

Board of Trustees Report Wednesday, June 24, 2015

This was the last Board meeting for two of the trustees, Mona Field and Steve Veres. Mona Field, the longest serving trustee, served on the Board for a total of sixteen years and four consecutive terms starting in 1999. Steve Veres served for a single term starting in 2011. The Board members approved two separate resolutions recognizing Field and Veres for their service to the District. Mona Field's resolution also named her "Board Member Emeritus." After remarks from both of the departing trustees, the meeting recessed for a brief reception in their honor.

Public Agenda Requests

After the Board reconvened three individuals addressed the trustees under public agenda requests. Milo Anderson spoke against proposed changes to Board Rule 2501.10 (Communications to the Board) that would reduce the time members of the public could address the Board from five minutes to three minutes. Cathy McBroom and Robert McBroom from Asylum Productions addressed the Board to protest being locked out of the Pierce Farm Center and the public auction of property left at the Center. Both speakers requested the release of their \$25,000 deposit and additional time to remove property from the premises.

Reports and Recommendations from the Board

Trustee Veres gave a report for the Facilities Planning and Oversight Committee and announced that the Committee had unanimously voted to recommend updates to Los Angeles Mission College's 2009 Environmental Impact Report, which would come to the full Board for consideration at the 7/8/15 meeting.

Trustee Eng reported that the Institutional Effectiveness Committee previewed the Student Success Scorecards and stated they would be setting standards and metrics for improvement. He added that East Los Angeles College's Mission Statement had been amended to meet accreditation requirements. He concluded by announcing that the multi-campus accreditation visits would take place March 7-10 (in 8 months, 3 weeks and 4 days) and stated the committee was focused on a successful accreditation outcome.

The Board then discussed proposed changes to Board Rule 17300 on the Bond Program Monitor (BT3), to authorize the Internal Audit Unit and its Director to ensure the integrity of the Program, instead of using an external monitor. Eng expressed concern about how the elimination of an independent third party monitor would affect the public accountability of the program. Veres replied that hiring an external consultant for this purpose had become prohibitively expensive and the purpose of the recommendation was to save money. Field expressed concern about the increased workload for the Internal Audit unit's staff. Chancellor Rodriguez replied that an additional full time employee would be allocated to the Internal Audit Unit. Eng also asked whether the District would still have the option to hire an outside monitor if necessary. Svonkin replied that the Board would retain the option

to hire additional outside resources to ensure accountability of the Bond Program. After further discussion, the proposed changes to BR 17300 were approved unanimously.

The Board followed with a discussion on the proposed changes to Board Rule 2501.10, which focused on the time limits for persons addressing the Board on agenda items. Chancellor Rodriguez stated that the LACCCD's current five-minute limit was higher than that of most other districts, which typically allocate two to three minutes to public speakers. Trustee Pearlman objected to the proposed three-minute time limit, stating that members of the public make great efforts to attend meetings and deserve an appropriate amount of time to address the Board. Chancellor Rodriguez replied that the intention of this change was not to decrease the opportunity for dialog, but to increase its efficiency. He added that the Board would retain the ability to extend time limits for public address speakers. Eng inquired about the process used by the Board to follow up on public concerns. Svonkin replied that the Chancellor would assign appropriate staff members to follow up on public concerns and submit a written report. Eng stated that he would like a policy in which trustees were notified about the responses to public concerns. The changes to the Board Rule were approved, with Pearlman voting against them.

Consent Calendar (Items Requiring a Majority Vote)

The Board then proceeded to discuss items on the consent calendar. An item authorizing an agreement for the Harbor Teacher Preparation Academy (FPD2) was pulled from the agenda. Moreno questioned the need to hire a consultant to review the administrative and financial management of Valley College (BSD1), stating this was an administrative function that could be carried out by existing staff. Svonkin replied that this item was in response to accreditation recommendations. Moreno also raised concerns about Valley College's Academic and Cultural Center (FPD3), citing a recent appellate court decision that might impact the lease-back process used by the District. The presidential selection process for West Los Angeles College was briefly discussed. The consent calendar, which included the adoption of the 2015-16 Tentative Budget, was approved unanimously.

Recommendation from the Chancellor

An agenda item to authorize the public auction of property left at Pierce College's Farm Center by Asylum Productions was discussed. Pearlman expressed concern that the property of other companies might also be auctioned off unintentionally in the process. She urged her fellow Board members to allow additional time for the removal of said property. The item (which required a unanimous vote) failed, with Pearlman voting against it.

Announcements

Chancellor Rodriguez announced the departure of West Los Angeles College President Nabil Abu-Ghazaleh, who has served at the campus since 2011. President Abu-Ghazaleh has been selected as the president of Grossmont College effective July 1st. The Chancellor recognized his service and presented him with a statement of the

Board's appreciation. President Nabil Abu-Ghazaleh thanked the Board, stating that he felt very appreciated by the college and its community.

Trustee Pearlman requested that the Board adjourn in memory of the shooting victims from the Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Charleston, South Carolina. The Board adjourned to go into closed session.

Report submitted by DAS Secretary (and 1st VP-Elect) Angela Echeverri