
LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MINUTES

**Coast Community College District
Special Meeting of the Legislative Affairs Committee**

Date: January 5, 2011 at 3:00 p.m.

**Board of Trustees Office Conference Room
1370 Adams Avenue, Costa Mesa, CA 92626**

1. **Call to Order** – Trustee Jerry Patterson called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m.

2. **Roll Call**

Trustees Present: Trustee Patterson and Trustee Prinsky
Trustees Absent: None

In Attendance – Dr. Ding-Jo Currie, Chancellor; W. Andrew Dunn, Vice Chancellor of Finance and Administrative Services; Wes Bryan, President, Golden West College; Dr. Loretta Adrian, President, Coastline Community College; Martha Parham, Director of Public Affairs; Dr. Dennis Harkins, President, Orange Coast College; Amanda Fenton, Christopher Townsend, and Matthew Hicks, Townsend Public Affairs, and Dr. Christian Teeter, Secretary of the Board of Trustees

3. **Opportunity for Public Comment**

There were no requests to address the Committee during Public Comment.

4. **Appointment of Chair, Legislative Affairs Committee**

On a motion by Trustee Prinsky, and seconded by Trustee Patterson, the Committee voted to appoint Trustee Patterson as Chair.

Motion carried with the following vote:

Aye: Trustee Prinsky, Trustee Patterson
Nay: None
Absent: None

5. **Legislative Affairs Committee Plans and Goals for 2011**

Chair Patterson deferred this item for future discussion.

6. **Report and Discussion from Townsend Public Affairs**

- a. Sale of Orange County Fairgrounds

Ms. Fenton noted that the Governor was reviewing the issues from the sale and would take as much time on the matter without rushing for a decision on it, pending a court injunction that will be ruled upon at the end of February 2011.

Further, Ms. Fenton noted that Mr. Brown may be reducing a variety of programs including K-12 and community colleges. Mr. Dunn noted that some cuts may not take place if voters agree to uphold taxes that are currently set to expire. Mr. Patterson noted that the City of Costa Mesa and the Board of the Orange County Fairgrounds are also actively lobbying on the issue.

b. DREAM Act

Ms. Fenton noted that the DREAM Act legislative item was pulled from consideration from the U.S. Senate agenda. She noted that the DREAM Act may be re-introduced but it would not be considered a sole piece of legislation, but tied with others related to immigration issues. Ms. Fenton also noted that the act would likely be introduced at the State level, but that Governor Brown has not yet taken a formal position on this issue.

c. Community College Legislation

Ms. Fenton asked for legislative tracking options and legislative categories for the Committee to consider. Dr. Adrian suggested that "Student Success" be added for an item to consider, such as completion rates and accountability models. Dr. Harkins suggested looking at connections with secondary schools, and moves to increase graduation rates of K-12 students. Mr. Bryan noted fees, Board of Governor waiver issues, and Dr. Currie suggested transfers. Dr. Harkins also suggested baccalaureate degrees for community college educations. Dr. Prinsky suggested law enforcement ideas and green technologies. Allied Health was also suggested by the Chancellor, as well as workforce development.

The Committee discussed format ideas for the tracking of specific bills, including adding the position of the Community College League, Board of Governors, and co-sponsors. Mr. Townsend provided the Committee with input on bill tracking and the importance of prioritizing groups of bills, and offered the assistance of his staff. Mr. Patterson discussed the previous importance of Townsend's assistance to the District on KOCE-TV matters from the District.

The Committee discussed reporting processes with Ms. Fenton. **Chair Patterson requested a monthly report be submitted to the Committee. Dr. Prinsky asked for information to be prioritized as it appears on the reports.** Ms. Fenton noted that there may be increased levels of reporting in the future, given priorities.

Ms. Fenton and the Committee discussed four proposals that were considered at the Board's October 2010 Study Session. Ms. Fenton focused attention on Proposal #4, "Enrollment Deposit" given that it ties to local government control that is being promoted by the Governor this year. Ms. Fenton discussed an analysis of the proposal in terms of pros and cons, as well as a recommendation.

Ms. Fenton described a process that could be followed to move the process ahead. "Spot Language" would be drafted and submitted and discussed time frames for moving the bill through appropriate committees in the Legislature. Staff commented on a District-choice versus a mandated choice, on a statewide bill. Ms. Fenton recommended a coalition process to support the bill if it would be on a statewide basis. Chair Patterson expressed support and asked for language to be modified concerning fees. Mr. Patterson also expressed support for the coalition ideas. Ms. Fenton noted that the

Orange County Legislative Task Force could be engaged on this issue as well. Mr. Townsend noted the importance of League support for bills such as this. Protocols for contacting the Community College League were discussed by Committee Members, Staff, and Mr. Townsend.

With the Committee's input, Ms. Fenton confirmed that the process would be a state-wide initiative and that work would begin accordingly.

Ms. Fenton provided an additional proposal for Joint Use Facilities Funding. **Mr. Patterson expressed support for this and asked for additional work to be done.**

Past appropriation requests were discussed. Mr. Patterson asked for additional changes to be considered, including the Orange Coast College Planetarium. Mr. Townsend suggested that the joint-use fund would be relevant to the Planetarium.

The Committee discussed the advocacy visits to Sacramento in late January 2011. Mr. Patterson noted that four Trustees would be attending. **Mr. Patterson invited Ms. Fenton to attend the luncheon for the Legislative Task Force taking place on January 24.**

7. Set Future Meeting Dates

Committee Members agreed to establish future meeting dates based on priorities.

8. Adjourn

On a motion by Trustee Prinsky and seconded by Chair Patterson, the Committee voted to adjourn the meeting at 4:45 p.m.

Motion carried with the following vote:

Aye:	Trustee Prinsky, Chair Patterson
Nay:	None
Absent:	None

Secretary of the Board of Trustees