

BOND REIMBURSEMENT & GRANT REVIEW COMMITTEE

March 15, 2018, Wednesday

Teleconference

MEETING MINUTES

Committee Members Present

Heidi Teshner, Chair
Dale Smythe
Robert “Bob” Tucker
Doug Crevensten
Don Hiley
Rep. Sam Kito

Staff

Tim Mearig
Larry Morris
Wayne Marquis
Kimberly Crawford

Additional Participants

None.

CALL TO ORDER and ROLL CALL at 2:34 p.m.

Heidi Teshner, Director of Division of Finance and Support Services, chair, called the meeting to order at 2:34 p.m. Roll call of members present; Sen. Anna MacKinnon, Mark Langberg, and William Murdock are excused. Quorum of 6 members.

REVIEW and APPROVAL of AGENDA

Rep. Kito moved the agenda, Bob seconded. Approved by unanimous consent.

PUBLICATION UPDATE

Preventive Maintenance Handbook

Tim introduced the draft handbook and drew attention to the gaps in the material. The hope is to strategize in this session how to fill them in order to send the draft out for public comment following this work session. Solicited committee member comments.

Dale offered two comments: the estimated life expectancies of HVAC controls at 20 years and special electrical at 15 years, has changing technology affected the life spans; and interested in discussing the measurement of fuel usage as it relates to individual facilities. Tim directed the committee to the sample renewal and replacement (R&R) tool. Tim clarified whether the concern was need for upgrade as opposed to systems wearing out; Dale confirmed, software may not function as long as a component. Discussion of whether program upgrade costs within 10 to 15 years are operational versus capital and whether it is in state’s best interest. Bob offered that controls are all electrical now and the age should be lower to match that of special electrical due to rapid technology changes. Dale proposed language update to listing of components – downplay pneumatic controls and include electronic controls, digital controls.

Committee discussed energy management and tracking of energy consumption at sites and facilities. Dale offered edit that the implementation section contain language that a district should designate and identify a position to be in charge of the tracking. Tim stated that the minimum bars are directly tied to regulation; potential to add in ‘best practices’. Document needs to be clear what are required for compliance and what is beyond that. Bob suggested adding it into bullet list as a recommendation of what other districts are doing.

Don identified added language in the statutory authority section that states funding is for capital projects and not preventive maintenance, then goes on with “nor for projects costs caused by a

lack of [regular or preventive maintenance]”. Tim acknowledged it cannot be included in the context of eligibility. Don strongly objected to the addition. Punishes districts for decisions made by prior district personnel or budget situations. Tim stated that a proper place for a broad discussion is in the CIP application guidance; there are other statutes and regulations that speak to department authority to reduce projects. This handbook is not planned to be referenced in or have the force of regulation. Committee further discussed implications for projects that were or were not caused by lack of maintenance. Bob offered his support for the concept of the language in the CIP application. Doug asked whether the differentiation needed to be clearer between qualifying minimums and best practices. Don agreed that it could be better distinguished.

Tim summarized the structure of the introduction sections: open with statement of the regulation and regulation requirements, how those are documented by the maintenance certification visits and application process, state observation of current deficiencies, information related to work order process, finishes with a paragraph of best practices. At Bob’s suggestion, Tim offered to expand the purpose section to talk about the structure of the document to provide guidance on how to best use the handbook.

Tim provided an overview of what is included in the publication and the gaps that still need additional development. Admitted that including “facility management” in the publication adds a need for a lot of new material. If publication went out for public comment, department would ask for stakeholder assistance in filling outlined areas. Dale stated that the format, with “developing”, “implementing”, and “sustaining”, is reasonable; hoped that public would take opportunity to offer comments on the undeveloped areas to help form it. Tim observed that gaining input from district facilities personnel is preferred, as department does not have direct, hands-on experience.

BR&GR WORK PLAN

Tim commented that the updated work plan includes changes from December meeting. Reviewed publication timelines, possible need for additional review and drafts of the PM handbook.

Rep. Kito seconded that the public comment should go out with a letter soliciting feedback. General committee consensus for department to issue handbook for public comment as is.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Heidi recapped the legislative bills and current actions; not a lot of action on school facilities and construction topics. Upcoming hearing on HB 212, which would allow REAA funds to be used for major maintenance projects. No hearings on SB 87 as of yet, committee did a lot of work related to this bill over the past year. State board of education will meet next week and FY19 ranking lists are on the consent agenda for approval.

COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENT

Rep. Kito and Dale had no additional comments. Bob and Doug thanked staff. Doug liked the best practices and helpful hints, and suggested, when sending PM handbook out for public comment, to add specific comment requests to the publication. Don offered that department should recruit comments, it really needs active participation from personnel in the field. Heidi thanked committee members for participation and was looking forward to seeing members in Juneau on April 3.

MEETING ADJOURNED

The committee adjourned at 4:02 p.m.