
LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MINUTES

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

Date: Thursday, January 10, 2013, 1:30 p.m.

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

1. Call to Order

Trustee Patterson called the meeting to order at 1:38 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Trustee Present: Trustee Jerry Patterson and Trustee Lorraine Prinsky
Trustee Absent: None

In Attendance - Dr. Andrew Jones, Chancellor; Mr. W. Andrew Dunn, Vice Chancellor of Finance and Administrative Services; Ms. Ashley Setoudeh, Ms. Dana DeBeaumont and Mr. Casey Elliot, Townsend Public Affairs; Mr. Steve Tamanaha, Orange Coast College Director of EOPS and Support Services; Ms. Julie Frazier-Mathews, Secretary of the Board of Trustees.

3. Opportunity for Public Comment

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

4. Approval of Minutes: Meeting of October 23, 2012

On a motion by Trustee Patterson and seconded by Trustee Prinsky, the Committee voted to approve the minutes of October 23, 2012.

Motion carried with the following votes:

Aye: Trustee Patterson, Trustee Prinsky
No: None
Absent: None

5. State Update

a. Election Debrief

Ms. Setoudeh debriefed on the 2012 General Election to the Committee members. She mentioned that the focus of the election was Proposition 30 which did pass. Ms. Setoudeh mentioned that the exit poll found that 28% of California's voters were 18-29 year olds, with 63% of them voting yes on Proposition 30. She stated that the

Democrats gained a Super-Majority in both Houses of the State Legislature giving Democrats the ability to pass urgency measures, as well as tax and fee bills, without any Republican support. The Super-Majority also gives Democrats the ability to override any veto of the Governor.

The Committee members continued to discuss Proposition 39 - Tax Treatment for multistate Businesses. Any revenue generated in the current FY budget would go straight to the General Funds so that no funds would be available during the first half of 2013. During the upcoming FY 13-14 budget processes, the Legislature will weigh in on how to annually appropriate the \$550 million in the Clean Energy Job Creation Funds. This will give the Legislature the discretion to appropriate funds into existing grant programs or new programs based on the intent of the initiative. There have already been multiple bills introduced regarding the implementation of these funds, and they were included in the Legislative Matrix provided to the Committee as well as discussed.

b. Pension Reform

Ms. Setoudeh gave an overview of AB 340 that contains last year's pension reform bill; the change and provision applies to CalPERS not to CalSTRS, and Townsend Public Affairs outlined the elements that affect new employees. Ms. Setoudeh mentioned to the Committee that Townsend Public Affairs had sketched what the reform would be. She also asked the Committee members to contact her with any specific questions and she would be happy to answer them or research further if needed.

c. State Budget Update

Ms. Setoudeh updated the Committee members that the Governor had released his proposed budget that morning and indicated that Townsend Public Affairs would provide the District with any information they had, and would send a more thorough analysis shortly.

Mr. Patterson mentioned the online initiative of the virtual campus, the credit by exam and the shifting of adult education from high school to colleges.

d. Legislative Report and Priorities for Next Session

Ms. Setoudeh reviewed the legislative report with the Committee members and mentioned that many of these bills were still in rough form and others were reintroductions of bills from last year. She indicated that Townsend Public Affairs wanted to give the Legislative Affairs Committee an idea where they would start tracking legislation that would be important for the District. Ms. Setoudeh mentioned that Mr. Elliot would go over Bills AB 67 and SB 58 that were introduced after the passage of Proposition 30. These Bills proposed that UC, CSU and community colleges would not be able to raise student tuition rates while Proposition 30 temporarily taxes were in place. Mr. Elliot added that Republicans authored both bills. He mentioned that we would see many more bills introduced that the District may want to take a position on, as the deadline for bill introduction was February 22, 2013.

e. Advocacy Trip Priorities – January 28, 2013

Ms. Setoudeh mentioned that the CCLC Annual Legislative Conference would take place at the end of January and that the plans were to do a half-day advocacy trip on

Monday, January 28, 2013 in the afternoon. She continued by letting the Committee know that the Orange County Community College Legislative Taskforce had decided to do their advocacy trip on Tuesday, January 29, 2013. The Committee members and Ms. Setoudeh reviewed the tracks of meetings that they were planning to attend.

6. Federal Update

a. Federal Budget Legislation: Fiscal Cliff, FY2013 Appropriations, Debt Ceiling and Sequestration

Ms. DeBeaumont updated the Committee members by letting them know that California had four fewer Republicans in the Congressional 53-member delegation than last year, and 15 total Republicans. She mentioned that the Fiscal Cliff Legislation included the American Taxpayer Relief Act passed and that included extending our tax deduction, our benefits for people making less the \$400,000 and a couple making more \$450,000, and it decreased it for those making more. It also included indexing for AMT increasing of state taxes of those states with over 5 million, and it extended for one or two years a number of tax extenders that included the farm program and unemployment benefits through 2013. Ms. DeBeaumont mentioned that sequestration was delayed from January 2, 2013 to March 27, 2013, and she believed that there would not be any sequestration. According to Ms. DeBeaumont, the way to emerge sequestration is by reducing spending through entitlement programs. She also mentioned that they were trying to rewrite the tax code but she believed that they would not get that done by March 27th. She indicated that they were also looking at restructuring and entitlement and they would have to raise the debt ceiling again.

b. Status of Pell Grant Reform

Ms. DeBeaumont mentioned that the cost of Pell Grant reform would be more than anyone had anticipated because more and more students are attending college. They do not know how the government can afford it and how we can reform it. Ms. Setoudeh mentioned that Trustee Patterson wanted Townsend Public Affairs staff to meet with the District staff in February to find ways to utilize the Pell Grant funding. Mr. Patterson suggested Townsend Public Affairs meet with Ms. Kristin Clark.

c. Reauthorization of the Higher Education Act (HEA) in 2013

Ms. DeBeaumont updated the Committee members with the reauthorization of the Higher Education Act (HEA). Dr. Prinsky requested a background on this act, and Ms. Setoudeh indicated she would provide an outline to the Committee members. Ms. DeBeaumont also mentioned the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) legislation, indicating that Jane Oates, the Assistant Secretary of Training and Employment at the Department of Labor, would play a key roll on WIA. Committees are looking at effectiveness of the Workforce Investment Boards (WIBs) and whether or not they are the best vehicles to deliver cost-effective solution/services.

d. Advocacy Trip Priorities – February 10th – 12th, 2013

Ms. Setoudeh gave an overview on the Advocacy Trip priorities and suggested discussing the socioeconomic study and job creation. Ms. Setoudeh sought out suggestions from Mr. Patterson to see if he had any items that he would be interested in talking about. Mr. Patterson was interested with meeting with Jorge Mille, Linda Sanchez, and Loretta Sanchez.

7. Other

a. Orange County Community College Legislative Task Force Update

Ms. Setoudeh provided an update on the work that Townsend Affairs was doing with the Orange County Legislative Task Force. The Task Force is continuing with the Student Veterans focus. Ms. Setoudeh mentioned that the federal priority is working on the HR6101, which was introduced by the last congress by Representative Chu, and would be reintroduced in this congress. Ms. Chu's office appreciates any feedback from the Task Force on the bill in addition to specifics on what they would like to see in it. One of the things that the Task Force was interested in changing is was one counselor to every 100 students, which is something that stood out to them as not feasible.

8. Set Future Meeting Date

The next meeting of the Legislative Affairs Committee was set for Thursday, February 21, 2013 at 3:00 p.m.

9. Adjourn

On a motion by Trustee Patterson and seconded by Trustee Prinsky, the Committee voted to adjourn the meeting at 3:04 p.m.

Motion carried with the following votes

Aye:	Trustee Patterson, Trustee Prinsky
No:	None
Absent:	None

Secretary of the Board of Trustees