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LOS RIOS COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT  
**Citizens Oversight Committee**

July 18, 2002

4:00 p.m.

Main Conference Room

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**Minutes**

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**Members Present:** Guy Anderson, Bernard Carlson, Lorraine Darrington, Daniel DiMundo, Donald Haase, Kenneth Humphreys, Trenton Hyatt, Virgil King, Sharon Margetts

**Members Absent:** Thomas Gagen, Joe Gagliardi, Douglas McCauley, Robert Trigg

**District**

**Representatives:** Ann Blackwood, President, Board of Trustees  
Brice Harris, Chancellor  
Jon Sharpe, Vice Chancellor, Finance & Administration  
Dave Clinchy, Director, Facilities Planning & Construction  
Susie Williams, Director, Communications & Research  
Ginny Millhone, Administrative Assistant  
Theresa Matista, Director, Fiscal Services

Jon Sharpe called the first meeting of the Citizens' Oversight Committee to order and introductions were made of committee members and District representatives.

**Welcome by Board President**

President Blackwood welcomed the committee members and thanked them on behalf of the Board of Trustees for volunteering their time. Ms. Blackwood said the Los Rios Community College District has a commitment to public trust, and takes that commitment seriously, and she is proud to be a member of the Board and affiliated with this District which has a terrific leadership team. Ms. Blackwood also noted it is no small task to spend this amount of money, but the staff leadership has laid a strong strategic foundation regarding how to spend the bond funds and best serve the community.

**Introductory Remarks**

Chancellor Harris also thanked the committee members for their commitment to the community, and presented background information regarding the Bond campaign. A brochure entitled "*Setting Directions for the Future*" was distributed which delineates the strategic plan that was developed in 2001 for the district. Dr. Harris said if someone desires a college education, community colleges should be able to provide that education. He also indicated the open access concept is at the foundation of why Los Rios is here and what we are doing. Student enrollment growth is so rapid we can no longer keep up with only the State bond program. Dr. Harris said Los Rios is a "values driven" organization that lives by its values on a day-to-day basis, and believes in financial stability, which is why the voters approved the bond measure.

The second brochure distributed, "*A Plan for Educating a Region*," describes the challenges facing the district with rapid student growth and aging facilities. Dr. Harris said it is anticipated the Folsom

Lake Center will be accredited in January of 2004, but FLC currently operates under CRC's accreditation. This district anticipates student attendance to grow from 75,000 to 90,000 in the next seven years, and hopes to add five additional outreach centers over the next decade. Eighty-five percent of Los Rios students live within five miles of where they go to college, and approximately one in every ten adults in the greater Sacramento area attend a Los Rios college. Dr. Harris concluded that due to the success of Measure A, the District will have \$265 million in local bonds, and hopefully an additional \$235 million in State bonds to continue our contract with the community to provide quality education over the next ten years.

### **Bylaws Review**

Mr. Sharpe reviewed the Bylaws of the Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee, which were approved by the Board of Trustees May 15, 2002. Mr. Carlson inquired if any repairs of facilities were going to be funded out of operational expenses. Dr. Harris indicated the District would not be spending bond funds on maintenance repair, but the Legislature requires the committee be informed of how those funds are being spent. Mr. Humphreys asked what is involved in developing a building project. Mr. Sharpe responded that the District has conducted a comprehensive facilities needs assessment, as well as a facilities condition assessment, which identify demands to accommodate growth and modernizing for programmatic requirements of the district. For the most part, facilities are dictated by our enrollment growth, and the State formula tells us where that growth takes place. Ms. Blackwood indicated the new Child Development Center at ARC is an example of faculty who spent years planning based on curricular needs. Mr. Anderson asked if a priority list had been established. Mr. Clinchy stated that the priorities are primarily driven by enrollment growth which identifies the need, and where to build first.

The Main Conference Room at the District Office will be the primary location for the Citizens' Oversight Committee meetings, but a meeting may be held at one of the campuses in the future.

### **Capital Facilities Overview**

Mr. Clinchy gave an overview presentation of the facilities planning process. It is anticipated we will always have 8-10% of our students in leased facilities. The State will not fund Bookstore, Cafeteria, or parking facilities, which they view as revenue generating facilities. If the climate for the State bond changes, the district may change the priority order of proposed projects. The time frame is based on enrollment growth, and we try to meet that need at that point in time.

### **Bond Issuance/Rating Update**

Mr. Sharpe presented an update on the bond rating for the district. It is difficult to compare community colleges due to the variance in size, wealth, etc. The Los Rios District is limited by size and average income wealth. Moody's Aa3 rating is a reflection of the overall strong financial condition of our district. The district is now doing pre-close, and August 1<sup>st</sup> we will receive proceeds of the first issuance, Series A, in the amount of \$27.5 million. These funds will be deposited into the County Treasury, invested immediately, and Los Rios will collect the interest. There are restrictions and tight controls on how the bond funds will be invested. These funds are highly scrutinized, and regulations require the district to spend 85% of the funds within three years of receipt. It is anticipated over the life of the bond multiple series may be issued.

### **Future Meetings**

The committee agreed to meet the third Thursday of the designated months at 4:00 p.m. The next scheduled meeting will be November 21, 2002, in the Main Conference Room at the District Office.

### **Election of Officers**

The Bylaws of the Oversight Committee require election of a Chairperson and Vice Chairperson. The committee agreed to consider nominations for the officers at the November meeting. Any individuals interested in being an officer are requested to notify Ginny Millhone prior to the meetings by phone or e-mail.

### **Other Matters**

Mr. Humphreys asked what projects are ready to move forward, and when will the committee receive information on the projects? First on the list is the parking lot at El Dorado Center which is currently conducting an environmental impact report. Second is the cafeteria modernization at Sacramento City College. Mr. Carlson would like to be able to visit the campuses to become familiar with our facilities. Mr. Humphreys said it would be helpful to know the amount of funds allocated for various projects. A schedule of estimated timelines with budgets attached will be provided to the Oversight Committee prior to the November meeting. Dr. Harris indicated that instructional facilities require a great deal more lead time to plan, and involve faculty and staff in the planning process. The parking lot and cafeteria projects do not come out of State funds.

Mr. Anderson said it is his understanding committee members will be communicating with their respective communities to let them know what is going on. Susie Williams is available to provide staff support for the committee, such as news releases, annual reports, and reports to the Board of Trustees.

Mr. Sharpe again thanked the committee for their attendance, and the meeting adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

gm

cc: Board of Trustees