



***CITIZEN'S OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE (PUBLIC SAFETY)  
MINUTES  
JANUARY 2, 2018  
6:00 PM  
SANGER COUNCIL CHAMBER  
1700 7<sup>TH</sup> STREET, SANGER***

***A. CALL TO ORDER***

The Committee called their meeting to order at 6:04 PM.

***B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE***

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Member Tony Gonzales.

***C. ROLL CALL***

Present: Simpson, Miser, Gonzales, Griggs  
Absent: Mares

***D. AGENDA APPROVAL, ADDITIONS AND/OR DELETIONS***

The Committee by motion of Member Gonzales approved the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Secretary Miser and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Simpson, Miser, Gonzales, Griggs  
NOES: None  
Abstain: None  
Absent: Mares

***E. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION***

Dr. Jerry Valadez thanked the Committee for the revision of the minutes. He asked why the Police Department's grant program had been reported under Department Reports and not with the Measure S Reports in the past and if that would be standard procedure because the program was not listed in tonight's agenda.

***F. WORKSHOP/PRESENTATION***

1. Measure S Grant Recipient Quarterly Report:

**Unity Estates High School Bigs Program - Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central California**

Representatives of the Unity Estates High School Bigs Program provided an overview of the financials and an update about the program. The funds they received from Measure S were used

for supplies, curriculum, and partial payroll for the coordinator. A copy of the presentation is included with these minutes as Attachment "A".

**Big in Blue Lunch Buddies Program – Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central California**

Program Coordinator Frank Gonzalez gave a presentation of the program and said the Measure S funding was received and used for supplies and payroll. A copy of the presentation is included with these minutes as Attachment "B".

**Unity Estates Community Services Program – Community Resident Services, Inc.**

Administrative Services Director Gary Watahira notified the Committee that Unity Estates was not available to make the presentation.

**Street SMART – Boys & Girls Club of Fresno County**

Arlene Mendoza presented the financials and made note that they are actually at 50% of their budget. She said the funds were used for equipment, community projects, town hall costs, program supplies, rewards and field trips. Kathy Vue, Director of Operations, and Kim Ozuna gave a presentation about the program. A copy of the presentation is included with these minutes as Attachment "C".

**Sanger Youth Making Positive Choices – Community Science Workshop Network, Inc. (SAM Academy)**

Dr. Jerry Valadez gave a presentation of their 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter activities and progress to date. He presented their financial reports. A copy of the presentation is included with these minutes as Attachment "D".

**G.R.E.A.T Program**

Police Chief Silver Rodriguez said the G.R.E.A.T. program is in full operation and receiving strong support from the school district. He said the Measure S funds pay the salary of the G.R.E.A.T. Officer and some supplies and materials. G.R.E.A.T. Officer Cynthia Trevino said the Program is an evidence-based national and international gang and violence prevention program building trust between law enforcement and the community and has been in existence for 30 years. She said she visits 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade classes within City schools to teach the curriculum.

**Public comment:**

Linda said she was not aware of the many programs for children. She asked if the G.R.E.A.T. program has resulted in the children becoming more open to speak. G.R.E.A.T. Officer Trevino said she has seen an improvement.

Mary Gonzalez thanked the participants for the information shared and her concern regarding the timeframe of the grant disbursements because they are delaying the groups' ability to implement their programs.

Donna Bailey said she does not know why the disbursements are being handed out as an allowance.

### **G. CONSENT CALENDAR**

1. SUBJECT: Minutes for the special meetings held on July 5, 2017 and July 25, 2017 and the regular meetings held on and October 3, 2017, November 7, 2017, and December 5, 2017.

Secretary Miser said he has some issues with the minutes of July 25<sup>th</sup> and pulled the July 25<sup>th</sup> minutes from the Consent Calendar.

The Committee by motion of Member Griggs approved the remaining Minutes on the Consent Calendar. The motion was seconded by Member Gonzales and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Simpson, Miser, Gonzales, Griggs  
NOES: None  
Abstain: None  
Absent: Mares

Minutes of the Special Meeting held on July 25, 2017.

Secretary Miser referred to Page 2 of the minutes and said he is monitored by the State and has to ask certain questions due to his license. He said it is nothing out of character since he is an accountant.

Public comment:

Mary Gonzalez said she is surprised that the accuracy of the minutes is being discussed and said City Staff should review the minutes and make corrections to protect the integrity of Measure S.

The Committee by motion of Member Gonzales tabled the Minutes of July 25, 2017. The motion was seconded by Member Griggs and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Simpson, Miser, Gonzales, Griggs  
NOES: None  
ABSTAIN: None  
ABSENT: Mares

## H. DEPARTMENT REPORTS

1. SUBJECT: INFO ITEM - Measure S Budget, Revenue and Expenditure Reports – November 2017.

Director Watahira presented the November financial statements.

Public Comment:

Vincent Wall asked if the numbers being discussed can be provided to the audience.

Director Watahira said he can provide a PowerPoint presentation next time.

2. SUBJECT: CONTINUED - Measure S Compliance Audit with Opinion.  
RECOMMENDATION: That the Citizen's Oversight Committee review a proposal for a Compliance Audit from Brown Armstrong CPAs and make recommendation to the City Council to proceed or not to proceed with additional audit scope including Fiscal Year 2017.
3. SUBJECT: Ordinance Clarifying Expenditure Language.

Member Gonzales said he believes the City Attorney would present a conflict of interest and that they should use an independent attorney.

Member Griggs said she was leaning more towards having a special meeting so they can all attend.

Member Gonzales said he would like an Ad-Hoc to get input from the community and the Council.

Chairperson Simpson said she would like to see an Ad-Hoc committee with other people involved.

By motion of Secretary Miser the Citizen's Oversight Committee directed a Special Meeting be called for the purpose of providing input on changes to the Measure S expenditure language. The motion was seconded by Member Gonzales and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Simpson, Miser, Gonzales, Griggs  
NOES: None  
ABSTAIN: None  
ABSENT: Mares

4. SUBJECT: Police Department Update.

Police Chief Silver Rodriguez reported they are in the final stages on the completion of the surveillance cameras at four City parks. He said additional staff was scheduled on New Year's Eve and it was not as chaotic or as busy as it has been in the past.

Member Griggs commented on her concerns with pedestrians and said she would like see more awareness of them.

5. SUBJECT: Fire Department Update.

Fire Chief Greg Tarascou reported the new ambulance is expected to arrive two months early. He said the Department has experienced a record number of calls and there has been an increase in fires over the last couple of weeks.

**I. STAFF COMMUNICATIONS**

Nothing to report.

**J. MATTERS INITIATED BY COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

1. SUBJECT: Amend Grant Procedures.

Member Gonzales said he feels the Measure S grant recipients should be paid up front the full amount granted to them.

Secretary Miser said he agrees and that it should be changed. He said prior to implementation of requiring reports, no non-profit organization reported how they spent the money. He said he was pleased with groups that did today.

Member Griggs said she would like to see the non-profit groups be paid up front to be more beneficial to the participating children.

Chairperson Simpson reported there is a consensus that the Committee make a recommendation to the City Council to amend the grant procedures regarding payment of grant funds to change disbursements from four times per year to one total payment up front in July, with two reporting program presentations per year including financials.

2. SUBJECT: Unused Grant Funds.

Secretary Simpson said there was a very small amount of money to distribute to after school programs because the G.R.E.A.T. program took a large amount. She said there are two groups that did not take their money and that she would like to see it divided equally among the five non-profits groups.

Secretary Miser said he supports it but feels the non-profit groups should submit a revised budget for accountability purposes.

Member Griggs said she does not agree that giving the money to the other groups would be beneficial since they've already established their budget and they would have to revise their budgets and programs.

Public comment:

Jerry Valadez said the guidelines were revised last year changing the allocations from one to four and in the past the City Staff and Committee had taken different approaches with the remaining funds. He suggested this year the awardees apply for the remaining funds and that it can be treated as an augmentation or addendum to the existing budget for this year.

Vincent Wall said he agrees with Dr. Valadez's suggestion and said it can be an extension program so they do not have to redo their whole budget.

Chairperson Simpson said she reviewed the applications and none of the groups were awarded the amounts they had requested.

Mary Gonzalez said it would be very easy for the five awardees to provide a revised budget within two weeks for approval next month and if the augmentation of the timing of the mid year is a concern they can apply an extension for this fiscal year awards.

Secretary Miser said the amount was approved by the City Council in the current budget. He said doing anything beyond that amount would need to go to Council because the Committee does not have the authority. He said spending the full amount this year would be beneficial to the non-profit groups.

Chairperson Simpson reported there is a consensus that the Committee recommend to the City Council to direct unused awarded grant funds to be divided among the non-profit grant recipients based on revised budgets.

***MATTERS INITIATED BY COMMITTEE MEMBERS (CONTINUED)***

Member Gonzales shared his concern regarding the recommendation of Brown Armstrong to conduct the compliance audit. He said Secretary Miser had provided a list of CPAs to Staff. Member Gonzales said Director Watahira provided copies of emails that he had sent to the firms regarding the RFP for the compliance audit. Member Gonzales said he contacted the firms directly and was told they had not received complete applications. He said he has an issue with confidence and transparency regarding the compliance audit process. He recommended the Committee go back to the list of firms to complete the remainder of the compliance audit. He said the audit was actually an Agreement of Procedures report. Member Gonzales said he has a lack of confidence with Brown Armstrong.

Chairperson Simpson said Secretary Miser and Director Watahira are working together on the compliance audit.

Secretary Miser said the Committee's vote last month was wrong and said the compliance audit was not done. He said the procedures done were to see if the money was collected and if it was spent on public safety. The compliance audit should have included a review of supplement versus supplant. He said there is a 2012 report that suggests some things were in violation.

Member Griggs said the Committee voted at the last meeting to table the item and she and Secretary Miser were appointed to meet with Director Watahira but that had not yet happened. She said she does not have an issue with moving forward with what was decided at the last meeting.

Chief Tarascou shared that the purpose of *Matters Initiated by Committee Members* is an opportunity for Committee Members to initiate an item or concern and develop a consensus that the item be placed on a future agenda for discussion and/or action.

Member Griggs she would like to request the meeting with she, Member Miser and Director Watahira.

Member Miser said the suggestion should be that the Committee review possible directions for compliance audit.

Chairperson Simpson suggested the meeting with Member Griggs, Secretary Miser and Director Watahira be held before the next meeting.

#### ***K. NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING***

1. The next regular meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 6, 2018 at 6 PM.
3. City Council meetings are held on the first and third Thursday of each month. The next regularly scheduled City Council meetings will be held January 4 and January 18, 2018.

#### ***L. ADJOURNMENT***

Being no further business the Committee adjourned their meeting at [8:16:15 PM](#).