

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

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Tuesday, June 19, 2018 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 6:11 p.m.*
- b. **Pledge of Allegiance** – *Member Cristian Diaz led the Pledge of Allegiance.*
- c. **Roll Call** – *Citizens Oversight Committee (COC) Members present: Chair Fernando Centeno, Jr., Vice Chair Andrew Moraga, Christian Diaz, Dr. Francisco Hidalgo, Owen Newcomer, Dr. Monica Sanchez, and Albert Lopez. Committee Members absent: Josefina Canchola, Jose Herrera, Alicia Marie Lopez and Margie Rodriguez.*
- d. **Welcome and Introductions** – *All COC Members present introduced themselves and stated who appointed them to the committee.*
- e. **Open Communication for Public Comment** – *Member Dr. Francisco introduced his son and Member Dr. Sanchez introduced her guest Gustavo "Gus" Contreras, City Commissioner for the City of Pico Rivera.*
- f. **Approval of Minutes – April 24, 2018** – *The COC voted to approve the minutes. Member Diaz made motion to approve; Member Dr. Sanchez seconded after minor grammatical amendments were made.*

**II. Reports/Presentations**

- a. **President's Update:** *Superintendent/President Dreyfuss reported on the following items:*
  - 1) *Commencement: Rio Hondo College's 55<sup>th</sup> Commencement Ceremony on May 24 recognized 1,399 students who earned an estimated 1,600 academic degrees.*
  - 2) *Tesla Partnership: On May 23, Rio Hondo College graduated its first cohort of 10 graduates from the Tesla START Program. Rio Hondo College's partnership with Tesla is just one of two Tesla service technician training programs currently in the nation.*

All 10 graduates were hired by Tesla service centers throughout California, and one in Arizona, with starting salaries ranging from \$21 to \$27 an hour.

The College's historic partnership with Tesla received much publicity from a variety of media sources such as Fox Business, Popular Mechanic Magazine, World Journal, Epoch Media Group (print, TV and social media), and Southern California News Group (San Gabriel Valley Tribune and Whittier Daily News). The partnership also created a social media buzz.

Whittier City Mayor Pro Tem Josué Alvarado and other elected officials or representatives of local, state and federal offices attended the graduation ceremony to recognize our first cohort of graduates.

**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 the construction of the new fire lane is near completion. Installation of new exterior steel plates to support the building prior to removing the concrete panels is ongoing. Preparation for interior abatement is currently taking place, prior to removal. He explained that this is a long and slow process because of the drilling procedure. He showed several pictures of the progress of the project.

2) Rio Plaza – Mr. Quemada reported that the Rio Plaza project construction documents have been submitted to DSA. The review process could take up to eight months for comments.

Member Diaz asked about the anticipated completion date of the L-Tower Seismic Upgrade. Mr. Quemada replied that the original completion date was March of 2019, but because of the delay it is now anticipated to be completed in June of 2019.

Member Newcomer asked what holds the glass together. Mr. Quemada answered that tie backs and steel plates.

Vice Chair Moraga asked about if state funds are being use. President Dreyfuss replied that the College hires a consultant/architect funded by Bond funds. The state will pay for some preliminary drawings, and then up to a certain point the Bond funds will then come in.

Mr. Quemada informed the committee that the Rio Hondo Educational Center at Pico Rivera's existing ramps will need to be replaced, as the

existing ramps are not up to current codes. This is being required by DSA.

- c. **Bond Quarterly Expenditure Reports:** Vice President Yulian Ligioso explained there are three reports in the packet. The first report is the Projects Expenditure Summary that summarizes activities from January to March 2018. The second report is the Project Details. The third report is the Series A Bond Fund Summary of Project Expenditures sorted by project.

The College spent \$254,084 from January to March 2018 (QTD). The state will be providing \$22 million for the L-Tower Seismic Upgrade project; the Bond funds will pick up the rest. Vice President Ligioso pointed out the following expenses: Geo Tech Services of \$30,333; PE Complex of \$30,400; Rio Plaza of \$46,869; and the Nursing & Health Programs Swing Space Facilities of \$69,766. There's a negative amount of about \$6,720 as a result of a stale check; the reissuance will be reflected in April 2018.

Member Diaz asked about the "Professional Fees – Audit" on page two of the Projects Expenditure Summary report.

Vice President Ligioso replied that this is in reference to the Performance & Financial Audit.

Member Dr. Sanchez asked about the remaining amount for the Rio Hondo Educational Center at Pico Rivera.

Mr. Quemada answered that it is to finalize the close-out documents and final payments. The project is completed per the contract.

President Dreyfuss mentioned that the ramps need to be replaced per DSA's requirements.

Member Dr. Sanchez asked if this will increase the cost.

Mr. Quemada answered that the project will go over budget due to all the DSA requirements.

- d. **Other Business:** none

- e. **Future Meeting Date and Place:** The next meeting will take place on September 18, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. in the Board Room.

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

*Member Newcomer shared he is glad to be here.*

*Member Dr. Sanchez shared that she had a great time at the Taste of Rio event with several Pico Rivera elected officials, commissioners, and leaders. She invited the committee members to the City of Pico Rivera's 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration on June 30, 2018 where there will be a fireworks show at the end of the event. The City of Pico Rivera is also hosting summer Concerts at the Park for free with various bands performing and different vendors attending during the five Fridays in August.*

*Member Dr. Hidalgo shared that although he made it to today's meeting, he is not sure about September. He is taking medication that is not curing what he has, but slows the progression. He hopes this will help him attend one more meeting. He would like to coordinate his departure with the end of his term.*

*President Dreyfuss confirmed that the end of his term is this month, June. Thus, Member Dr. Hidalgo took the opportunity to say farewell to the committee. He also thanked everyone for their understanding.*

*Vice Chair Moraga shared about a church member who is finishing her research at USC. Her research shows the great need for industrial and manual arts education. He plugged the community college system, and Rio Hondo College in particular. She knew about the College's CTE and Nursing programs.*

*Director of Marketing and Communications Ruthie Flores Retana shared the great news that Rio Hondo College was selected as the Best Career College by San Gabriel Valley's BEST 2018 Readers Choice Awards, which was featured in the Sunday issue on May 27, 2018.*

*Chair Centeno, Jr. shared that he had a great time at the Taste of Rio event. He observed that every year the event grows bigger and bigger in attendance. He also attended the 55<sup>th</sup> Commencement. He shared that California State Assembly Majority Leader Ian Calderon was a great keynote speaker as he was welcomed with much enthusiasm by the graduating Class of 2018. He also reminded the committee members that if they are not able to make the scheduled COC meetings, to please let the College know in order for the committee to meet the required quorum. He thanked Member Dr. Hidalgo for his service, and thanked President Dreyfuss and the College's staff for all their great work.*

*President Dreyfuss will schedule a future board meeting to give commendations to Chair Centeno, Jr., Member Dr. Hidalgo and Student Member Lopez for their services on the COC.*

- IV. Adjournment** – *The meeting was adjourned at 6:36 p.m. Member Diaz moved to adjourn the meeting; Member Lopez seconded.*