

**WEST HILLS COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT**  
**9900 Cody Street**  
**Coalinga, CA 93210**

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**MINUTES OF THE CITIZENS OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE FOR SFID #1**  
**June 27, 2010**

**7:00 p.m.**

North District Center  
1511 Ninth Street  
Room 31  
Firebaugh, CA 93622

*COC Attendees:*

*Jose Ramirez, Miguel Arias, Oscar Sablan, Bill Pachu, and Willard Lewallen.*

*Others: Byron Woods, Kevin Cobb, Richard Treece, Marsha Sablan, Jill Stearns, and Marcel Hetu.*

**1. Call to Order**

- The meeting was called to order by Jose Ramirez at 7:05 p.m.
- Flag Salute  
Marcel Hetu led the flag salute.
- Public Comments  
Jose Ramirez and Jill Stearns updated the group on the status of David Castillo, Director of the Westside Institute of Technology. He was released from the hospital this morning, and according to WHC Coalinga Vice President Stearns, he is back at home recuperating from his medical situation.

**2. Action Items**

- A. Consideration of Approval of Minutes
  - a. The minutes from the March 9, 2010 meeting were approved.
- B. Consideration of meeting calendar for 2010-11
  - a. After some discussion about present dates, the group approved to conduct meetings on the following dates: September 7, December 14, March 22, and June 21. All meetings will begin at 6:30 p.m.

**3. Information/Discussion/Presentations**

**WHCC Mission Statement**

West Hills College Coalinga is committed to achieving student learning through the provision of educational, cultural, and economic development opportunities to our current and future students and the local and global communities that we serve.

#### A. Property Acquisition

- a. Dr. Lewallen discussed the District's acquisition of the property between CDC and NDC, as well as the building south of the NDC site. He also said the District is exploring the possibility of acquiring land east of the NDC site that would go all the way to the river. At this point, Dr. Oscar Sablan stated that if there was going to be any discussion related to acquiring some properties near the river, he could not be involved with those discussions due to a conflict of interest. It was clarified that the COC would not be making and decisions about property acquisition so there would not be any conflict.

#### B. Measure Q Projects, Cash Flow and Expenditures

- a. Kevin Cobb and Byron Woods from AP Architects reviewed the progress of all projects since the March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2010 meeting. Bids have gone out for the two parking areas south and north of the NDC site. Completion of one of the parking areas could be as soon as two months away. Kevin showed the group that to date nearly \$60,000 have been saved from the bottom line due to careful expenditures, and cost saving measures. Video surveillance is still being priced for not only NDC, but with all campuses of the District so that costs are minimized, and that there is a uniform standard throughout the District. Both Dr. Lewallen and Firebaugh City Manager, Jose Ramirez, talked about the proposed all-weather soccer field at Maldonado Park. The city is still trying to raise money to pay for the field plus working with WHC to have bond money support the costs.

#### C. Update on Outreach/Learning Centers

- a. Dr. Lewallen discussed the progress made with the learning center in San Joaquin. The bid for the project is going out on June 30, 2010. The City of San Joaquin and WHC has already completed a MOU for usage. Vice President Stearns discussed the different instructional technology that is being considered and the recent visit to Cisco by WHC administration, faculty, and staff to observe some of the newest technology being made available to educational institutions.

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- b. Dr. Lewallen then discussed the possible plans for a learning center in the city of Mendota. A modular unit may be placed next to the current Westside Institute of Technology building located at Mendota High School. This would allow us the best chance for internet connectivity, which is a challenge in Mendota. There are still discussions related to this idea going on with the Mendota Unified School District and the City of Mendota officials.
- c. Miguel Arias brought the possibility of acquiring some property from the Coelho brothers in Mendota. Their land is located west of highway 33 and a big enough parcel to have both the learning center and WIT building. Dr. Lewallen mentioned that there is going to be a meeting in July at the WIT building with city members and school officials to discuss this property and others that could be used for different projects.

#### **4. Announcements and Upcoming Events**

- California State Parks is sending a representative to meet with City of Firebaugh officials, school leaders, and community members to discuss the application the city submitted to build a Regional Park in Firebaugh. The meeting will take place tomorrow, June 30, at city hall. (Jose Ramirez)
- On July 26, Victor Salazar, election representative from California, will be talking with the City of Firebaugh officials and citizens about their voting procedures and rights. The meeting will take place at the community center at 6 p.m.

#### **5. Committee Members Comments and Requests**

- No further comments or requests were made at today's meeting.

#### **6. Adjournment**

- The meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

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