
MEETING MINUTES

PARTICIPANTS: See sign in sheet

COPIES TO: All parties, File

PLACE/DATE OF MEETING: District Ops / Dec. 2, 2010

MINUTES BY: Benito Lozano III

PROJECT: HCISD Ag Farm

PROJECT #:1028

Discussion Items:

1. Mr. Tapia introduced new attendees and Committee member proxies.
2. Meeting proceeded according to agenda distributed. Notes are indicated below each major discussion topic/ agenda item.
3. Jackie Stevens to put out a document of recommended needs for new Ag facility.
4. A tour of existing site will be scheduled for future visit.
5. Design Committee Charge/Guidelines and Timelines:
 - a. Mr. Tapia presents a completion date of first quarter of 2012, as well as budget allocated for the construction of the Ag Farm project
 - b. Mr. Art Cavazos discusses the functionality of the committee as an advisory council to the Board of Trustees who retains decision making authority granted by State of Texas.
 - c. In concern with the Ag projects, the committee is to insure all work done is included in scope of work in accordance with the voter approved bond package and the Capital Improvement Package.
6. Future Facilities Task Force–Other Facilities Committee:
 - a. Mr. Tapia makes note of the various projects embarked upon by the HCISD and the last minute inclusion of the Ag Project.
7. Building Programming Guidelines:
 - a. Mr. Tapia presents a Six–Step Process for the completion of Ag project. One of which includes the possibility of phasing for future development.
8. Discussion:
 - a. Existing facility:
 - Current facility sits on an approximate 5 acre site, consisting of a “barn” which is under trust by a Mr. Jennings, however is currently “owned” by the Harlingen South Booster Club.
 - Capacity to hold 40 pigs. Due to great student participation, there is currently overcrowding in existing pens with some pigs having to share space.

- Health of animals put in jeopardy due to lack of defense from critical climate conditions from north. Seasonal makeshift rigging by students, teachers and parents to deal with issues.
 - Another structure exists at rear of site used to accommodate cattle and other livestock.
- b. Location/Site
- It is commented that an ideal size of site for new Ag farm to be approximately 7–10 acres.
 - To make comparison, it is mentioned that the San Benito Ag farm is too big. A more appropriate comparison would be to that at the Calallen district.
 - Possible sites to consider include: On Wilson Rd. by Gutierrez elementary; North side of Wilson Rd. by new gym; Site in Combes (which could be void due to ordinance against livestock in city limits); VRTECH site where current maintenance department is located. VRTECH site consists of 10 acres with approximately 4–5 acres being utilized. There exists adjacent vacant property which could be bought up to increase overall size.
- c. Proposed facility:
- Would like to have a practice arena. Possibly to be used for future prospect shows...?
 - Mr. Tapia posed question of possibly combining Ag with Horticulture...such as for recycling/composting...ect. A horticulture department currently exists with no need to expand, but a possible growth to be considered.
 - 1 educational facility consisting of an auditorium style lecture facility with adjacent lab.
 - Facilities for all types of farm animals (Pigs, equine, fowl, rabbits, etc...)

Additions and/or corrections to these minutes should be sent to mega@megamorphosisdesign.net within seven (7) days of receipt.
