



Measure B Citizens Review Panel

Minutes

July 19, 2023

Fig Garden Regional Library

Members Present: Jim Poptanich, Mary Leal, Judith Pruess, Linda Renn, Aimee Kawasaki, Tammie Wenter, Deborah Janzen, and Debbie Ikeda.

Staff Present: Raman Bath, Joel Cadenasso, and Karen Coletti

Regrets: Rhoda Howell-Gonzales

Guest: Brooke Payton

- 1) **Call to Order:** Chairman Poptanich called meeting to order at 6:00 PM.
- 2) **Introductions:** None.
- 3) **Adoption of Agenda:** Motion to Approve agenda with addition to Public Comment after item 9) **Ikeda; Second: Janzen.**
- 4) **Approval of April 19, 2023, Minutes.** Motion to Approve Minutes with correction to item 2) **Pruess; Second: Kawasaki.**
- 5) **Coalinga Librarian - Mary Leal**
 - Mary went over her Coalinga-Huron Budget for 23-24. Highlighted secure and unsecured estimated revenue of \$602,000, with Measure B carry over of 2,400,000. They have purchased a lot behind the Coalinga Library for the future, not sure what will go there, but something will. They are working on 2 years of maintenance projects.
 - Summer Reading 2023 in Coalinga has been doing well. It runs from June 17th – August 5th. The winners of the reading programs will be treated to the Movie, Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles, which was provided with the help of Aera Energy.
 - Summer Reading 2023 in Huron is doing well. It runs from June 17th – August 5th.
 - Some of the performers at both libraries were African Drummers and Bubble performers along with puppet shows.
- 6) **Grand Jury report - Raman Bath**
 - The Grand Jury report was provided in the agenda packet, Raman went through and discussed the findings. Some things were discussed with the Citizens Review Panel. The findings of Stats were discussed due to Covid and using Contra Costa Library as a gauge. The term they used, Fresno County Free Library repeatedly. All in all, the report was fine, Raman stated that he did send a letter to the Judge on July 6th but had not heard back. This will go before our Board of Supervisors on August 8^h it will be a consent item.
- 7) **County Librarian – Raman Bath.**
 - Pride coverage in the news, June is Pride month, for the last 20 years, displays are put up by staff that pick books highlighting things celebrated. Library is a place for everyone and something for everyone.
 - Summer in your library doing great. We have great programs and good attendance.
 - Popup Prom Event expanded to Caruthers, and it did very well at the end of April.

- Fresno County Reads will hold its 2nd annual program, this October. The program encourages the entire county to come together by reading on book and participating in programs designed around that book's themes. The 2023 Fresno County Reads book is *The Unwanted: America, Auschwitz, and a Village Caught in Between* by Michael Dobbs. It was selected to tie into the Americans and the Holocaust Traveling Exhibit that will be hosted by the Fresno Central Library from November until the end of December. Both the *The Unwanted* and children's and teen read-alike titles will be available in unlimited quantities through eBook and eAudiobook during the run of Fresno County Reads.
- Eresources had 1,000,086 checkouts on OverDrive during our 22/23 fiscal year. And the OverDrive will verify that for 2023 calendar year. Last year there were only 129 libraries worldwide that hit a million checkouts.

8) Budget – Joel Cadenasso (Recap below from handout provided)

- Fresno County Library expenses through June 30, 2023, \$32.003 million with revenues collected \$40.371 million. Excess surplus for current year is \$8.368 million.
- Major Facility repair and replacement projects year 23-24 \$2.2 million and year 22-23 was \$3.250 million. Major facility reserves set aside (fiscal year 22-23) \$6 million in total. Increase by \$2 million this year based on % of current year Measure B collections budget estimates of \$23 million. Joel provided a breakdown on improvements being done.
- Measure B expires March 2029. The collections from State is distributed to jurisdiction percentage: Fresno 98%/Coalinga-Huron 2%. Growth in revenue in the current year so far is about 1.4%.
 - Currently Collection: The reports for Fresno, Coalinga, and combined Sales Tax Proceeds. A) FY 22-23 Fresno \$21,638,131. B) FY 22-23 Coalinga-Huron \$530,696.
 - Fresno - Anticipate surplus this year \$3.175 million from budgeted amount of \$23 million for total revenue of \$26.175 million. This would represent a slight increase of 0.1% (about \$26,000) from FY 21-22 collections at \$26,149,109. FY 21-22 collections were \$3,089,196 more than in FY 20-21, a 13.4% increase.
 - Coalinga – Anticipate a slight increase of 0.1% (about\$700) in collections to around \$642,000. Prior year collections at \$641,332 revenue in FY 21-22, were \$75,766 more than in FY 20-21, a 13.4%.increase.
 - Combined Measure B Collected: The last page reflects the history of actual receipts since FY 2012-13: Since FY 2012-13, the combined receipts are \$210.5 million.
 - Since 1998, the combined receipts are \$373.5 million.
 - Governor's Budget Upcoming Year – An increase of 0.9% in FY 2023-24.
- Library Materials & Programming
 - Library materials budget increase by \$400,000 over the last two years for an annual allocation of \$3.2 million to continue to add new books and other digital materials as needed to serve residents.
 - Programming services annual allocation \$167,600 increase by \$42,200 to support Early Learning Centers, Fall Big Read, and expand programming services further for children, teens, and adults.
 - Literacy annual allocation is \$200,700 for services and \$382,637 for staff related costs.

9) Public Comment – Brooke Payton

- Brooke provided a handout on a proposal for a public library in the Tower District. Karen will send out an electronic copy of the proposal. Discussion on location and relocating Gillis.

10) Planning for next meeting

- Next meeting is October 18th, 2023, at 6:00 PM at Fig Garden Regional Library.

11) Roster: Everything correct.

12) Attendance: Everyone in good standing.

13) Adjourn. Motion to Adjourn at 7:39 PM **Janzen; Seconded: Pruess.**