
LOS RIOS COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT
Citizens' Oversight Committee
July 23, 2003
American River College
Instructional Tech Center
3:30 p.m.

Minutes

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bernard Carlson, Lorraine Darrington, Donald Haase, Virgil King, Sharon Margetts

MEMBERS ABSENT: Guy Anderson, Daniel DiMundo, Thomas Gagen, Joe Gagliardi, Kenneth Humphreys, Douglas McCauley, Robert Trigg

DISTRICT

REPRESENTATIVES: Jon Sharpe, Vice Chancellor, Finance & Administration
Dave Clinchy, Director, Facilities Planning & Construction
Paul Dahms, Director, Facilities Maintenance
Isolina San Juan, Accountant, Grants & Contracts

GUESTS: Robert Allegre, Vice President, Administration, ARC
Sue Lorimer, Dean, Planning, Research & Development, ARC
Kathy Grill, Classified Senate President, ARC

Vice Chair Lorraine Darrington called the meeting to order at 3:40 p.m. Introductions were made of committee members and staff present from American River College.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Ms. Margetts and seconded by Mr. Haase to approve the minutes of the March 20, 2003 meeting as presented. Motion carried, 5:0.

REPORTS

State/District Budget Update

Jon distributed a schedule showing the various stages of the 2003-04 State budget deliberations for California community colleges. Community colleges were fortunate with the May Revise, as the Governor increased our funding resulting in a net decrease of approximately \$275 million, which is half of the initial proposed budget cuts. Community colleges will not receive their basic apportionment funding until a State budget is signed, and some community colleges will be more adversely affected than others. Los Rios did not receive \$13 million of apportionment funds in July, but will be able to make payroll, and vendors will be paid. Los Rios has reduced class offerings for Summer and Fall, and have cut back temporary employees and adjunct faculty. Mr. Carlson asked about the part-time faculty compensation item, if this covers part-time employees in any category? Jon responded that our part-time faculty have always been comparable based on the District's salary schedule. The State augmentation is to achieve part-time faculty at a parody

level with full-time faculty. Los Rios has reached parody and is able to use that money more flexibly. Mr. Carlson also asked what Partnership for Excellence funds were. Jon said that about five years ago, five accountability models were established to augment community college funding, but it was never overwhelmingly supported by the current administration. The good news is that with the march on the Capitol and increased recognition of impact of the budget reductions, community colleges are back on the radar screen.

SMSR Budget Update

Paul Dahms distributed an updated listing of the 2002-03 Scheduled Maintenance Special Repair Funding for the District. These are projects approved with prior year funding. The Hazardous Substance funding was allocated in 2002-03 and is 100% State funded.

Review of Series 1A Expenditures

Jon reviewed the Bond Projects Fund expenditure report as of July 10, 2003. Ms. Margetts asked about the Natomas Center, Phases II and III, and if there any concerns that the State funds required will not be available? Jon responded that there are a lot of concerns, and if that were the case, the project would be delayed. It is the intent that Proposition 47 will be on the March 2004 ballot. Jon mentioned that despite the state of the economy, Los Angeles Unified recently passed a large bond measure in the past few months. This shows there is still acceptance by the public for educational funding, but there are very real concerns, especially as the State bond rating goes down. Ms. Darrington inquired about the Water Tower purchase listed. Jon responded that this is office space expansion that will house the Foundation and grant-related activities. The property has closed, and is in the middle of being remodeled. The office should be occupied around October 1, 2003.

Annual Report Draft

The COC bylaws, Section 3.2, require an annual written report be presented to the Governing Board. Jon distributed a draft Annual Report for committee members to review. This report will be presented to the Governing Board at the September 3rd meeting. Chairman Bob Trigg will present the report, and committee members are welcome to attend. The Annual Report will be printed and distributed to committee members to share with their constituency. The report will also be available on the District's web site. The printing costs will not be charged to Measure A funds. The District's auditors, Matson and Isom, will be presenting a separate audit of the Measure A funds at the December Governing Board meeting. Ms. Margetts asked if it would be helpful to have a statement under the Natomas Center section indicating concern about the impact of the State budget on future phases? Would it be politic to take a few copies to our local legislators? Jon indicated this report may not be the right vehicle since it is a report of past year activities, but staff will think about the best method to reflect the concern for future funding. Committee members were requested to submit any suggestions by August 8 in order to finalize the report for the September Board meeting. Jon thanked Susie Williams and her staff for drafting the report.

Project Updates

Dave Clinchy gave a PowerPoint presentation on project updates. Jon indicated that the District hired a consultant to provide a campus master plan for SCC regarding Transportation, Access, and Parking. This information will be presented to the Governing Board at the August 20 meeting.

Annual Audit of Funds

Jon said the audit of Measure A funds will be presented to the Board in December. The District's auditors, Matson and Isom, will conduct a separate audit of Measure A funds.

Organizational Issues

Jon mentioned that there was an inconsistency with the COC bylaws, wherein Section 6.1 says the committee is required to meet once a year, with an annual organizational meeting held in July. However, under Section 9, the bylaws indicate officer positions shall continue for two-year terms. The bylaws should probably be revised when appropriate to eliminate confusion.

Future Meetings

Committee members discussed when they would like the November meeting scheduled. Mr. King stated he would prefer to meet after the audit is complete in order to have an opportunity to review the audit prior to the November meeting. Jon will send out the audit one week in advance of the November meeting, along with the expenditure report. Jon will work with Ms. Darrington and Mr. Trigg regarding availability on November 13 or 20, and staff will poll committee members to see what is the best date. The November meeting will be held at Cosumnes River College. March 18, 2004 was also tentatively scheduled for the following COC meeting.

ARC Master Plan

Robert Allegre, Vice President of Administration for American River College, gave a presentation on ARC's master plan. A faculty office building is currently under construction on campus, and is funded without State funds or local bond funds. The new office building will provide 53 faculty offices for math, a division office area, and a large work area that will serve adjunct faculty from all disciplines on campus. The office building is projected to be completed this Fall.

The meeting adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

gm

cc: Board of Trustees
Exec Group