

**FISCAL CRISIS AND MANAGEMENT ASSISTANCE TEAM
BOARD OF DIRECTORS' QUARTERLY MEETING
Resort at Squaw Creek Lake Tahoe, CA
June 22, 2008
Minutes**

Present:

Tim Foley, San Benito COE, Chair South Bay, Region 5
Steve Lund, Fort Bragg USD North Coast, Region 1
Paul Tichinin, Mendocino COE North Coast, Region 1
Gary Jones, Modoc COE Northeastern, Region 2
Wes Smith, Cascade UESD Northeastern, Region 2
Ric Teagarden, Yuba COE Capitol, Region 3
Sheila Jordan, Alameda COE Bay, Region 4
Mary Jane Burke, Marin COE Bay, Region 4
Marc Liebman, Berryessa USD South Bay, Region 5
Bill Draa, Banta ESD Delta Sierra, Region 6
Larry Powell, Fresno COE Central Valley, Region 7
Jose Gonzalez, Ballico-Cressey ESD Central Valley, Region 7
Randy Ward, San Diego COE Southern, Region 9
Jay N. Hoffman, Nuview USD RIMS, Region 10
Herbert Fischer, San Bernardino COE, Past Chair RIMS, Region 10
Frederick Harris Assistant Vice Chancellor, Calif. Community Colleges
Gavin Payne California Department of Education
Larry Reider Administrative Agent, FCMAT
Joel Montero Chief Executive Officer, FCMAT

Guests and Staff:

Christine Frazier Associate Supt., KCSOS
Anthony Bridges Deputy Executive Officer, FCMAT
Barbara Dean Deputy Administrative Officer, FCMAT
Roberta Mayor Chief Management Analyst, FCMAT
Michelle Plumbtree Chief Management Analyst, FCMAT
Frank Fekete Legal Counsel, FCMAT
Hazel Fields Executive Secretary, FCMAT
Nancy Sullivan Administrator, CSIS
Susan Grinsell BASC Chair
Ken Shelton Los Angeles County Office of Education

Excused:

Russ Brawn Chief Operations Officer, CSIS
Sherry Smith, El Dorado UHSD Capitol, Region 3
Debra Bradley, Sausalito-Marín City SD Bay, Region 4
Marc Ecker, Fountain Valley SD Southern, Region 9
Nancy Carroll, Ocean View SD Costa Del Sur, Region 8
Darline Robles, Los Angeles COE Los Angeles, Region 11
Amy Enomoto-Perez, Rosemead SD Los Angeles, Region 11
Don Singer San Bernardino Community College District

**Regular Meeting of the
Fiscal Crisis and Management Assistance Team (FCMAT)
Governing Board**

**Resort at Squaw Creek
June 22, 2008
10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.**

I. General Functions

- A. Call to Order
The meeting of the FCMAT Board of Directors was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Chair Tim Foley, San Benito Superintendent of Schools.
- B. Approval of agenda
A motion was made by Bill Draa to approve the agenda. The motion was approved.
- C. Approval of Minutes of March 5, 2008.
Paul Tichinin asked that the minutes be corrected to indicate that he was present at the March board meeting. Sheila Jordan moved that the minutes of March 5, 2008 be approved with the above revision. The motion was approved.
- D. Welcome from FCMAT's Administrative Agent
Larry Reider welcomed the board members and thanked them for their attendance.
- E. Recognition of Retirees
Tim Foley presented a certificate to Steve Lund and thanked him for his service on the board, and wished him luck for his retirement. Steve expressed admiration for the board and the work done by FCMAT.
- Joel Montero and Larry Reider presented a gift and well wishes to Roberta Mayor, who has accepted the position of Interim Superintendent in Oakland. Randy Ward also expressed appreciation for Roberta and the work she has done.
- F. FCMAT Executive Committee Report
The Executive Committee was all informational – no action taken.
- G. Public Participation
There were no public comments.

- H. Report from the CEO
Joel Montero and Fred Harris gave input on Community College budget information. This information will be included as an agenda item in future meetings. The June 2008 issue of the FCMAT newsletter explained recent staff changes. Michelle Plumbtree has been promoted to the position of Chief Management Analyst. Joel emphasized that we are facing an unprecedented budget situation. FCMAT staff will prioritize job requests with the top priority being fiscal emergency. Technical assistance calls continue to increase. CBO Mentor Project Fifth Cohort is in progress and the Sixth Cohort is on the horizon. There could be a 25% reduction in professional development programs in the future. FCMAT will fill the vacancy for Fiscal Intervention Specialist that is currently posted. Decisions on further positions will be made at a later time. Sheila Jordan expressed concern about training for CBO's, and other training levels since there is a need for this type of service
- Joel referred to handouts given to each board member, including the CBO Executive Report and the FCMAT RDA Alert.
- I. Report from the California Department of Education
Gavin Payne - State has been borrowing from programs for years and realizes that this is a serious issue. Merging of school districts is being considered. Cash problems are the driving issue with the state. He stated that a healthy CDE is essential, and this budget hurts CDE.
- J. Report from Secretary of Education or Designee
Scott Hill was unable to attend.
- K. FCMAT Annual Budget Report
Barbara Dean explained the 2008-2009 FCMAT budget. Joel pointed out that FCMAT Management Assistance can be reimbursed at the daily rate. The only adjustments made in the past have been to be consistent with market. We are lower than private sector. FCMAT has never raised rates to mitigate expenses, only to conform to the market and does not intend to do so in 08-09. Some districts cannot afford the whole cost, so they are billed accordingly. Ken Shelton expressed the importance of separating charters and districts as outlines in SB 430. Community College projects are funded project by project.
- L. California School Information Services (CSIS)
Nancy Sullivan explained CALPADS progress. This is a major software project by CDE. Joel said that any software release has problems at first, and CSIS will respond in the best way. CSIS is hoping for Best Practices Cohort funds for next year. The pilot for CALTIDES is due to be implemented in October 2010. The implementation of CALPADS is scheduled for 2010-11, and in 2011-12 CSIS will take over maintenance of the software. Discussion of future challenges followed. The plan includes adoption of a formal IT platform and obtaining proper training for staff. Randy Ward motioned, Bill Draa seconded to approve transition. Motion passed.
- M. Regional Teams Annual Report
Barbara Dean presented a report on Regional Teams. The teams are based on CCSESA regions. Susan Grinsell explained Region 1 activities. Allocations may be adjusted next year. There will be increased use of video conferencing in the future. Region 4 – professional development: Sheila Jordan said it was appreciated by participants. Mary Jane Burke stated that training will be spread all over the state. Use of technology eliminates travel, cutting

costs. Calls regarding closing schools have increased. Region 9 - Imperial. The County allocates distribution of funds. Some school districts or county offices combine Regional Team allocation with existing programs to expand projects. Region 10 is primarily involved in assisting districts through management analysis.

N. Status of Key FCMAT Assignments

Anthony Bridges covered FCMAT reviews, including the RDA alert. Some districts have been underreporting RDA dollars. He encouraged superintendents to discuss RDA reporting with their Chief Business Officers. There is pending legislation that looks at 5 years retroactive RDA dollars. Estimated 1.2 billion to be recouped by state in auditing. He advised County Offices of Education and School Districts to follow this issue closely. This is also an issue for Community Colleges.

O. Review of FCMAT Alerts

The FCMAT alerts were contained in the board packets, and the recently published RDA Alert was provided to all.

P. Electronic Transmission of Final Reports

FCMAT final studies are now transmitted electronically. This was well received with the board members.

II. Board Members' Comments

There were no comments for the Board.

III. Agenda Items for Next Meeting

A Board Member Training Program was previously requested and will be introduced at the January meeting.

IV. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1:09 p.m.