

CITIZEN'S OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE  
 Madelyn Helling Library Community Room  
 980 Helling Way, Nevada City, CA 95959

**MEETING MINUTES: March 21, 2016**

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The Citizen's Oversight Committee (COC) met as scheduled on Monday, March 21, 2016, in the Community Room of the Madelyn Helling library, Nevada City, CA

Committee Members: JoAnn Marie, Dick Fay, Ruth Hall, and Ron Jauch.

1. Call Meeting to Order/Roll Call – JoAnn Marie

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. All members were in attendance (including Ruth Hall by telephone), and County Librarian Laura Pappani.

2. Review and adoption of Minutes of Prior Meeting -- Dick Fay

The Minutes of January 25, 2015, were reviewed and adopted as submitted.

3. Old Business

--On-Line Equivalency Program -- JoAnn asked for an update and Laura reported that 12 individuals had expressed interest in the program to date, and one scholarship had been awarded.

--Questions about budget shortfall and survey results will be covered below, under *Sales Tax Report* and the *County Librarian's Report*, respectively.

4. New Business

--Funding for the Library branch wing of the planned Penn Valley Cultural Center. Laura said if and when the Library is built, it will probably be rented or leased as a regular budget expense

--Dick Fay will act as secretary, replacing Paul Molino who has resigned, until a new member is appointed. The nominating process was discussed and members urged to send candidate information to Laura asap.

5. Sales Tax Report -- Ron Jauch

Ron Jauch estimated a budget short fall of \$65,000 for the year from the latest sales tax report. He asked if reserve funds were available in the Library or County budget. Laura Pappiani said a staff estimate of the shortfall at \$100,000, caused by higher-than-expected Class 1 expenses. She said the Library did not have

reserve sources other than the usual contributions, such as MOE. To offset the shortfall, the Library will not immediately fill three of four staff positions which will become open. She will also check with Martin Polz on the availability of county funds and usage restrictions on these funds.

6. County Librarian's Report – Laura Pappani

Strategic Plan Survey: Polling for the Library strategic plan is complete and a preliminary report indicates the sales tax proposal of a ¼ cent sales tax to support the Library system would be approved, which is double the current 1/8 cent rate. While the survey designers built in questions to ensure voters are being realistic, discussion ensued in Committee as to whether survey targets realized ¼ cent represented an increase over the current rate. Laura observed that an approving vote was a measure of general support for the Library as an institution.

Ron Juach questioned whether such an increase would be approved so overwhelmingly, particularly by the business community. One element dissuading approval is the revenue increase of over 20 percent received by the Library during the last five years. Further discussion addressed the need for the Measure's language to be clear about what the revenue would buy and what service would be lost if either the 1/8 or ¼ cent was not approved by the voters. Laura said the survey results would be made public. JoAnn asked that the questions and results be circulated to the Committee.

7. Truckee Community Report – Ruth Hall

Ruth Hall reported that meetings are taking place to support building a new library with the Historical Society, the Museum, FOL, a Railroad historical interest group and community leaders. She noted that to take advantage of the railyard space now available, it may be necessary to rent or lease a physical facility and equipment.

Ruth urged spending of the MOE funds before sales tax revenue where practical before MOE sourced funds can be spent on capital investments which have been lacking in past. She also noted that some 30 percent of the county sales tax is derived from the Truckee area, but those funds are not to be used for capital projects. This prompted a suggestion that no restriction should be included in the language for future sales tax measures to ensure greater expenditure flexibility.

Laura was asked to provide the Committee with a specific breakdown of the distribution of all revenues by branch service areas, excluding earmarked funds.

8. Public Comment -- There was no public comment
9. Next meeting date -- May 16 @ 4:00PM, Community Room.
- 10.. Adjournment -- The meeting was adjourned at 5:05PM

Respectfully,

Dick Fay, 3/24/16