MINUTES

SPECIAL JOINT EL CERRITO CITY COUNCIL – WEST CONTRA COSTA UNIFIED
SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
Tuesday, April 3, 2012 – 7:00 p.m.
City Council Chambers

Meeting Location
El Cerrito City Hall – City Council Chambers
10890 San Pablo Avenue, El Cerrito

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<tr>
<th>Council Members</th>
<th>Board Members</th>
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<tr>
<td>Janet Abelson</td>
<td>Madeline Kronenberg</td>
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<td>Rebecca Benassini</td>
<td>Antonio Medrano</td>
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<td>Ann Cheng</td>
<td>Elaine R. Merriweather</td>
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<td>Greg Lyman</td>
<td>Charles T. Ramsey</td>
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<td>William C. Jones, III</td>
<td>Tony Thurmond</td>
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ROLL CALL
Present: Councilmembers Abelson, Benassini, Cheng, Lyman and Mayor Jones.
Absent: Boardmembers Kronenberg, Medrano, Merriweather, Thurmond and President Ramsey.

7:00 p.m.
CONVENE SPECIAL JOINT CITY COUNCIL – WEST CONTRA COSTA UNIFIED
SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

Mayor Jones convened the Special Joint City Council – West Contra Costa Unified School
District Board of Education meeting at 7:04 p.m.

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG was led by Councilmember Cheng.

2. COMMENTS BY MAYOR JONES

Mayor Jones welcomed the Board to City El Cerrito and noted that Board President Ramsey
initiated the idea of convening a joint meeting as a way of sharing ideas and receiving
presentations of mutual interest to the WCCUD and Board. Mayor Jones congratulated the
Board and WCCUD staff on paying off the state debt.

3. COMMENTS BY WEST CONTRA COSTA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD
OF EDUCATION PRESIDENT RAMSEY

Board President Ramsey thanked everyone in attendance and stated that he is excited to be in El
Cerrito and is looking forward to a robust discussion and hearing from residents.

4. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC
Lynda Frank, El Cerrito, spoke in support of the Writer Coach Connection and the positive impact it has achieved in the school district. Ms. Frank noted a correlation between how the school district performs, test scores and property values.

Jean Womack, Richmond, spoke in support of the Writer Coach Connection program.

Al Miller, El Cerrito, thanked the City Council and Board of Education for convening a joint meeting. Mr. Miller spoke in support of the School Resource Officer program.

Janet Duckart, El Cerrito, spoke in support of the WCCUSD support of adult schools and senior programs and expressed concerns about future funding and the continuance of programs for older adult programs.

Robert Menzimer, Albany, described the background, success and benefits of the Writer Coach Connection program in El Cerrito and expressed concerns about continued funding and volunteerism.

Todd Groves, El Cerrito, spoke in support of the Writer Coach Connection and the need for additional funding.

Maureen Dixon, El Cerrito, spoke in support of the Writer Coach Connection, shared data and testimony regarding the program and described the benefits to students who are engaged in the program.

Karen Shebeck, Kensington, spoke in support of the WCCUSD Measure K parcel tax.

Kathie Weinstein, El Cerrito, expressed concerns about losing school resource officers and expressed her support for the senior exemption in the WCCUSD Measure K parcel tax. Ms. Weinstein also spoke in support of continuing the Writer Coach Connection and senior programs.

Jewel Bleckinger, Richmond, expressed her support for continued funding of senior programs and the importance of programs in the community for citizens of all ages.

Florence H. Brown, El Cerrito, expressed her support for senior programs and encouraged the School Board to maintain senior programs.

5. OVERVIEW OF WEST CONTRA COSTA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT MEASURE K TAX PROPOSAL

Presenter: Bruce Harter, Ph.D, Superintendent, West Contra Costa Unified School District.

Action: Presentation heard and discussion held.

6. PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION OF MATTERS OF MUTUAL INTEREST TO THE CITY OF EL CERRITO AND THE WEST CONTRA COSTA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION

A. Update on WCCUSD Bond/Facilities Program

Presenters: Bill Fay, Associate Superintendent for Operations and Magdy Abdalla, District Engineering Officer, West Contra Costa Unified School District.

Action: Presentation heard and discussion held.
B. Update on Campus Safety and School Resource Officer Program

Presenters: Sylvia Moir, Police Chief and School Resource Officers Jeff Albrandt, Clyde Chang, and Edwin Jačala. Wendell Greer, Associate Superintendent, Matt Burnham, Principal, Portola Middle School and David Luongo, Principal, El Cerrito High School

President Ramsey stated that safety is a priority, explained that funding for the programs comes out of the general fund and expressed his appreciation for the work and dedication of the School Resource Officers.

Action: Presentation heard and discussion held.

C. Overview of After-School Programs in El Cerrito

Presenter: Christopher Jones, Acting Recreation Director and Liz Torio, Educational Services Director, West Contra Costa Unified School District.

Action: Presentation heard and discussion held.

D. Comments and Questions from the City Council/School Board

Action: Discussion held.

SUPPLEMENTAL COMMUNICATIONS

Item No. 5 Overview of West Contra Costa Unified School District Measure K Tax Proposal


Item No. 6(A) Update on WCCUSD Bond/Facilities Program

2. Powerpoint presentation, “City of El Cerrito Bond Program Projects” – Submitted by Bill Fay, WCCUSD.

Item No. 6(B) Update on Campus Safety and School Resource Officer Program


Item No. 6(C) Overview of After-School Programs in El Cerrito


Other:


7. ADJOINED JOINT CITY COUNCIL/WCCUSD BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING at 9:25 p.m.
THIS IS TO CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Special Joint El Cerrito City Council – West Contra Costa Unified School District Board of Education Meeting of April 3, 2012 as approved by the El Cerrito City Council.

Cheryl Morse, City Clerk
William C. Jones III, Mayor
EL CERRITO CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES

SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Tuesday, April 3, 2012 – 8:30 p.m.

Meeting Location
El Cerrito City Hall
10890 San Pablo Avenue, El Cerrito

Bill Jones – Mayor

Mayor Pro Tem Greg Lyman
Councilmember Rebecca Benassini

Councilmember Ann Cheng
Councilmember Janet Abelson

8:30 p.m. CONVENE SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Mayor Jones convened the Special City Council meeting at 9:35 p.m.

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG – Observed earlier.

2. COUNCIL / STAFF COMMUNICATIONS – No comments.

3. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

Al Miller, El Cerrito, encouraged the City Council to consider having informational presentations on items that appear on the Consent Calendar. Mr. Miller suggested items 5D through 5I could have been on the action calendar for presentation as a way of educating the public and to also highlight the city’s good work.

Laura Gonzalez, expressed her support for the American Cancer Society Relay for Life.

4. PRESENTATIONS – None

5. ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT CALENDAR – Item Nos. 5A through 5J

Moved, seconded (Lyman/Benassini) and carried unanimously to adopt Consent Calendar Item Nos. 5A through 5J in one motion as indicated below.

A. Minutes for Approval

Approve the following: 1) March 6, 2012 Special City Council, Regular City Council and Special City Council Closed Session meeting minutes; and 2) March 20, 2012 Special City Council and City Council Closed Session meeting minutes.

Action: Approved minutes.
B. Proclaiming April 2012 as Child Abuse Prevention Month

Approve a proclamation proclaiming the month of April 2012 as Child Abuse Prevention Month in the City of El Cerrito and calling upon all residents, community agencies, faith groups, medical facilities and businesses to increase their participation in efforts to support safe and strong families, thereby preventing child abuse and strengthening the communities in which we live.

Action: Approved proclamation.

C. Co-Sponsorship for the use of the Community Center Garden Room and Cerrito Vista Park by the American Cancer Society for Relay for Life

Adopt a resolution approving City co-sponsorship for American Cancer Society Relay For Life El Cerrito. Approval of co-sponsorship will make available the Community Center Garden Room for two hour meetings, once per month January to July 2012, and Cerrito Vista Park on July 21 and 22, 2012 and waive all fees associated with the use of these facilities. Available rooms or clubhouses will be used for the Relay’s planning meetings in order to prevent conflicts with potential rentals. Cerrito Vista Park will be used for the Relay itself.


D. Annual Parcel Assessment for the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System

Adopt a resolution establishing the annual NPDES assessment Equivalent Runoff Unit rate at the current rate of $38.00 and direct the Contra Costa Flood Control & Water Conservation District to adopt Stormwater Utility Area levies based on this amount.


E. Curb Marking Modifications in front of Prospect Sierra Elementary School (2060 Tapscott Avenue)

Adopt a resolution authorizing the Public Works Director/City Engineer to modify white and yellow curb markings in front of Prospect Sierra Elementary School located at 2060 Tapscott Avenue as shown on Exhibit A to the Resolution.


F. Fiscal Year 2012-13 Landscape and Lighting Assessment District Report

Adopt a resolution directing NBS Local Government Solutions (NBS), the designated Engineer of Work for the Landscape and Lighting Assessment District No. 1988-1, to prepare and file the annual report for Fiscal Year 2012-13.


G. Ordinance Establishing the Measure A Swim Center Parcel Tax Rate for Fiscal Year 2012-13

Introduce by title, waive any further reading and approve an Ordinance establishing the Measure A (Swim Center) Parcel Tax rate for FY 2012-13. Staff recommends that the City adopt an Ordinance establishing the Measure A Parcel Tax Rate at the current level of $38.61 per single-family residential unit, $29.73 per multifamily residential unit, and $270.66 per acre of non-residential property for FY 2012-13.

H. Quarterly Investment Report

Receive and file the City’s December 31, 2011 Quarterly Investment Report.

Action: Received and filed.

I. Annual Progress Report on General Plan 2011

Receive and file the attached General Plan Annual Progress Report.

Action: Received and filed.

J. El Cerrito Wall of Fame Nominations

Receive nominations of two individuals for the El Cerrito Wall of Fame. Mayor Jones’ appointment of the City Council Subcommittee members will occur on April 17, 2012.

Action: Received.

6. PUBLIC HEARINGS – None

7. POLICY MATTERS – None

8. COUNCIL ASSIGNMENTS/LIAISON REPORTS

A. Mayor Jones reported that the Design Review Board will be taking up the Chipotle design on April 4, 2012. The new Chipotle will be located at Carlson and San Pablo. The Oversight Board to the Successor Agency of the former El Cerrito Redevelopment Agency will be meeting for the first time on April 4, 2012 at City Hall.

B. Mayor Pro Tem Lyman reported that the West County Integrated Waste Management Authority distributed a request for interest to various potential recycling entities on April 2, 2012 that would handle waste starting January 1, 2014. The Authority is continuing to move forward on determining who the operator for collection will be in January 2014.

C. Councilmember Abelson reported on her attendance at several League of California Cities Policy Committee meetings. She received a presentation on redevelopment. Legislators are tired of cutting so may look for new revenue sources. The Legislature is currently waiting for the May revise of the state budget. It was also reported that the revenue growth of the state is better however local revenues are not. Unfortunately, a structural deficit remains in the state budget.

There was also discussion on federal transportation legislation and comments stating that cities should go slow on disposing assets of redevelopment agencies. Councilmember Abelson also reported on her attendance as a member of the Community Services Policy Committee where she learned that fifteen parks were closed. This committee also talked a lot about civil disturbance readiness and local disturbance actions. The Administrative Services Policy Committee was informed about the Governmental Performance and Accountability Act Initiative which has gathered approximately 800,000 signatures. The Initiative is primarily an accountability measure for state government but will also impact local government. Committee members also received a presentation from a member of the City Attorney Department who discussed Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC) gift regulations. The FPPC is attempting to make regulations more understandable and user friendly. The FPPC will begin with gift regulations and Regulation
1090/contracts.

D. Councilmember Benassini reported on her attendance at the Parks and Recreation Commission. The Commission received a presentation from a WCCUSD official who reported on the progress of various projects in El Cerrito. There was considerable discussion regarding field use and scheduling. The Commission also received a presentation from fellow commissioner Robin Mitchell regarding efforts taken toward the installation of a community garden demonstration pilot project at Fairmont Park. The Arts and Culture Commission discussed and approved the placement of icons for the San Pablo Avenue Public Art Project. Additionally, Requests for Proposals have been issued for a functional public art project at the new Recycling Center which would include useful items such as shelving and gates. The RFP noted a budget of $24,000. The Commission established a subcommittee to review the proposals and recommend a selection. The remainder of the meeting consisted of goal setting and orienting new members.

E. Councilmember Cheng reported that the Human Relations Commission will receive a presentation from Police Chief Moir and a representative from the Restorative Justice Movement. Commissioners will also discuss top priorities for the coming year.

9. **ADJOURNED SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING** at 10:03 p.m. in memory of former El Cerrito Mayor James Doherty and Sonam Chodon.

    THIS IS TO CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Special City Council meeting of April 3, 2012 as approved by the El Cerrito City Council.

    Cheryl Morse, City Clerk

    William C. Jones III, Mayor

Version: 4/19/2012