

**MINUTES**  
**YOSEMITE COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**FIRST ADJOURNED MEETING FROM THE 479TH REGULAR MEETING**  
**February 24, 2005**

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**BOARD RETREAT**  
**Red Lion Hotel**  
**Vintage I Meeting Room**  
**1612 Sisk Road**  
**Modesto, California**  
**10:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M.**

The meeting was called to order by Board Chair Linda Flores at 10:10 a.m. The Board of Trustees then recessed to closed session for the purpose of discussing the following:

1. Pursuant to G. C. Section 54957  
Chancellor Search Update
2. Pursuant to G. C. Section 54957.6 - Conference with Labor Negotiations  
District Representatives: J. Williams, T. Scott, D. Wirth, G. Railey  
Employee Organizations: CSEA, YFA
3. Pursuant to G. C. Section 54956.9(b)  
Significant Exposure to Litigation: One case

The Board reconvened to open session at 11:10 a.m.

Board Members Present      Pat Dean  
   Anne DeMartini  
   Linda Flores  
   Tom Hallinan (arrived 11:26 a.m.)  
   Paul Neumann  
   Abe Rojas  
   Delsie Schrimp  
   Andrea Garfinkel-Castro (Student Trustee arrived 11:00 a.m.)

Others Present                      M. Baker, J. Riggs, B. Scroggins, N. Stavrianoudakis, T. Scott,  
   G. Railey, J. Williams, D. Wirth, A. Souza, S. Akiona (recorder)

Discussion Items:

15,070

Contracts over \$250,000

Trustee Neumann requested that trustees discuss their service on subcommittees. Trustees expressed a desire to increase their participation and to be better informed on issues facing the District. There are concerns regarding the large contracts that the District will be entering into as a result of the passing of Measure E. Trustees expressed confidence in the qualifications of District staff to follow procedure, review information and bring recommendations to the Board for consideration but recognized the need to be better informed.

Interim President Bill Scroggins stated that delays can occur once an Request for Qualifications (RFQ) or Request for Proposals (RFP) review process is well underway. He asked that Board direction be given early in the process so that changes, if any, can be made to provide a process and outcome that will meet with Board approval. Chair Flores requested that the

Board develop a process that will accomplish this and meet the needs of staff and the Board. Chair Flores commented that trustees serving on subcommittees should provide a progress report to other Board members. Trustee DeMartini commented that the Board becomes involved too late in a process. Trustee Rojas commented that Board involvement should not delay the process for staff. Staff is operating on past practices, and Interim Chancellor Williams commented that Board direction would be helpful. Executive Vice Chancellor Scott agreed with Dr. Scroggins and Williams' position that early involvement would be beneficial, and that faculty representation should also be included at that time.

Director of External Affairs, Nick Stavrianoudakis, suggested that staff make a recommendation to the Board, prior to entering into a process, and seek direction and/or options from the Board.

Chancellor Williams stated that a Board policy exists for the Board to appoint subcommittees. Interim MJC President Scroggins requested that the Board direct its inquiries to the Chancellor and those requests then be communicated to staff, and information be routed to the trustees in the same manner, in keeping with the organizational flow of the District.

15,071  
Board Committees

Trustees desired no further discussion on this topic as it was addressed in the discussions on the prior topic.

15,072  
Board Governance

Trustees desired no further discussion on this topic as it was addressed in the discussions on the prior topic.

15,073  
Trustee Stipends

Trustee DeMartini asked that the Board of Trustees discuss stipends for Board members, as some trustees may not be able to afford to participate in some of the fundraising efforts. She also commented that the District may benefit from a wider pool of candidates should stipends be made available. The District currently provides health insurance to trustees. Trustee DeMartini commented that this is not a benefit to all Board members as some members carry other health insurance coverage. Trustees Rojas, Schrimp and Dean did not agree that trustees should be paid. Chair Flores spoke in favor of stipends because of high personal expenses incurred. Trustee Neumann suggested that the Board consider District reimbursement for events attended by the Trustees on behalf of the District and that the Board look at broadening reimbursement rules. Executive Vice Chancellor Scott commented that the policy governing board duties should be reviewed to determine whether modification was necessary. The Board needs to ensure that there is no gift of public funds and that spending is not tied to lobbying or political events. President Scroggins suggested that events be identified and selected trustees be appointed to attend as representatives of the Board as a whole. Dr. Williams reported that trustee health, dental, vision and life benefits are provided at a cost of approximately \$90,000 annually.

Recessed for Lunch

The Board of Trustees recessed for lunch at 12:15 p.m. and reconvened to public session at 1:17 p.m.

15,074  
Board Involvement with  
Bond Activities

Trustee DeMartini reemphasized that the Board needs to be on top of spending and instructed staff that it is better to over inform than to under inform the Board. Trustee DeMartini again stated the need to be informed so they can report to constituents. The Board discussed various projects, including the Great Valley Museum, MJC parking structure, needed facility repairs, and phases on the proposed timeline. There are opportunities to serve on college project committees for staff and faculty. Chancellor Williams reported that the bond project time line would be presented at the March Board meeting. Dr. Scroggins stated that MJC updates regarding discussions on bond projects and timelines, minutes from the president's cabinet meetings and college council meetings can be accessed via the MJC website.

15,075  
Board Chair Rotation/  
Selection

Trustee Rojas requested that a Board policy be created to administer direction for rotation of the Board Chair position and suggested a rotation list be created. Trustees Dean and Neumann agreed that a policy was needed to provide direction and clarity on this issue. Trustee DeMartini stated that each board member should have the opportunity to serve as Board Chair, and that selection should be made annually. Trustee Rojas stated that to avoid creating a political situation, rotation would be preferred over selection. Trustee Neumann agreed with this position. Chair Flores stated there has been a tradition, but there is no policy in place and recommended that new trustees serve two years before moving in to the position of Board Chair.

15,076  
Procedures for Selecting  
Architectural Firms

At the request of Trustee Schrimp, Maria Baker, Director of Facilities and Operations, summarized her background, experience and years of service to the District. She provided Trustees with historical information regarding the Science Building remodel, and the Fire Training, and Automotive Technology projects. Ms. Baker's start-to-finish building project experience includes the Sierra Halls, Tamarack Hall, the Learning Resource Center (LRC) at Columbia College, and the Mary Stuart Rogers Student Center.

Trustees discussed the current relationship with District architects and faculty concerns regarding the Sierra Halls project. Trustee DeMartini stated that she feels it is time to retain new architectural firms and wants to proceed with a RFQ process. Trustee Schrimp stated that continuing to work with the current architectural firm keeps continuity in the design of campus buildings. Ms. Baker stated that the current architects have District projects in progress at this time. She also informed the Board the selected Program Management Services (PMS) firm will help to develop criteria for RFQs for selection of architectural

firms and it is expected that will draw much diversity among the firms that apply. Chair Flores instructed staff to add this task to the list of duties that will be expected of the selected PMS firm. Ms. Baker recommended that Trustees meet with the selected PMS firm to discuss expectations regarding architectural firms and other issues. Trustee Schrimp requested that a monthly updated be provided at Board meetings.

15,077  
Federal Funding for Parking  
Structures

Interim Chancellor James Williams provided information regarding a possible federal funding opportunity to help offset costs of building parking structures. Chancellor Williams recommended that the Board consider designating that area as a transit center and therefore qualify for federal funds. The structure would need to have a lower floor sufficient for buses, bus stops, and other features like bike racks, outlets for electrical cars, lockers, handicap parking, etc. There is a project list that would need to be met to qualify for the federal funding.

Trustees discussed the advantages of qualifying for this program. Up to 80% of the entire structure could be funded with federal funds. There may be the opportunity to increase the size of the parking structure to accommodate more vehicles. Bus transit between campuses has been a longtime goal. This project would need to be coordinated with the City of Modesto.

15,078  
Citizens Oversight  
Committee

Interim Chancellor James Williams provided trustees with copies of applications to serve on the Citizen's Oversight Committee. A minimum of seven members are required to serve. Director of External Affairs, Nick Stavrianoudakis, reported that of 41 requested applications, 21 were received. Although none were received in the Tax Payer category, the efforts continue to solicit candidates and fill that vacancy. The Board anticipates that they will make appointments at the March 9, 2005, Board meeting.

15,079  
Additional Items

Interim Chancellor James Williams and Interim President Bill Scroggins reported that a letter of interest was submitted regarding the acquisition of the Federal building (downtown Modesto post office) and an application must be submitted by March 7, 2005. If the District is offered the facility, it would be binding and we would need to occupy that facility for thirty years. President Scroggins recommended that this location would be useful, because of its downtown location, for workforce training and economic development. The Alliance is also located in downtown Modesto. If the building is acquired, occupancy and non-credit courses could happen quickly. Maria Baker reported that the building is a historical landmark, as to its exterior only, and is approximately 23,000 square feet in size. However, only 13,000 square feet is available at this time because the occupants in the facility would continue in the facility for two years or longer. The facility does contain asbestos and lead. The HVAC system is dated. Parking is limited to 53 parking stalls. It is loosely estimated that approximately \$3 million would be needed for renovation. Though the building appears to be

structurally sound, Maria Baker cautioned that it does not meet the Field Act standards at this time and use would be restricted.

The building would be acquired through a grant. If the District receives this award, it will receive 100% grant funding if the building is used for instructional purposes or 80% grant funding if it is used for administrative purposes.

Trustee Rojas questioned where the funding for renovations would come from. There was discussion that if money is saved through the federal funding for a parking/transit center, that savings would meet the financial need to renovate the federal building. President Scroggins commented that a new workforce training facility is on the master plan that did not make the cut. The District would gain another project on the master plan without additional spending. The facilities master plan can be amended to reflect that change. Trustee Rojas expressed concern with shifting funds and amending the master plan. Nick Stavrianoudakis reported that the facilities master plan reflects that a new workforce training facility would cost \$24 million. Dr. Scroggins reported that the building would have to be occupied and used for educational programs for 30 years before the District would be able to sell the property. Trustee DeMartini commented that the negative would be that after we acquired the building, and if we were not able to come up with funding for renovation, we would have to return the building. Chair Flores stated that the Board needs to be open to opportunities within our community and consider the needs of the general community. Student Trustee Garfinkel-Castro commented that it is a good opportunity to do something for the community by preserving a historic building.

15,0080  
Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:02 p.m. The next regular meeting of the Board of Trustees will be held on Wednesday, March 9, 2005. Closed session will begin at 1:30 p.m. and open session at 5:30 p.m. at Columbia College, Columbia.

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Linda Flores, Chair  
YCCD Board of Trustees

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James H. Williams, Secretary  
YCCD Board of Trustees