



YOLO COUNTY CHAPTER

California Grand Jurors' Association

email: cgjayolo@gmail.com

website: <http://groups.dcn.org/yolocgja>

March 27, 2013

DRAFT

Secretary to Board of Trustees
WJUSD Superintendent's Office
435 Sixth Street
Woodland, CA 95695

Dear Board of Trustees members,

I am writing to you as a Yolo County resident and President of the Yolo-CGJA, a Chapter of the California Grand Jury Association, composed of Yolo County residents who are previous grand jury members. Our goals are to support the grand jury system and promote government accountability. One of our tasks is to follow up on prior grand jury recommendations.

The Woodland Joint Unified School District's Board of Trustees published responses to recommendations in Yolo County Grand Jury reports for the years 2007-08 and 2008-09 indicating intent to take action. Although implementation might have occurred, the public at large and succeeding grand juries are not aware of it.

In its 2007-08 report, the Yolo County Grand Jury recommendation **08-05** was that:

“Pursuant to Govt C 54957.2, the Board should designate an officer or employee of the District to attend each closed session meeting of the Board to keep a record of topics discussed, directions given, decisions made, and actions taken by the Board in closed session.”

Here is the response from the Board of Trustees to recommendation **08-05**:

“The Board agrees that complying with the Brown Act is, and has been, required of it and will continue to act to comply with the Brown Act. The Board will explore the ramifications of employing this suggested recommendation and will make a decision on this issue in the next 90 days.”

In the following year, in its 2008-09 report, the Yolo County Grand Jury recommendation **09-02** was that:

“It is imperative that the Board utilize the most effective and immediate funding mechanism to ensure that the property known as the Blue Shield building be purchased under the terms of Option 3 as described above.”

***Option 3** – Purchase building between January 1, 2012 -March 31, 2012 for \$5,430,000 plus projected costs of \$2,000,000. (The Trustees and WJUSD staff attending the April 8, 2009 meeting indicated that this is the option they hope to exercise, as it does not include pre-payment costs.)*

Here is the response from Board of Trustees to recommendation **09-02**:

“The Board appreciates the in-depth analysis from the Grand Jury of the Blue Shield building lease. The Board will continue to study its options, including Option 3 as recommended. All avenues of action will be investigated, including the possibility of a General Obligation Bond. It is the intent of the Board to act in the best interests of the District.”

Supporting documentation is online at <http://groups.dcn.org/yolocgja>, under the Specifics link.

Please provide us with a specific update on your responses to these grand jury recommendations.

We would appreciate your response by May 31, 2013. You can send your response electronically to: Barbara Sommer at cgjayolo@gmail.com. Please note that we will share this letter and your response with the current 2012-13 Yolo County Grand Jury and the current presiding judge.

Sincerely,

Barbara Sommer
President, Yolo Chapter, CGJA
530.756.7553