

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

MINUTES OF THE CITIZENS OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE FOR SFID #1
September 7, 2010

6:30 p.m.

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

COC Attendees:

Jose Ramirez, Oscar Sablan, Bill Pachu, Gilbert Coelho, and Willard Lewallen

Others:

Ken Stoppenbrink, Jill Stearns, 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 7:08 p.m.
- Flag Salute was led by Marcel Hetu
- Public Comments

A concern regarding potholes in the dirt parking area south of the school was brought up. Dr. Hetu will work with the City Public Works Director to see what can be done to deal with this issue.

2. Action Items

- A. Consideration of approval of minutes of June 27, 2010 meeting.
- a. The minutes from the June 27, 2010 meeting were approved on a motion by Jose Ramirez, seconded by Oscar Sablan, motion carried unanimously.

3. Information/Discussion/Presentations

- A. Property acquisition
- a. Both President Lewallen and Vice Chancellor Stoppenbrink discussed the plans WHCCD has to acquire land east of the present college site. Homeowners from NDC to the river on 9th street have all received letters from WHCCD that indicate an interest in acquiring property. A few have responded with either questions, comments, or interest. WHCCD will continue to communicate with those owners.

WHCC Mission Statement

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A question about whether WHCCD had an interest in purchasing Belli Hardware store led to discussion about that property being used as a potential parking lot, or an additional college building. Vice Chancellor Stoppenbrink stated that at this time he was unaware that the store was on sale and that the district was looking to expand more towards the east of NDC. Jose Ramirez stated that there have been rumors, which have not been confirmed, regarding the closing for a number of years and possible sale of this property.

B. Measure Q Projects, Cash Flow and Expenditures

- a. Kevin Cobb and Byron Woods reviewed the progress of all projects since June 27, 2010. The parking lots were ready to be constructed starting in October. The north lot would be completed first, followed by the south lot. The city and AP Architects had met to discuss all aspects of the construction to make sure all state and city codes were in compliance. Additionally, it was mentioned that during the construction of the north parking lot, the former computer store building located on the south lot would be demolished so that the south lot would be prepared for construction immediately after the north lot was completed.

Kevin discussed the SFID project budget. So far \$384,078.39 has been spent on different projects. Most of that has been for Series A projects. To date there has been a savings of \$61,921.61.

Kevin talked about the State position status of our project. He feels that there is a good chance that we may move up near the top of all proposed State Community College projects because of our preparedness level. If that was the case, WHC could receive more monetary support and begin building the NDC campus at an earlier date.

C. Update on Outreach/Learning Centers

- a. Dr. Lewallen talked about the progress made with the outreach/learning center in San Joaquin. A pre-construction meeting had not yet been established, but construction was to begin around October 1. The city was conducting an electrical course and we have to wait until that course is completed and all equipment is removed.

President Lewallen mentioned the ongoing discussions he has had with the Mendota Unified School District Superintendent Gilbert Rossetti regarding the outreach/learning center placement in Mendota. WHCCD is proposing to place a modular classroom unit next to the WIT building. There is already internet connectivity and we could utilize some of the human resources at WIT for the new center. Oscar Sablan and Gilbert Coelho asked that WHCCD consider

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working with the Mendota City officials as they might be able to offer WHC different options at this time.

4. Announcements and Upcoming Events

- Dr. Hetu mentioned that NDC had been named one of America's 50 best community colleges by Washington Monthly magazine as the result of graduation rates and student opinion about their experiences at NDC. The college will be sending out invitations to a recognition event fairly soon to all community members, students, and government officials.

5. Committee Members Comments and Requests

- No further comments.

6. Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

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