RIO HONDO COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT
Citizens Oversight Committee

Wednesday, March 18, 2015 at 6:00 p.m.
Rio Hondo Community College Board Room
Dinner and Meeting

Minutes

I. Call To Order

a. Call to Order – The meeting was called to order at 6:21 p.m.

b. Pledge of Allegiance – Chair Verna de los Reyes led the Pledge of Allegiance.

c. Roll Call – Citizens’ Oversight Committee (COC) Members present: Chair Verna de los Reyes, Vice Chair Fernando Centeno, Jr., Amber Salazar, Leslie Gutierrez, Dr. Francisco Hidalgo, Deborah Pacheco, Almeda Rodriguez, (Committee Members absent: Alejandro Izarraraz, Dr. Joseph Rivera, Christian Diaz, and Andrew Moraga).

d. Welcome and Introductions – Each present member of the committee introduced his or herself along with staff, guest, and consultant from Del Terra.

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

f. Approval of Minutes – December 16, 2014 – One correction was made by Superintendent/President Dreyfuss on page 6: $189 million should be change to $189,000 for the quarter. The COC voted to approve the minutes with the amendment. Vice Chair Fernando Centeno, Jr. approved, Member Amber Salazar seconded.

II. Reports/Presentations

a. President’s Update: Superintendent/President Dreyfuss reported on the following three items:

1) Accreditation – as mentioned during the last COC meeting, a team of 12 visiting team members from the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC) visited Rio Hondo College in the fall as part of the accreditation review process. Earlier in February, the College received the official report from ACCJC that we were reaffirmed for another six years with 10 commendations.
More than 100 staff, faculty, managers and staff collaboratively worked together for two years to make this happen. This is very good news and the Board of Trustees are very happy with the results.

2) A Taste of Río – the Rio Hondo College Foundation is holding its Third Annual A Taste of Río fundraiser on May 1 to raise scholarships for students and for Foundation operations. More than 14 vendors will be participating. The event will take place in the mid-quad. All COC members are invited to attend.

3) Community Educational Forums – tomorrow night at Whittier High School the College is hosting the third community forum out of five. The College has invited the community to attend this two-hour event that showcases Rio Hondo College’s programs. The next two forums will take place next month in Los Nietos and in East Whittier. Members of the COC are encouraged to attend one of the three remaining community forums. Superintendent/President Dreyfuss distributed the flyers for the community educational forums.

Member Dr. Hidalgo asked about the attendance at the first community forum at EMEC on January 22.

Superintendent/President Dreyfuss shared that many middle school students and parents attended the first forum. She also shared that those who attended knew about the importance about going to Rio Hondo College and believe that Rio Hondo College is the place for students to attend, including taking courses at EMEC.

Member Dr. Hidalgo asked if there was a renewed interest from the residents for the center. He also suggested using the center as “dual usage” for the benefit of the community.

Member Dr. Hidalgo observed that the demand wasn’t as high as anticipated in the first community forum at EMEC.

Superintendent/President Dreyfuss shared that there will be more classes offered in the summer at EMEC.

Chair De Los Reyes reported that she attended the first forum at EMEC and that there was a great attendance with much enthusiasm from the audience wanting to learn more about what Rio Hondo College has to offer. She shared that there was much interest from the residents who attended on the College’s Automotive Technology, Fire, Police and Nursing programs.

Vice Chair Centeno, Jr. commented that during the second forum in Pico Rivera, a lot of the parents who attended talked about the need for a
community center to also be established in Pico Rivera. He also heard a lot of questions about financial aid being asked.

Superintendent/President Dreyfuss announced that there will be a center in Pico Rivera. The location will be at El Rancho High School.

Superintendent/President Dreyfuss shared that the College provided one whole workshop on transfer. Like our student COC member Leslie Gutierrez, who got accepted to Cal State Long Beach, Cal State Fullerton and UC Santa Barbara. She is still waiting to hear back from UCLA and UC Berkeley.

Member Dr. Hidalgo asked: "Where do the Pico Rivera residents go?"

Vice Chair Centeno, Jr. added that Pico Rivera residents have to come up the hill and come to campus in order to take classes. It's hard for families who don't have transportation to attend Rio Hondo College on the hill. It takes about an hour on public transportation for students to travel from Pico Rivera to Rio Hondo College.

b. **Building Program Progress Report**: Jerome Quemada of Del Terra provided a report on the Building Program, which includes the following projects:

- **PE Complex & Softball Field Retaining Wall Guardrail**: over 513 linear feet of Cal Trans specified guardrail was installed on the west side roadway of the existing Gymnasium and the new PE Complex Men's and Women's locker rooms. The installation of new guardrails were required for the completion of the original project. During the time of construction this work could not be completed due to the PE Complex project being constructed at the same time. The Division of the State Architect (DSA) required that the guardrails be installed in order to achieve DSA Certification for the project. The project was completed in December 2014.

- **New Bookstore**: the design plans are being worked on to move the bookstore to a new location across the upper quad in the space of the old Admissions Office. The current location has a square footage of 4,109 sq. ft. and the new location has the square footage of 6,682 sq. ft. The design team is currently working with the bookstore staff and the College for the final design prior to submitting it to the Division of State Architect for review and approval.

- **Print Shop**: design plans are also being created to relocate the print shop from the basement floor of the L Tower to the Administration Building. The current space of the print shop is approximately 937 sq. ft. and the new location is approximately 1,760 sq. ft. This new space will allow for new and efficient equipment for the College. The design drawings will also
be required to be submitted to the Division of State Architect for review and approval in order to start construction.

- Soccer Field Renovation: the Soccer Field project is scheduled to start in March 2015 with an anticipation of completion in December 2015. The project consists of the demolition of the existing soccer field and track with the following new features:
  - New six-lane synthetic track
  - New 72,000 sq. ft. NCAA regulation artificial turf soccer field
  - New bleachers to accommodate 132 spectators with ADA accessibility
  - New soccer field scoreboard
  - New stadium lighting
  - New men and women's restroom facilities

- Veterans Memorial: the groundbreaking took place on Feb. 24 and the ribbon cutting is scheduled to take place upon completion of construction in May before Memorial Day.

- Rio Plaza: this project is currently in the conceptual design stage. The design team for this project approved by the Board of Trustees is Westberg & White, Inc. The Rio Plaza location is at the entrance of the campus on the corner of Workman Mill Road and College Drive. Restrooms for men and women will be built and small vending facilities for students will be installed.

Member Pacheco asked how much all these projects will cost?

Superintendent/President Dreyfuss responded with the following numbers:

- Soccer Field: $5 Million
- Bookstore: $3 Million
- Veterans Memorial: $110,000
- Rio Plaza: $3.5 Million

Member Dr. Hidalgo expressed that he really liked the Rio Plaza concept since when you drive by this area you see a lot of students sitting on the hill and a lot of traffic congestion. He really likes the plan and facilities like restrooms, as well as the shade. He also commented on the bookstore: that the Trustees would like to focus on the purchases of books more so than retail. Is this correct?

Quemada answered yes, this is correct.

Superintendent/President Dreyfuss added that the College will work closely with faculty. She also gave credit to Trustee Gary Mendez for the Rio Plaza concept. She shared that the College has been in communications with all the transit transportation systems and that the College has been working closely with the County. The County will help the College fund the money to pave the sidewalk for the safety of our
students. The College also wants to use the bond fund to pave a sidewalk from the entrance to the PE Complex.

c. Bond Quarterly Expenditure Report:

Vice President of Finance & Business Myeshia Armstrong noted that there are four separate reports from different perspectives, but using the same data. She referred the committee members to the last page of the first report titled Projects Expenditure Summary as of December 31, 2014, which shows that the College has spent $159,050,184 total to date from the inception of the bond that began in Fiscal Year 2004-2005. This represents 67% of the total budget allocated of $238,536,288. She also noted that the College has spent $1,004,411 quarter to date from October to December 2014.

The second report titled Project Details as of December 31, 2014 represents what was presented by Jerome Quemada of Del Terra.

Member Pacheco expressed concern that she did not receive these documents before today’s meeting. She mentioned that she checked her email and that they didn’t come through. Because of not receiving the documents for this meeting beforehand, this is her first viewing. It would be nice if this was mailed out so that she could view it before the meeting.

Superintendent/President Dreyfuss said the College will send a hard copy with enclosed documents in addition to an email with attached documents.

d. Future Meeting Date and Place: The next meeting will take place on Thursday, June 18 at 6pm in the Board Room.

III. Comments from Committee Members

Chair De Los Reyes thanked everyone for attending and for their commitment.

Member Dr. Hidalgo thanked Superintendent/President Dreyfuss and the College for their commitment.

IV. Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.