modernize and add to the elementary as proposed in the conceptual drawings. The existing facilities committee, with added community members, will begin a comprehensive study of the district's outside facilities immediately after the bond measure is voted on in February.

**Alternate Recommendation:** This recommendation was supported by Jose Quezada and by John Barnes via e-mail. Six of the committee members present at the 9/25/12 meeting do not support this recommendation. Two attending members were ambivalent about it. This recommendation is to put both propositions on a bond measure in February worded in a manner that makes approval of a sports facility contingent on approval of the elementary modernization/new construction project.

**Not Recommended:** The committee does not recommend attempting to scale back the modernization/new construction of the elementary. The committee also does not recommend

attempting to scale back the sports facility proposal at this time to try to make it more palatable to voters.

The following reasons for recommending against placing a sports facility on the February ballot were cited by committee members:

- Concern about pushing the district's debt capacity up to or beyond the legal limit
- The history of poor success of multiple proposition ballot measures in Washington
- Absence of a comprehensive plan for outside facilities, including the open hillside west of the buildings
- Concern that there has not been adequate time to fully study the sports facility project as presently proposed and/or alternatives
- Concern about eliminating the baseball/softball field without having studied alternatives and without having had an opportunity to adequately discuss it in the community
- Total cost to taxpayers of the combined projects
- Unanswered questions about the costs of Dunn Street upgrades and acquisition of part of Don and Linda Olin's property
- Concern that putting two measures on the ballot will distract voters from the priority of modernizing the elementary.

**Presentation of recommendations to the school board:** The committee's recommendations will be formally presented to the school board at a 6:00 p.m. work session on October 18, 2012. Lori Anderson and Jose Quezada agreed to make the verbal presentation. The board will discuss the recommendations during the work session. Members of the facilities committee are invited and encouraged to attend the work session and join in the discussion. The timeline calls for the board to take action on November 15 on a resolution to put a bond measure before the voters if that is what is decided.