

**SALES SURTAX CITIZENS' OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MEETING
MARCH 1, 2022**

The Sales Tax Surtax Citizens' Oversight Committee met on March 1, 2022, in the Training Room at the School District Central Administration Complex, located at 202 Highway 85 North, Niceville, Florida.

Committee Members Present

Jason Belcher, Chairman; Mike Carroll; Jacob Foreman (arrived at 4:03 p.m.); Bernard Johnson; Vince Mayfield; Leslie Sheekley (via telephone joining at 4:00 p.m.); Monica Wallis (via telephone joining at 4:00 p.m.); and Marcus Wilson. Absent: Susan Holley.

Others Present

C. Jeffrey McInnis, Esq., Attorney to the Board; Steve Horton, Deputy Superintendent; Julie Perry, Interim Chief Financial Officer/Budgeting Director; Bill Smith, Program Director, Facilities Planning; Joel Lindner, Program Director, Jacobs/Titan Technologies; and Dustin Merritt, Construction Manager, Jacobs/Titan Technologies.

Mr. Belcher called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m., for the purpose of receiving reports related to the School District's Half-Cent Capital Outlay Sales Surtax Program.

A motion was made by Mr. Johnson to authorize Ms. Sheekley and Ms. Wallis to participate via telephone conference call. The motion was seconded by Mr. Wilson. Motion carried 5-0.

Mr. Belcher announced that Leslie Sheekley has filled the Committee's vacant position previously held by Michelle Anchors. Committee Members and staff in attendance introduced themselves and briefly described their background.

Mr. McInnis explained that as an advisory body to the School Board the Committee is bound by the provisions of Florida's Sunshine Law and Public Records Law. He provided an overview of the Sunshine and Public Records laws and advised the Committee members not to have communication with each other in regard to Committee business outside of the publicly advertised meetings.

A motion was made by Mr. Mayfield to approve the minutes of the Meeting of October 26, 2021 (revised), and Minutes of the Meeting of December 9, 2021. The motion was seconded by Mr. Wilson and carried 8-0.

Julie Perry, Interim Chief Financial Officer/Budgeting Director, provided a financial update on the sales tax revenue, projections, and budget to date. She provided Committee Members with a document outlining the collection and use of a discretionary sales surtax in the State of Florida. Discussion followed with Ms. Perry addressing questions and comments from Committee Members regarding sales tax revenue projections and expenditures.

Steve Horton, Deputy Superintendent, announced that the sale of the Certificates of Participation (COP) is now complete and that the proceeds are now available to fund various capital projects districtwide.

Joel Lindner, Program Director, Jacobs/Titan Technologies, provided an update of the projects currently being funded by the sales surtax. He reported that the first group of projects to be addressed using proceeds from the sale of the COPs will be five (5) multipurpose buildings. The projects are currently out for bid to local general contractors. The bids are expected in early March, with construction scheduled to begin immediately after the contracts are awarded. Discussion followed regarding the remaining projects eligible for funding using the proceeds from the sale of the Certificates, with Mr. Lindner and Mr. Horton addressing questions and comments from Committee Members.

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Mr. Horton expressed appreciation to the Committee Members who have agreed to serve on the Committee for another year. He acknowledged the exceptional leadership and commitment of Michelle Anchors for her efforts in promoting the sales tax initiative and serving as Chairman of the Committee for the past year.

Mr. Wilson inquired regarding the possibility of information previously distributed regarding potential funding mechanisms for the District's sales tax projects could be provided to Committee Members at the next meeting. Mr. Horton acknowledged his request.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:48 p.m.

Mari McGowan, Recorder



Jason Belcher, Committee Chairman