

**Bond Reimbursement and Grant Review Committee Meeting
 April 17, 2008
 State Board Room
 Juneau, Alaska**

Committee Members	EED Staff	Audience
Eddy Jeans – Chair	Sam Kito	Don Hiley – SERRC
Mark Langberg	Kim Andrews	Deb Morse – JSD
Carl John	Hilary Porter	Dean Henrick - KGBSD
Harley Hightower		
Tom Richards		
Dee Hubbard - Phone		

9:00 a.m.

Eddy Jeans, Chair, called the meeting to order and proceeded with Roll Call. Sen. Hoffman, Rep. Hawker, and Robert Tucker were not present. At 9:12 a.m. Dee Hubbard attended via phone. A quorum was established and Eddy proceeded with the packet overview.

The committee reviewed the agenda and made one change to include public comment.

The December meeting minutes were reviewed and accepted by the committee.

Staff Briefing

Sam Kito provided a briefing and included spreadsheets in the meeting packet to show how the department has progressed in visiting districts. The second round of preventative maintenance trips is almost complete and Don Carney’s future schedule is to visit 10 – 11 school districts per year. That would mean all districts would be completed over a five year rotation.

Eddy asked why there were non-compliant districts on the current CIP list. Sam explained it’s based on last year and those districts were in compliance at that time. The major issue that effects PM compliance is the lack of staffing. Another issue is the loss of connection between EED and district maintenance personnel due to the high rate of staff turnover in districts. Dee asked if anyone had tried to meet with and explain this issue to AASB. It was also asked if EED could work up some figures for staffing related to PM compliance. It’s important to note that districts are maintaining their facilities, just not according to EED requirements.

Other questions were raised by members regarding why districts were or were not compliant. It was suggested that maybe, by using the CIP process, the department can let districts know they are falling out of compliance with EED standards. EED already does this, and districts are doing the best they can with the personnel they have.

Sam said the State Board of Education accepted the department's school construction list with one appeal by Delta Greely. Sam expects the Governor to sign off on the major maintenance list as well.

Expected increases in construction costs for the next two years could be 7.5% - 8.5%. EED staff would like to have a website for districts to use for this year's CIP process for the cost model. Space guidelines will also be updated and posted on the website.

Statute and Regulation Issues

The previous statute and regulation issues that have been discussed are ready and waiting in a file to be signed. The definition for "temporary facilities" has been changed and is included in the meeting packet on page 9. Referring to the new definition, Dee asked what the definition of a permanent foundation is. A permanent foundation was discussed to be a cement pad, freeze back, etc. Sam explained that the concern is over adequately housing students and the condition of the facility if it's a temporary facility.

Audience member, Don Hiley, asked if legislative bill #290 included the 60% reimbursement. Eddy responded, yes.

Dee requested at the December 2008 BR/GR meeting we discuss other statute and regulation issues for the next legislative session because she has some concerns. Committee agreed to address the vocational tech discussion. Another issue raised is the use of specialized space that could be used for general education space and how to deal with that. There was a request to take temporary facility regulation to state board, but the committee decided to wait on addressing this until more information is gathered.

Space Guidelines Discussion

Space guidelines were discussed and it appears there is more flexibility with regard to career tech facilities, according to reference material from Vermont, Texas, and Indiana. Sam agreed to post these documents on the website for everybody's reference. Dee asked if there are separate space guidelines for career tech schools versus regular education schools. Sam answered yes because there is no guarantee that the facility built will always be used for that kind of facility. This issue is relevant in Bethel, which has a facility that won't qualify as a vocational tech. school.

Dee asked if there were any new space guidelines for pool construction. Sam explained he is still researching that information and needs time to compile what he has. Mark mentioned there may be difficulty separating community use from education use in many areas. Sam used Bethel as an example saying they cannot afford to get a pool approved because the community is so small, and larger communities will struggle to get approval for a second or third pool without having some sort of educational component included.

Publications Update

The Department is still working on creating a BR/GR webpage that can post meeting minutes, members list, and other important information. Dee also requested that EED update what we currently have on our website regarding the BR/GR Committee.

The US Green Building Council developed the LEED for Schools standard and some schools in Alaska have already begun using that, but EED probably won't require school districts to use the LEED standard. Committee Member, Mark Langberg, agreed that the state should not require LEED.

Sam is working on compiling a list to present to the committee regarding education specifications that could be useful for schools. Sam will also work on creating a slideshow of new school buildings throughout the state and present them at the July meeting in Fairbanks. Annual CIP training is scheduled for May 15 in Anchorage and May 16 in Fairbanks.

Conclusion

Dee made the motion to adopt the CIP Application as amended and with direction given to staff for additions and changes. Mark Langberg seconded and the motion was moved.

Tom Richards took a moment to thank Deb Morse for giving public comment.

Future meeting dates were agreed upon by the committee.