

October 16, 2013

Honorable Judge Stanley Eller
Presiding Judge of the Superior Court
100 Thompsons Way
P.O. Box 1037
Mammoth Lakes, California 93546

RE: Measure C, Case No. 1213.02

Dear Judge Eller,

The Kern Community College District (KCCD) and Cerro Coso Community College, wish to thank the Mono County Grand Jury for its interest in higher education in Mono County. We appreciate the opportunity to review our programs with the Grand Jury and we appreciate the time and effort that was put into the grand jury report regarding our implementation of Measure C. As required by Penal Code §933.05 we provide the following responses to the findings of the Grand Jury.

1. *Finding: the status of Measure C funds is tracked and monitored by the Kern Community College District (KCCD) and Kern County. The fund balance as of 6/30/12 was over \$8,000,000, with \$4,000,000 remaining bonds to be issued. The account is audited annually by an external auditor.*

Recommendation: none

Response: KCCD agrees with finding number 1

2. *Finding: the summary spreadsheet and detailed spreadsheet track Measure C expenditures over the years very clearly. Due to the length of time since initial construction, the main facility will need structural maintenance in the future. Currently this is not tracked separately from construction.*

Recommendation: Set up a new separate category in the detail spreadsheet to track Measure C used for maintenance.

Response: KCCD agrees with finding number 2. The recommendation will be implemented by KCCD.

3. *Finding: three studies have been completed since the passage of the bond measure in 2000, addressing facilities and programming needs. The Director of the Eastern Sierra College Center (ESCC), working with the KCCD Chief Financial Officer and the Facilities Committee determine facilities priorities appropriate for Measure C funding to the College President who ultimately makes the final decision.*

Recommendation: none

Response: KCCD agrees with finding number 3.

4. *Finding: the ESCC Director works very closely with the Executive Director of the Mammoth Lakes Foundation (MLF) to gain community input and financial support for the Mammoth Campus of the ESCC.*

Recommendation: none

Response: KCCD agrees with finding number 4

5. *Finding: enrollment growth projections dropped dramatically after passage of the bond, and as a result the current facility is now underutilized. Some of the classrooms are being "repurposed" and improved, and as appropriate, some Measure C funding may be used.*

Recommendation: none

Response: KCCD agrees with finding number 5.

6. *Finding: Facilities' planning is current and takes into account the drop in enrollment projections over the past twelve years.*

Recommendation: none

Response: KCCD agrees with finding number 6.

7. *Finding: the first ESCC "2011 Report to the Community" does not contain information concerning Measure C and what has been constructed as a result of the bond measure.*

Recommendation: in the next and subsequent "Report to the Community", incorporate a brief Measure C status report, noting facilities and improvements made possible by Measure C.

Response: KCCD agrees with finding number 7. The recommendation will be implemented in the next "Report to the Community."

In addition to the above responses the President of Cerro Coso College wishes to provide the following corrections and/or clarifications to the contents of the grand jury report (all additions to the report are in **bold type face**).

On page 13:

"The science laboratory will also be upgraded in the future, to accommodate inorganic chemistry, which is a requirement for the nursing **kinesiology and most registered nursing** degrees. A science lab and an arts facility were **both** included in the bond measure language, and were constructed as part of the Dave and Roma McCoy College Center."

"Facility maintenance needs (e.g. roof replacement, lighting, regulatory issues, and health and safety) are added into the facilities priority list, which the Director sends to the ~~facilities committee of CCC, and to the college~~ **and** district facilities committee. The CFO is involved with the facilities committee, as all colleges except for Bishop have bond measure funding as well as General Funds. The Director notes which projects might fit with Measure C, makes her recommendations for funding, and the CFO and facilities committee make the final recommendation to the President as to which to fund and how to make the final decision.

The Director of the ESCC gave additional background concerning the drop in enrollment and funding since the passage of Measure C in 2000, and program changes since 2009. These changes, along with the reduced State funding, led to more programs leading to degrees and certificates, and fewer community education classes, such as **special topics art**, chorale and orchestra, which cannot be funded by State General Funds. These classes are currently offered as **both credit and a community service education**, but do not lead to a degree.

The investigative committee inquired about the status of a Performing Arts facility. The Director noted that there is no Performing Arts program at Mammoth, or any CCC campus. Ridgecrest had a program, but **no few if any** students ever completed the program, and therefore it was discontinued several years ago. The MLF Edison Theater

offers the possibility of theater arts classes which could lead to a future program (e.g. Theater 101 ~~on MAA~~), but no theater arts class is currently offered.

On page 14:

She stated that operational costs for the ~~main~~ **Mammoth** facility are large, with utilities alone more than \$100,000 per year.

A College Library was in the bond language, and is an example of partnership with Mono County Office of Education (MCOE). There is a dedicated room in the library, and the lease is in perpetuity. Mammoth Library has an integrated collection and full library services, but more and more students are doing on-line research. The dedicated room was meant to serve as an **iTV classroom but was used instead as a Learning Resource Center**, but it was not heavily used, and therefore the LRC was moved to the main college building.

The director noted that MLF funds support students, but not the college. MLF donates space, money for refreshments for graduation, scholarships, etc. MLF scholarships are given to Mono County residents on a first-come, first-served basis, approximately 30 each semester. Students in MLF housing are ~~not~~ eligible for scholarships **if they are full time local residents.**

There are two ways to count students: by "head count" or by full time equivalent (FTE). An FTE takes 5 classes (or 15 units). ~~Both~~ **The combined** campuses have approximately 300 FTEs (or about 500 "head counts"), with Bishop a few more than Mammoth. On-line/Interactive students ~~are counted at~~ account for 50% of ~~an~~ **FTE's at Cerro Coso.**

Bishop and Mammoth has have 10% of CCC enrollment; class target size is 35 students for this year

ITV introduces programs, and gets students into traditional classes. One **Information Technology** maintenance person serves both campuses.

Adult Education classes are currently being offered by MCOE; under currently proposed legislation these may transition ~~back~~ to the community colleges.

On page 15:

The investigative committee interviewed the Executive Director of the Mammoth Lakes Foundation on 5/8/2013. As background, of the original 86 acres in the land exchange, MLF retains 40 acres, the college (KCCD) has 27 acres which was given to them by MLF, MUSD has 14 acres, and MCOE has 6 acres. The ~~colleges~~ **campuses** (Mammoth

Honorable Judge Eller
Re: Measure C, Case No. 1213.02
October 16, 2013

and Bishop) were annexed in 1990's to KCCD, with approvals from K-12 school districts in Inyo and Mono counties.

On page 16:

MLF pays for snow removal for college: originally this was in exchange for the use of 2 college classrooms, now it's for the Felici Trio's use of the lobby for concerts, and for classrooms for that group to teach music, **but now it is in exchange for use of the parking lot by SGSA students.**

~~On-line learning was originally included as a full FTE count; the formula is different now, less credit is given and therefore it also shows a drop in enrollment~~

Transmittal email:

The transmittal email indicates that KCCD has 60 days in which to provide a response. However, the 60 day limit applies to an agency which has an "elected county officer or agency head. KCCD is under an elected board of trustees, not an elected county officer or agency head. The limit for a response from the governing body of a public agency is 90 days as provided in Penal Code Section 933(c).

Once again, thank for your interest in higher education in Mono County. If you have any questions regarding this response please contact KCCD General Counsel Christopher Hine at (661)336-5040.

Very truly yours,



Sandra V. Serrano
Chancellor
Clerk, Board of Trustees