MINUTES
of the
THIRTY-THIRD MEETING
of the
PUBLIC SCHOOL CAPITAL OUTLAY OVERSIGHT TASK FORCE

September 2, 2011
Room 322, State Capitol
Santa Fe

The thirty-third meeting of the Public School Capital Outlay Oversight Task Force (PSCOOTF) was called to order by Representative Rick Miera, co-chair, on September 2, 2011 at 9:50 a.m. in Room 322, State Capitol.

Present	**Absent**
Rep. Rick Miera, Co-Chair	Mr. Paul Aguilar
Sen. Cynthia Nava, Co-Chair	Sen. Vernon D. Asbill
Rep. Donald E. Bratton	Mr. Robbie Heyman
Secretary-Designate Tom Clifford	Sen. Lynda M. Lovejoy
Dr. Carl Foster	Speaker Ben Lujan
Ms. Cecilia J. Grimes	Mr. Kilino Marquez
Dr. Lisa Grover	Sen. George K. Munoz
Mr. Leonard Haskie	Rep. W. Ken Martinez
President Pro Tempore Timothy Z. Jennings	Sen. John Arthur Smith
Rep. Larry A. Larrañaga	
Mr. Antonio Ortiz	
Ms. Lilliemae Ortiz	
Mr. Mike Phipps	
Ms. Judy Rabon	
Sen. Sander Rue	
Rep. Henry Kiki Saavedra	

Staff
Raúl E. Burciaga, Director, Legislative Council Service (LCS)
Sharon Ball, Senior Researcher, LCS
Leslie Porter, Research Assistant, LCS
Tom Pollard, Legislative Fiscal Analyst, LCS
David Abbey, Director, Legislative Finance Committee (LFC)
Eilani Gerstner, Senior Fiscal Analyst I, LFC
Rachel Gudgel, Senior Fiscal Analyst, LFC

Guests
The guest list is in the meeting file.

Handouts
Handouts and other written testimony are in the meeting file.

Friday, September 2

Representative Miera welcomed the task force members. Noting the lack of a quorum, he indicated that the approval of the July minutes would be delayed until a quorum is present. Members of the task force introduced themselves.

Fiscal Year 2012 Revenue Projections

Elisa Walker-Moran, chief economist, LFC, discussed the July 2011 consensus revenue estimates. She said that fiscal year 2011 (FY11) recurring revenue exceeds appropriations by $111 million from the December forecast, which includes post-session revisions. She explained that the reserves are projected to reach a total of $367 million, or seven percent of appropriations at the end of FY11. Ms. Walker-Moran stated that FY11 disaster allotments from the Appropriation Contingency Fund were increased to $24 million from a projection of $11 million due to recent wildfires and that the remaining balance is $52.7 million, with $47.1 million dedicated to education spending. In addition, she said the July 2011 consensus forecast projects revenues to exceed appropriations by $120.4 million in FY12, with a nine percent reserve ratio. She said that this forecast assumes a continuation of current cost-savings measures.

Ms. Walker-Moran continued, stating that Section 13 of the General Appropriation Act of 2011 authorizes the governor to transfer up to $50 million from the operating reserve to the appropriation account in FY11 or FY12 if revenues are insufficient to meet appropriations. She also pointed out that recurring growth is forecast at 9.9 percent in FY11 and 4.9 percent in FY12. Roughly one-third of the FY11 increase is due to revenue enhancement legislation passed in the 2010 session, she said, and that absent this legislation, FY11 growth would be forecast at 6.1 percent.

Concerning forecast reversions, Ms. Walker-Moran stated that energy-related revenues were increased due to oil prices and volumes being higher than projected in the December 2010 estimate. She added that natural gas prices have been adjusted up slightly from the December forecast. Regarding educational reversions, she said the FY11 appropriation to the state equalization guarantee assumed $59.4 million in credits for the local 0.5 mill levy, federal impact aid and federal forest reserve funds. She stated that actual credits received by the state total $73.5 million, resulting in an estimated reversion of $14.1 million to the general fund. She added that personal income tax (PIT) was unchanged from the December estimate and the corporate income tax was revised down from the December 2010 estimate due to the higher-than-anticipated film credit refunds, but it is above the July 2010 estimate.

Ms. Walker-Moran explained the risks to the economic forecast, including the U.S. economic recovery, which is vulnerable to weakness in the housing market, currency volatility, financial sector weakness and federal fiscal imbalance. She said the natural gas prices remain vulnerable to increased supplies from productivity improvements.

Clinton Turner, chief economist, Taxation and Revenue Department, offered an executive summary of the July 2011 consensus general fund revenue estimates, stating the July forecast revisions increase FY11 revenue by $110.1 million, FY12 revenue by $120 million and FY13 revenue by $164.8 million. After this update, he said, the general fund revenue will grow by almost five percent per year in FY12 and FY13. He noted that the growth of almost 10 percent in FY11 was due in part to tax increases passed in 2010. Mr. Turner explained that the primary legislative change from the 2011 session was the reduction of film production tax credits, and, although this change will increase revenue by about $20 million per year beginning in FY12, a sharp increase in film credit claims reduced FY11 revenue by $40 million. He added that the FY11 and FY12 increases are primarily due to gross receipts tax (GRT) and oil and gas revenues and that the increase in FY13 is due to higher corporate income tax and oil and gas revenues. Finally, he stated that natural gas is expected to average $5.60 per 1,000 cubic feet in FY12 and $6.20 per 1,000 cubic feet in FY13, up from $5.20 per 1,000 cubic feet in FY11. He noted that the oil is forecast at $87.80 per barrel in FY12 and $89.50 per barrel in FY13.

Discussing recent developments affecting the revenue outlook, Mr. Turner said that several economic reports published since early July indicate a slower-growing economy. He said that although these reports are clearly a cause for concern, the July forecast was conservative in the outlook for major revenues. He said the FY12 growth rate for GRT was only 3.6 percent, while the PIT forecast growth was only 3.8 percent. In addition, energy prices appear to have stabilized, he said, and assuming normal growth from seasonal factors and even with a slowly recovering economy, the current level of prices is only slightly below that included in the July forecast.

Concerning the general fund financial summary, Mr. Turner stated that, thanks to the increased revenue forecast, revenue will exceed spending in FY11 by $110.5 million and in FY12 by $123.1 million and that these amounts will increase total reserves to $489.9 million at the end of FY12, which represents nine percent of recurring appropriations. Mr. Turner said that although this is a dramatic improvement, there is still $52.9 million that may be needed to reimburse the federal government for past Medicaid payments, and these amounts would be on recurring appropriations. Finally, Mr. Turner stated that although there are many uncertainties in this revenue outlook, the fact that the state is seeing a return of revenue growth means the focus of budget negotiations will shift to how that growth is managed. He reported that Governor Martinez's administration will be focused on three major priorities in budget policy: restrained spending growth that prioritizes critical needs; tax reform to stimulate growth of the private sector; and maintaining adequate reserves to ensure the financial viability of the state.

Stephanie Schardin Clarke, interim director, State Board of Finance (BOF), said that the general obligation bonds (GOB) are backed by the state property tax mill. She noted that the 2010 legislature passed a bill that would have resulted in issuing $180 million in GOB. She said the GOB capacity is one percent of the tax base, and as the base of property tax grows, the amount of GOB increases as well. Ms. Clarke explained that GOB projects require approval from the voters and that the $150 million for higher education institution projects did not pass muster with the voters, and, since this GOB issue failed, the GOB issue was lowered. She added that the available GOB capacity doubled due to the failure of the GOB issue and can be used for higher education, health facilities, library acquisitions, classrooms and senior centers with subsequent voter approval.

Leila Burrows, economist, LFC, discussed severance tax bond capacity. In summary, she said that Senate Finance Committee Substitute for Senate Bill 218, which would have approved $237.8 million in capital projects, failed to pass in the 2011 legislative session, and, as a result, the $57.7 million that was set aside for senior sponge bonds was made available for supplemental sponge bonds, bringing the total issuance for public school capital outlay in FY11 to $206.1 million. She said that the BOF and the LFC estimate senior long-term bonding capacity of $192.3 million in FY12, and, as in previous years, this amount was calculated to ensure that, given current revenue assumptions, the same amount can be issued in each of the next 10 fiscal years. She stated that given this amount of long-term capacity, the senior sponge bond capacity will be $73.7 million and the supplemental sponge bond capacity will be $147.7 million for FY12. After subtracting capacity earmarked for the Water Project Fund, the Tribal Infrastructure Project Fund and the Colonias Infrastructure Project Fund, estimated net senior bond capacity is $212.7 million and supplemental bond capacity is $147.7 million, for a total of $360.4 million, she explained.

Concerning senior capacity, Ms. Burrows said that senior long-term capacity is determined as the amount that can be issued each year for 10 years, assuming the total debt service in each year does not exceed 50 percent of severance tax revenue. She explained that the typical maturity is 10 years to correspond to the expected life of the capital project. Senior severance tax bonds are tax exempt, she stated, which means the cost of borrowing is lower than that of taxable bonds. She explained that short-term senior capacity for sponge notes is calculated as 50 percent of deposits to the Severance Tax Bonding Fund less senior debt service due in that fiscal year. The bonds are sold to the state treasurer, she explained, and then repaid within a short period, usually one to two days. She clarified that sponge notes are essentially a means to access earmarked revenues and are taxable, but because they are short term, the interest costs are immaterial.

Task force members asked for points of clarification regarding various issues discussed by the presenters and engaged in conversation with the presenters about those points, including uses for senior severance tax bonds and supplemental severance tax bonds.

Update on Progress of Adequacy Standards Development for the New Mexico School for the Deaf (NMSD) and the New Mexico School for the Blind and Visually Impaired (NMSBVI)

Robert Gorrell, director, Public School Facilities Authority (PSFA), reminded the task force members that adequacy standards for these special schools have not yet been developed. He noted that the resolution for the procedure for completion of deficiency correction projects at the NMSD and the NMSBVI has been sent to the PSFA and school staff. He emphasized the magnitude of the project and stated that good progress has been made, even though some deadlines have been missed. Mr. Gorrell stated that since the last PSCOOTF meeting, the schools and the PSFA have established a schedule that includes completion of the projects in early 2012. He added that other states are looking to New Mexico's handling of establishment of standards for these special schools.

Concerning the adequacy standards for the NMSD and the NMSBVI, Mr. Gorrell explained that the general classrooms should be three times as large as classrooms in traditional schools but clarified that the PSFA must still document these needs. He said there are spaces within the special schools that are similar to traditional schools that will allow the established adequacy standards to be applied. He identified the outreach programs and the housing units as areas that still lack adequacy standards. Mr. Gorrell drew the task force members' attention to a graph illustrating the Facilities Condition Index (FCI) of each building within the special schools' campuses and highlighted that two-thirds of the facilities are worse than the average condition of the schools in the state.

Richard Romero, facilities specialist, PSFA, informed the task force that within the next month, the PSFA, the NMSD and the NMSBVI will be drafting assumption criteria and anticipate providing those draft standards to the task force at the October meeting. He said those standards will be coupled with various mechanics for review by the NMSD, the NMSBVI and the PSFA and then presented to the Public School Capital Outlay Council (PSCOC). Finally, he said the completed standards will be provided at the PSCOOTF's November meeting.

Task force members expressed concern about the lack of consensus on the 50 percent match being proposed for funding NMSD and NMSBVI facility improvements. In response, Mr. Gorrell clarified that this aspect has yet to be worked out and suggested that the legislature might determine what, if any, match should be required. Members of the task force, Mr. Gorrell and Ms. Ball discussed the conversation that took place at the previous meeting on this topic. Task force members once again expressed concerns about the slow progress of this process and stressed the importance of establishing standards by the end of the 2011 calendar year. Members also affirmed the task force's commitment to addressing facility needs at both the NMSD and the NMSBVI.

Mr. Abbey, chair, PSCOC, stated that adopting standards as the project proceeds is linked to the NMSD's and the NMSBVI's master plan, and he said the next step is to identify what projects are the most significant, and then the PSCOC will balance the funding needs to make reasonable progress on the standards while ensuring that the progress does not hinder progress for other schools.

PSCOC Standards-Based Capital Outlay, Lease Assistance and Roof Grant Awards, 2011-2012

Mr. Abbey told the task force that since the PSCOC standards-based process is now entering its eighth year, he would discuss the overall effectiveness of the program, as well as some of the remaining challenges.

He noted that surveys and feedback indicate that the program is perceived as a fair and equitable one by the people it serves. He explained that an overall improvement in facilities, evidenced by a 50% reduction in the FCI since implementation of the standards-based process, correlates directly to the higher level of public school infrastructure since 2001. He noted that funding levels have been declining since 2006 but remain well above average annual levels in the 25 years that preceded implementation of the process.

He also explained that the program has been effective in turning investment into completed projects, noting that 1,189 projects have been completed since 2001, at a total investment of $1.6 billion in state capital outlay.

In terms of assisting New Mexico's sluggish economy, Mr. Abbey explained that roughly 28 direct and indirect jobs are created and funded for each $1 million in expenditures on school construction, according to research cited by the University of New Mexico Bureau of Business and Economic Research. He noted that school construction and renovation, especially since 2008, have been a primary driver of jobs in New Mexico's rural areas.

Mr. Abbey went on to explain that, as annual severance tax revenue levels have varied, the standards-based program has evolved from initially funding entire schools to a more cost-effective, phased "just-in-time" funding process that allocates capital outlay funding only at the moment it is needed. He explained that just-in-time funding has been effective in significantly reducing project development duration — 87 percent of funds are now encumbered within 15 months of project awards.

He also touted the programs that the PSCOC has in place to encourage good fiscal management, good project development and good maintenance. He noted that PSCOC award funding requires that districts have current facilities master plans, current preventative maintenance plans and current financial audits, as well as other requirements. Overall, he said, he believes that these requirements have improved the quality of public school facilities funding and management across the state.

Mr. Abbey also touted this program's success to leverage other state infrastructure sectors. He said the legislature has used this process to incubate potentially better ways to manage infrastructure development and capital funding. He noted, in particular, that the PSCOC's greatest needs database and the PSCOC membership structure have proven to be effective, and it may be good policy to roll these out to other agencies that oversee capital outlay.

Mr. Abbey said the PSCOC challenges include such issues as the required level of funding to maintain facilities in their current condition. He noted that current unfunded public school facilities needs total about $4.05 billion. He said that the FCI bottomed out in 2010 at 36.13 percent but has since increased to 37.93 percent — the first increase since this program was created. He noted that the increase is a result of a reduction in funding over the past few years, which has been lower than the break-even level needed to keep the state average FCI from increasing. He explained that to maintain the FCI at its current level would require average funding over the next five years of $343 million per year. The state share of that cost would be about $134 million per year. At lower funding levels, degradation exceeds renovation repair, and facilities conditions decline.

Mr. Abbey also noted the long-term financial impact on an increasing FCI. He said that as the FCI increases, the conditions of facilities worsen and repair costs go up, meaning that reducing facilities funding over the short term imposes increasing costs in the future. He explained that for every one percent in the FCI, there would be an increase in facilities maintenance and repair costs in future years of about $180 million.

Mr. Abbey noted that public school facilities have been relatively well-funded over the past eight years. He said that some policymakers have discussed the possibility of declaring victory and reallocating some of the funding that has been dedicated to school facilities. He noted that, within that discussion, the cost of maintaining the FCI at current levels as well as the cost of not maintaining the FCI at current levels would need to be considered.

Joe Guillen, chair, Awards Subcommittee, PSCOC, pointed out that with the just-in-time funding, the PSCOC makes standards-based awards throughout the year rather than on one specific date as in the past. He noted that the standards-based awards made in July include $5.37 million in award funding to 18 schools in 12 districts — all 18 awards were for planning and design or for reallocations to planning. He noted that the corresponding potential out-of-cycle awards may total an additional $79.09 million. He clarified that total project costs to school adequacy for these projects are $153.93 million. He said that the district share of these costs would total about $74.8 million. He explained that these standards-based awards were funded down through the top 60 schools on the New Mexico Condition Index (NMCI) ranked list of school needs. Schools that applied for funds within the top 60 schools received an award.

Regarding the standards-based roof awards, Mr. Guillen noted that a total of $6.68 million was awarded to 17 schools in 11 districts. He explained that funds were awarded only to those schools that had local matching funds available and that were prepared to complete the projects for which they applied within one year. In response to task force comments about the fact that $10 million had been approved for these awards, Mr. Guillen noted that the contingencies may have limited the number of applications.

Mr. Guillen also discussed the lease assistance awards, which gave $10.7 million to 90 schools, including 83 charter schools. He stated that the maximum allowable lease assistance award is $733 per student. He also addressed the concept of replacement versus renovation, the challenge of improving schools with declining enrollments, the financial ability of schools to match funds and the consolidation of facilities in rural areas.

Several task force members inquired about charter school lease assistance awards. In response, Mr. Abbey explained that at times, school districts have excess space and lease that space to charter schools. Mr. Gorrell assured the members that the state is not "double paying" on any same square footage, meaning that a school district is not leasing facilities that the taxpayers are paying for to charter schools, which are then asking for lease assistance awards to pay the school district.

With respect to the topic at hand, Dr. Grover stated that Senate Bill 446 (2011), a charter school contract bill, passed and holds charter schools to the highest academic, fiscal, educational and lease standards. She said that there is leeway to look at lease standards and at how laws on the books can support facility needs of charter schools. She also reminded the task force that House Bill 283 (2011) cleans up charter school facility issues. She said that underutilization of facilities is prevalent, and those facilities should be made available to the charter schools at no extra cost. She also suggested analyzing the charter school renewal threshold to more easily assist charter schools with their facilities. Discussion ensued among Dr. Grover and PSFA staff regarding these issues. Dr. Grover requested the names of the charter schools that have allegedly turned down the opportunity to move into available public school facilities.

Other task force members inquired about facility master plans from public schools and the number of public schools that have completed master plans that include charter and magnet schools. Mr. Gorrell responded that all school districts are required to include this information in their master plans. Further discussion took place in regard to concerns about defining the terminology of "charter school", "magnet school" and "specialty school".

Some task force members opined that charter schools are a tool for public schools to use to develop alternate teaching methods and said that charter schools were conceived as an incubator for research and development for public schools, and the purpose is to disseminate good ideas.

Public School Facilities Ranking Methodology and Field Assessments

Christopher Aguilar, facilities database manager, PSFA, offered an overview of the facilities ranking methodology, beginning with the facilities assessment database, stating that it is the tool used to create standards-based prioritization for funding public school facilities through the PSCOC. He said the database combines building repair cost and system life-cycle analysis with New Mexico educational adequacy standards to create the NMCI. He said this index enables the comparison of all the public schools in the state to determine the greatest need for funding the correction of school deficiencies. He added that through tracking building repair cost and system life-cycle data within a school, the PSFA is able to score the school following the industry standard concept of the FCI, which is a tool used to rate school facilities in comparison to others and is a ratio of needed repairs divided by replacement value. Mr. Gorrell elaborated on the weighted NMCI, explaining that it is calculated from the base formula for FCI and includes the cost to correct deficiencies based on the state educational adequacy standards. He stated that systems requiring immediate repair due to a health or safety threat will be weighted at the highest weight of 3.5 to ensure that those schools get treated with the greatest priority.

Concerning the life-cycle analysis, Mr. Aguilar explained that the physical site assessment is the first step in the process, and, upon completion of the assessment, the life span for each system is determined. He explained that a roof is considered 100 percent used 20 years after it is installed. He said that a life-cycle renewal requirement exists when a system is in use beyond the recommended life of the item. He said that if a system has been determined not to function effectively, it is moved higher on the list. Mr. Aguilar said the ranking also captures degradation costs of building systems that are still in their natural life cycle. To determine the percentage that a system has degraded, the current age of the system is squared and divided by the system life expectancy squared and thus creates the PSFA's degradation curve, illustrating a non-linear graph with back-end loading, he explained. Mr. Aguilar stated that the PSFA attempts to plan ahead by observing the population growth trends, using the growth factor used as an additional multiplier, which is computed and assigned to each school.

Dennis Schneider, facilities assessment database field assessor, PSFA, explained that after the data are gathered and compiled, the data are given to Mr. Aguilar and entered into the database. At the beginning of the ranking system, the PSFA generally looks at the top 100 schools for the first awards cycle. He said that since November 2008, evaluation of 312 schools has been completed.

Concerning the field assessments, Mr. Schneider explained that he takes 500 to 600 photos of each school, including every system, room, sidewalk, the roof and the safety of the environment of the pick-up and drop-off areas. He said that he also measures the rooms for square footage and measures the walls, the flooring, the halls and all mechanical areas but subtracts the empty space within the doorways. He added that he works with the district administration on the site assessment and that every district has been cooperative when he has been in the field thus far. He clarified that no photos of students or staff are taken. Once Mr. Schneider compiles the data, he said that data are given to Mr. Aguilar and a notice is then sent to the district asking it to review the data. He stressed that the PSFA considers the collected data to be property of the district.

Some members of the task force asked how a school is able to increase its ranking on the register. Mr. Aguilar responded that every school is in a position relative to other schools, and so the largest jump is due to the completion of projects. Mr. Schneider explained that a school in need of new windows or doors changes the ranking factor. He said that school reassessments can also cause a change in ranking.

Facilities Maintenance Assessment Reports

Mr. Gorrell offered two reasons for the importance of effective school maintenance, explaining that first, schools last longer and are more cost-effective for the districts and the community. He elaborated, stating that good, consistent maintenance can double the useful life of a school and can drastically cut operating costs. Second, he explained, schools perform better as safe and effective learning environments. He noted that studies conducted by the Council for Educational Facilities International have indicated that students attending adequate school facilities that are well-maintained can perform an average of one letter grade better than those in less adequate facilities.

Martin Montaño, maintenance manager, PSFA, explained that New Mexico has many well-maintained facilities but said that many are lacking and are at the opposite end of the spectrum. He said the problem goes beyond funding, for the PSFA has increased direct maintenance funding, and still not enough progress has been made. He said that over the past 10 years, SB 9 funding has increased from $35.00 per mill per unit to $70.00 per mill per unit and has shown minimal impact to improved facility maintenance. He said that the PSFA recognizes the basic problem: an objective measure of good maintenance is lacking. He said that the PSFA is proposing a Facility Maintenance Assessment Report (FMAR) that will provide the PSFA and the school districts with a measurement of effective maintenance and a benchmark for the entire nation in equitable capital delivery.

Les Martinez, maintenance specialist, PSFA, explained that the FMAR is a standards-based process for maintenance. He said it is a tool that allows the PSFA to rank the school in two specific categories: the facility maintenance conditions and the maintenance management functions required by statute. He said the facility maintenance conditions are divided into four categories: site, building exterior, building interior and building equipment and systems. He explained that the maintenance conditions include the evaluations of the preventative maintenance plan, facility information management system, safety, maintenance staff development, contractor oversight and facility master plan alignment. He continued, stating that the FMAR and standardized criteria aid the districts by putting a different set of eyes on the facilities to help identify issues and problems. Mr. Martinez said that being proactive and identifying these opportunities for improvement and best practices can reduce the costs and liability risks on an ongoing basis at schools. He said the district will still have the autonomy to prioritize these identified concerns and address them accordingly. He added that the report is deductive in nature, allowing each district to begin with a perfect score.

A few task force members asked for points of clarification and requested information regarding the age of the schools given as examples. Mr. Gorrell said he would provide those data.

Larry Tillotson, maintenance specialist, PSFA, presented the key benefits of the FMAR that would be provided to schools: improved efficiency in the limited time frame for maintenance because the reports are designed to focus on the greatest challenges; a simplified way to leverage best maintenance practices; and an effective means to eliminate disincentives of penalizing school districts that conduct great maintenance.

Mr. Montaño added that school district leadership may have concerns with implementing a new program that will require start-up time and that will impact staff. Alternatively, he said the PSFA envisions that the FMAR will allow the district to make more use of its existing resources. He said that the school districts have the authority to decide what they want to address first, not the state, and he said this is an unfunded mandate.

Mr. Gorrell explained that more than 100 schools must have site assessments conducted each year, which requires two to three additional field assessors. He explained that the PSFA currently has staff vacancies available to cover this. Mr. Gorrell added that the cost to build this benchmark system and to conduct the initial assessments is $500,000. He said the second option for contractors is $250,000 for the first two years, and then it would be sustained by the PSFA's operational budget thereafter.

Representative Miera reminded task force members that the issue of preventative maintenance has been discussed and emphasized by the current task force as well as its predecessor, the Public School Capital Outlay Task Force, prior to this discussion. He noted that task force members have always been in agreement about the issue's merit but expressed concern that increasing the size of the PSFA maintenance staff while school districts are reducing the size of their respective maintenance staffs sends an inappropriate message from the task force and the PSCOC to districts. He suggested that the PSFA continue to work on the issue using existing fiscal and personnel resources.

Some task force members expressed concerns that coordinated preventative maintenance programs are important, not only for older facilities, but also for school facilities of all ages.

Public Comment

Ed Marquez, director of operations, Central Consolidated School District, offered a perspective on maintenance, stating that good maintenance is driven by leadership oversight and that it is difficult for a school principal to understand the total maintenance picture because the principal's training focuses on children's education. He suggested that if $500,000 will be spent, periodic scheduled maintenance for all districts should be developed. He expressed concern that the FMAR appears to be an additional layer of bureaucracy and the maintenance is not being completed.

Approval of July Minutes

Upon a motion made by Representative Saavedra and seconded by Dr. Foster, the July minutes were approved.

Adjournment

There being no further business before the task force, the thirty-third meeting of the PSCOOTF adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

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