



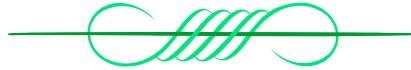
## WEST HILLS COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

Board of Trustees  
9900 Cody Street  
Coalinga, CA 93210  
(559) 934-2100

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### MINUTES OF THE STUDY SESSION OF THE GOVERNING BOARD

January 22, 2008



#### **CALL TO ORDER / OPEN SESSION**

President McKean called the study session of the Board of Trustees to order at 1:07 p.m. and led the Board of Trustees and audience in the flag salute.

#### Board members present:

Mark McKean, President  
Bill Henry, Vice President  
Nina Oxborrow, Clerk  
Jeff Levinson  
Edna Ivans  
Jack Minnite  
Steve Cantu  
Robert Wallace, Student Trustee

#### Administrators present:

Frank Gornick, Chancellor  
Ken Stoppenbrink, Vice Chancellor of Business Services  
Willard Lewallen, President, West Hills College Coalinga  
Don Warkentin, President, West Hills College Lemoore  
Jana Cox, Interim Director of Human Resources  
Dave Bolt, Vice President of Educational Services, West Hills College Lemoore  
Susan Kincade, Dean of Learning Resources  
Jill Stearns, Dean of Student Learning, West Hills College Coalinga  
Marcel Hetu, Director of North District Center, Firebaugh  
Pedro Avila, Director of Institutional Effectiveness and Planning/ Accreditation Liaison  
Richard Larson, Director of Farm of the Future, West Hills College Coalinga

#### **Introduction of Guests**

Frances Squire, Director of Marketing, introduced Mr. Ray Giles and Mr. John Isom of Dale Scott & Company.

## Public Comments

There were no public comments made at this time.

## **STUDY SESSION**

School Facilities Improvement District (SFID) - Discussion took place regarding the history of voting results in Firebaugh, as well as assessed valuation and tax rates.

Mr. John Isom distributed a general obligation bond survey analysis for Coalinga and Lemoore and discussed the detailed results. Board members agreed that the survey length was too long. Mr. Isom stated that he would like to conduct a brief tracking poll during the month of July to see if voters are still with us.

Mr. Isom and Mr. Ray Giles left the meeting at this time.

President McKean asked if the Board wants to go out for a School Facilities Improvement District (SFID) bond for all three locations at the same time or conduct the election for SFID earlier. Trustee Cantu stated that he would like to have the Firebaugh election earlier. Discussion took place regarding the current economic situation.

Dr. Frank Gornick thanked the Board members for their discussions and questions. He stated that he thinks the process we need to use is the tracking poll that Mr. Isom mentioned. The whole idea of what the economy is doing is very important and we can't portray to the public that we are going to close our doors. We need to portray that we understand the economic times we are in but the needs for the campuses are not going to go away. Dr. Gornick commented that the Board has had great dialogue about the timing for the bonds and we have developed a strategy for spacing them so that they have a minimum effect on the taxpayers. Dr. Gornick stated that his recommendation is to try for an SFID for Firebaugh in June, with SFIDs for Lemoore and Coalinga in November because of the higher voter turnout.

Trustee Minnite arrived at this time.

Dr. Gornick stated that Coalinga has been telling us that they do not like to spend their money somewhere else. The survey information was very good and told us a lot of things. The SFID is just a different way of doing things.

President McKean stated that he is interested in hearing from others concerning the SFIDs. Dr. Willard Lewallen stated that the folks at the North District Center, Firebaugh have a bad taste in their mouth because of recent property tax increases. Mr. Don Warkentin commented that we do have a group of local leaders who are interested in giving the SFID a try. Dr. Marcel Hetu stated that he is concerned about the timing it

takes to inform everyone if we are going out in June. Trustee Ivans stated that it would be easier to get the information out in a smaller area.

Mr. Mark Millett, CSEA President, distributed a resolution regarding the SIFDs, stating that CSEA is in support of the district creating SFIDs and urged the Board to go out for a general obligation bond for at least the northern portion of the district.

Discussion took place regarding the facilities and Dr. Gornick stated that the educational facilities plan addresses how we can use our space more efficiently. We have gotten excellent plans from the colleges in terms of growth. We want to be crowded so that we can indicate that we need more space for educational facilities.

President McKean stated that he wants to confirm that Dale Scott and Company is the firm we want to use. Trustee Henry stated that he has no idea how to compare them with any other firm but thinks Mr. Isom did a good job. Trustee Ivans stated that she has no problems using them. Trustee Minnite agreed with Trustee Ivans.

Dr. Gornick stated that he and Mr. Ken Stoppenbrink have had a number of conversations about the issue with Fresno County and the taxes and Dale Scott and Company is very well aware of the issue.

Mr. Stoppenbrink stated that the bonds are critical for us so as not to tap into general fund dollars.

Accreditation Midterm Reports - It was agreed by the Board that the accreditation midterm reports would be discussed during the regular meeting.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business before the Board of Trustees, the study session was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

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Nina Oxborrow  
Clerk of the Board of Trustees

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