Minutes

I. Call To Order

a. Call to Order - The meeting was called to order at 6:23 p.m.

b. Pledge of Allegiance – COC Member Mary Allen Witt led the Pledge of Allegiance.

c. Roll Call - COC members present: Dr. Francisco Hidalgo, Fernando Centeno, Jr., Lois Czuba, Toby Chavez, Dr. Joseph Rivera, Richard Garner, Mary Allen Witt. (Members absent: Valeria Guerrero, Alejandro Izarraraz, Amber Salazar, Verna De Los Reyes)

d. Welcome and Introductions: Each present member of the Board introduced his or herself along with staff and consultants from Del Terra and VMA Communications.

e. Open Communication for Public Comment - There were no public comments.

f. Approval of Minutes – June 20, 2013 – The COC committee voted to approve the minutes.

II. Reports/Presentations

a. President's Update: Superintendent Teresa Dreyfuss said it was the third week of the fall semester and enrollment was down by about 7 percent from the previous year. She attributed it to a recovering economy where more people are joining the workforce. The College is looking to increase class offerings in the spring to attract more students.

Dreyfuss also said the Board of Trustees adopted a balanced budget for the 2013-14 year on Wednesday, Sept. 11 with a 6.8 percent reserve.

Dreyfuss was also on a team that visited the El Rancho Unified School District and had a great tour. She also mentioned the College’s plan to erect a Veteran’s Memorial with three flags at the College. Board Member Chavez said he hoped there were more young students attending the College and asked Dreyfuss if the College did outreach to
the area high schools. Dreyfuss assured him that Rio Hondo has a very strong recruiting program at all local school districts and is working diligently to boost up enrollment.

b. Building Program Progress Report: Jerome Quemada from Del Terra provided a PowerPoint Presentation on the progress in the Building Program. He showed before-and-after photos of the newly opened PE Complex and Softball Field, which features a new scoreboard, dugouts, two batting cages, and bullpens.

Quemada said Del Terra has finished the last of the preparations for the design of a renovated soccer field. It will feature a six-lane running track, lighting, a new scoreboard and fencing.

Quemada also showed preliminary plans for a renovated bookstore and print shop, as well as an example of what the College’s Veterans’ memorial will look like.

Board Member Chavez asked who was on the planning committee for the veterans’ memorial and Quemada answered several veterans from the area, as well as the College’s veterans’ club.

Board Member Rivera asked if the fields have real or synthetic turf. Quemada answered it was a combination of both.

Board Member Centeno asked if there were more parking spots to accommodate people for the PE Complex as well as the fields. Quemada confirmed there were 130 more spaces behind the complex that could serve as parking for both the complex and the fields.

Board Member Hidalgo asked if the bookstore renovation will include plans to become competitive with e-text books and online retailers. Quemada, and Luis Rojas assured the Board that the renovations are in the preliminary stages and what it would house has not yet been addressed.

Board Member Garner asked Quemada if the contract to build the PE Complex had been taken over by someone other than the original contractor. Quemada confirmed that it had by bonding company, Liberty Mutual.

c. Bond Quarterly Expenditure Report: Teresa Dreyfus turned the Board’s attention to the quarterly report handed out before the meeting, which outlines the quarterly expenditures from the Measure A fund and asked if there were any questions.
Board Member Garner asked if there was enough money available to complete the projects Measure A set out to complete. Dreyfuss confirmed there would be.

d. Other Business There was no other business.

e. Future Meeting Dates and Place The Board agreed to meet at 6 p.m. on Tuesday Dec. 17 in the Board Room. Teresa Dreyfuss reminded the Board members that their picture will be taken at that meeting for the annual report.

III. Comments from Committee Members

Board Member Rivera said the Building Presentation was great and he was very impressed.

Board Member Chavez said he was impressed with the PE Complex.

Board Member Centeno said the PE Complex was beautiful, and as ASB President while he was a student at Rio Hondo College, he rallied behind Measure A and is happy to see its progress.

Board Member Witt said the PE Complex was great.

Board Member Hidalgo said there are environmental issues regarding trash and drilling in close proximity to the College and it should be on the Board’s radar. Board Member Hidalgo also expressed interest in creating a partnership with other community colleges. Most recently, Mt. San Antonio College began a district-election process instead of an at-large process, which had been its practice in the past. He also said he is interested in seeing how the PE Complex will benefit senior users.

Board Member Garner reiterated how important it was for the Board Members to attend the quarterly meetings, noting that it is a legal responsibility. At 11 members, the Board needs six members to create a quorum.

IV. Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 6:57 p.m.