

**RIO HONDO COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT  
Citizens Oversight Committee**

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Tuesday, September 26, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.  
Rio Hondo Community College Board Room  
Dinner, Meeting and Tour

**Minutes**

**I. Call To Order**

- a. **Call to Order** – *The meeting was called to order at 6:08 p.m.*
- b. **Pledge of Allegiance** – *Member Dr. Monica Sanchez led the Pledge of Allegiance.*
- c. **Roll Call** – *Citizens Oversight Committee (COC) Members present: Chair Fernando Centeno, Jr., Josefina Canchola, Christian Diaz, Jose Herrera, Dr. Francisco Hidalgo, Owen Newcomer, Dr. Monica Sanchez, Margie Rodriguez, and Albert Lopez. Committee Member absent: Vice Chair Andrew Moraga.*
- d. **Welcome and Introductions** – *All COC Members present introduced themselves.*
- e. **Open Communication for Public Comment** – *There were no public comments.*
- f. **Approval of Minutes – June 27, 2017** – *The COC voted to approve the minutes. Member Canchola made motion to approve; Member Diaz seconded.*

**II. Reports/Presentations**

- a. **President's Update:** *Superintendent/President Dreyfuss reported on the following items:*
  - 1) *Rio Hondo College Promise – President Dreyfuss reported that in May 2017 Rio Hondo College launched the Rio Promise, which offers free tuition and priority registration to high school graduates from the College's District, which include El Monte Union High School District, El Rancho Unified School District, Whittier Union High School District, and the following two private schools: St. Paul High School and Whittier Christian.*

*High school seniors from these school districts and private schools who enrolled at Rio Hondo College in at least 12 units received free tuition this fall as well as priority registration. There were a total of 470 students with many of them being eligible for the BOG waiver. This left about 80 students who were not eligible for the BOG waiver, costing the College approximately \$50,000. The Foundation will be funding the Rio Promise in the future and the College will be applying for grants. Currently AB 19 is sitting on the Governor's desk, and we hope he signs it, which would make community colleges free for all students in CA.*

- 2) DACA Students – The Board of Governors of the Community Colleges will take out \$7 million from instructional equipment to allocate for DACA students' legal expenses.*
- 3) Budget – During the last board meeting on Wednesday, September 18, the Board of Trustees approved the 2017-18 Adopted Budget. This year's estimated general fund is more than \$100 million.*
- 4) Enrollment – it is still down and we need to increase enrollment.*

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

*1) L-Tower Seismic Upgrade – Mr. Quemada informed the committee that construction began on Feb. 27, 2017 on Phase 1 of the L-Tower Seismic Upgrade. A fire access road will be created behind the building to bring it up to code for the fire department. The road will be built to withstand the weight of a fire truck. He explained that there were unforeseen delays.*

*2) Rio Plaza – Mr. Quemada reported that the Rio Plaza project is currently in the conceptual design stage. The architect is currently working on design documents for the County Land Development Departments for final review. The geological report is currently being done to provide soil conditions prior to start of construction. The plaza will include a transit station and a student drop-off zone, as well as an upper campus tram access and ADA accessibility for students.*

*Chair Fernando Centeno, Jr. asked if the unforeseen conditions of the L-Tower Seismic Upgrade caused an increase in the cost of this project.*

*Mr. Quemada answered that since unforeseen conditions are allowed with in the contract, there was not an increase in the cost of this project.*

*Member Herrera asked about the total budget of the L-Tower Seismic Upgrade.*

*Mr. Quemada answered that the original estimated amount was \$18 million, and that the current budget is \$28 million. In other words, \$28 million is the current budget compared to the original estimate of \$18 million – an additional \$10 million.*

- c. Bond Quarterly Expenditure Reports:** *Vice President of Yulian Ligioso explained there are two reports in the packet. The first report is the Projects Expenditure Summary that summarizes activities from April to June 2017. This report lists the different expenditures and the descriptions next to each one. The final page of this summary shows that between April and June of 2017, the College spent \$1,412,179 quarter to date (QTD) and \$175,899,031 year to date (YTD). The three big projects were the Swing Space, Bookstore/Printing, and the Nursing and Health Programs Facilities.*

*He explained that where there is a negative amount, there is an offset.*

- d. Future Meeting Date and Place:** *The next meeting will take place on December 19, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. in the Board Room.*

### **III. Comments from Committee Members**

*Member Diaz welcomed Owen Newcomer.*

*Albert Lopez thanked the committee for the opportunity to serve on this committee.*

*Member Dr. Hidalgo asked if there are any service areas that are not represented in the committee.*

*President Dreyfuss explained that since the El Monte committee member moved to Whittier, there will need to be a replacement.*

*Member Diaz asked about the length of term a committee member could serve.*

*President Dreyfuss explained that the term is a two-year term and members could serve for two consecutive terms, which would be four years in a row. The exception is the student member who only serves a one-year term.*

*Member Newcomer shared his enthusiasm for serving on the committee and that he's a community college graduate of LA Valley College where he met his wife.*

*Member Canchola announced Puente's Motivational Conference this coming Saturday, Sept. 30 at UC Diego. Rio Hondo College students will be attending. The total expected number of students who will be attending is 1,000.*

*Member Dr. Sanchez announced that there will be a community forum at El Rancho High School tomorrow, September 27.*

*Chair Centeno, Jr. announced that the UFW will be paying for applications for DACA students. He welcomed the new members and thanked the ongoing members for their service.*

**IV. Adjournment** – *The meeting was adjourned at 6:33 p.m. Member Canchola moved to adjourn the meeting; Member Diaz seconded.*