

**FISCAL CRISIS AND MANAGEMENT ASSISTANCE TEAM
 BOARD OF DIRECTORS' QUARTERLY MEETING
 Seascape Resort, Aptos, California
 October 19, 2008
 Minutes**

Present:

Christine Frazier Associate Supt., KCSOS
 Tim Foley, San Benito COE, Chair South Bay, Region 5
 Paul Tichinin, Mendocino COE North Coast, Region 1
 Gary Jones, Modoc COE Northeastern, Region 2
 Wesley Smith, Cascade UESD Northeastern, Region 2
 Ric Teagarden, Yuba COE Capitol, Region 3
 Sherry Smith, El Dorado UHSD Capitol, Region 3
 Sheila Jordan, Alameda COE Bay, Region 4
 Debra Bradley, Sausalito-Marín City SD 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
 Stan Mantooth, Ventura COE Costa Del Sur, Region 8
 Nancy Carroll, Ocean View SD Costa Del Sur, Region 8
 Randy Ward, San Diego COE Southern, Region 9
 Gary Thomas, San Bernardino COE RIMS, Region 10
 Jay N. Hoffman, Nuview USD RIMS, Region 10
 Herbert Fischer, San Bernardino COE, Past Chair RIMS, Region 10
 Darline Robles, Los Angeles COE Los Angeles, Region 11
 Amy Enomoto-Perez, Rosemead SD Los Angeles, Region 11
 Frederick Harris Assistant Vice Chancellor, Calif. Community Colleges
 Gavin Payne California Department of Education
 Joel Montero Chief Executive Officer, FCMAT

Guests and Staff:

Anthony Bridges Deputy Executive Officer, FCMAT
 Barbara Murphy Deputy Administrative Officer, FCMAT
 Michelle Plumbtree Chief Management Analyst, FCMAT
 Frank Fekete Legal Counsel, FCMAT
 Hazel Fields Executive Secretary, FCMAT
 Russ Brawn Chief Operations Officer, CSIS
 Nancy Sullivan Administrator, CSIS
 Susan Grinsell BASC Chair
 Nancy Kowtowski, Superintendent Monterey County Office of Education
 Mary Jane Burke Superintendent, Marin COE
 Gary Bousum CBO, Monterey COE
 Augie Scornaienchi

Excused:

Larry Reider Administrative Agent, FCMAT
 Marc Ecker, Fountain Valley SD Southern, Region 9
 Don Singer San Bernardino Community College District
 Jose Gonzalez, Ballico-Cressey ESD Central Valley, Region 7

General Functions

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Chair Tim Foley.

Approval of Agenda

Randy Ward motioned and Marc Lieberman seconded to approve the agenda. The agenda was approved.

Minutes of June 22, 2008

Fred Harris made a motion, and Gary Jones seconded to approve the minutes with a correction that Marc Liebman was not present at the June meeting. The minutes were approved.

Comments from FCMAT's Administrative Agent

In Larry Reider's absence, Christine Frazier, Associate Superintendent, welcomed the following new members to the Board: Dick Glock, Region 6, Delta Sierra; Stan Mantooth, Region 8, Costa Del Sur; Gary Thomas, Region 10, RIMS.

Chris presented a certificate of recognition to Herb Fischer, past Chair, now retired. She expressed appreciation for the years of service Herb has given, and wished him luck in his retirement years.

Chris also presented a resolution commending Tim Foley for his service as Chair. She stated that Tim served well in his capacity as the current Chair and formerly as Vice Chair. Joel Montero and others also expressed their appreciation.

FCMAT Executive Committee

The Executive Committee of the board recommended that Dr. Darline Robles assume and serve the final year of the past president's term. There were no dissenting votes. The transition of the Chair will occur at the January meeting. Dr. Robles will be up for election at the regular election time.

The Executive Board approved positions for two CSIS Programmer Analysts and one FCMAT Fiscal Intervention Specialist. Joel announced that Bill Gillaspie has been promoted to Chief Management Analyst for FCMAT.

Selection of FCMAT Board Vice Chair

Nominations were opened for the position of Vice Chair. This is a two year term, and the Vice Chair assumes the role of Chair if the presiding chair is unable to fulfill the entire term. Paul Tichinen nominated Larry Powell for Vice Chair, Gary Jones seconded the nomination. Randy Ward moved to close nominations. The vote was taken, and Larry Powell was elected.

Report from CDE

Gavin Payne reported on budget issues, emphasizing that this is a difficult year. Marc Liebman asked about funds available for the algebra requirement. Gavin said the timeline is a challenge because of limited resources. Sheila Jordon asked about the bailout and how it will affect County Offices of Education and School Districts. Anthony Bridges said the latest FCMAT Alert address that question and is scheduled for discussion later on the agenda.

Report from the Secretary of Education

No Report

Report from CEO

Joel Montero provided a copy of a letter by Fred Harris which outlined the effect of the delayed budget on Community Colleges.

Joel discussed some of the challenging issues of the current economic conditions as they apply to schools. Randy Ward questioned why California depends heavily on sales and use tax when many states do not. He requested information about other states, particularly those who do not rely on this source of revenue.

Public Participation

There were no public comments.

Fiscal Emergency Declaration – King City High School

Nancy Kotowski gave an overview of the special circumstances of King City High School District. A motion was made by Marc Liebman, seconded by Sheila Jordan to declare a Fiscal Emergency to King City High School. Barbara Murphy clarified what declaration of fiscal emergency involves. Declaration of a fiscal emergency allows FCMAT to set apart resources to provide services to the District. The motion passed.

FCMAT's Financial Report and Analysis 2008-09

Barbara Murphy gave a report on the FCMAT Financial Report and Analysis for fiscal year 2008-09. Gary Thomas motioned to approve the Financial Report. Nancy Carroll seconded the motion. The motion passed.

FCMAT's Annual Report 2007-08

Joel Montero referred to the Annual Report, which was distributed to all board members. The 2007-08 Annual Report was redesigned to be more up to date and relevant. It presents ongoing fiscal issues in California education. Paul Tichinen moved to adopt and Gary Jones seconded. The Annual Report was adopted.

California School Information Services (CSIS)

Nancy Sullivan showed the Board details of CSIS reports included in the board packets, including changes to format and a detailed transition plan. All information is posted on

the CSIS website. Larry Powell motioned to adopt the CSIS Plan. Debra Bradley seconded. It was approved.

Update on FCMAT Charter School Training

Michelle Plumbtree talked about offering charter school workshops with the goal of keeping them solvent, focusing on best practices, reporting requirements, etc. FCMAT plans to offer 4-5 charter school workshops around the state.

Overview of Recent FCMAT Alerts

Anthony Bridges referred the board members to the most recent Fiscal Alert, “Investing and Safeguarding District Funds.” Topics included: legal requirements for investing and managing public funds, authorized investments, reporting requirements of the county treasurer’s office, as well as actions and cash management strategies and time lines for LEA’s to follow. A draft analysis is being written concerning OPEB bonds for a future Alert.

Status of Key FCMAT Assignments

The report was included in the board packets distributed to all. FCMAT staff members reported on select studies.

Professional Development Calendar

Barbara Murphy presented the 2008-09 Professional Development Calendar containing names of workshops, the contractor and dates of workshops that FCMAT will fund this fiscal year. Attendees were provided with a separate list containing details of the workshops and amount of funds allocated.

Update of FCMAT Move

The Bakersfield FCMAT Office will move to a new office on the third floor of the University of Merced Building in Bakersfield. The location is still close to the County Office and will not require a change of address, since all FCMAT mail is sent to the County Office. Security concerns require the construction of doors with secure access. The project has gone to an architect for bid, but work has not started. The estimated date for moving is late November.

Board Members’ Comments

Darline Robles commented that it would be helpful to view information on budget cuts on the web. It would assist those interested in reviewing where districts are cutting their budgets. FCMAT will look into it. Since CASBO, CDE and BASC already doing this, a link to those sights may be all that is needed.

Gary Jones emphasized the important role of County Offices of Education and School Districts in monitoring expenditures of apportionment to charters.

Agenda Items for next meeting:
Charter Schools

Adjournment
The meeting adjourned at 1:22 P.M.