
LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MINUTES

Coast Community College District
Special Meeting of the Legislative Affairs Committee
Thursday, December 17, 2020 at 2:00 p.m.
Zoom Meeting

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 2:04 p.m.

2. Roll Call

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

In Attendance: Dr. John Weispfenning, Chancellor; Dr. Andreea Serban, Vice Chancellor of Educational Services and Technology; Dr. Andrew Dunn, Vice Chancellor of Finance and Administrative Services; Tim McGrath, President, Golden West College; Dr. Dana Emerson, Dean, Coastline College; Michael Scott, Project Director, Coastline College; Erik Fallis, District Director, Public Affairs and Marketing; Casey Elliott, State Capitol Director, Townsend Public Affairs; Laura Kroeger, Townsend Public Affairs, Senior Associate; Julie Clevenger, Director, Chancellor's Office Operations & Governmental Affairs; Mary Grady, Administrative Assistant Board; Jane Burton, Manager/Board Secretary

3. Opportunity for Public Comment

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

4. Approval of Minutes: Meeting November 5, 2020

On a motion by Trustee Prinsky, seconded by Trustee Patterson, the Committee voted to approve the minutes of the meeting of November 5, 2020.

Motion carried with the following vote:

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

5. Review, Discuss, and Possible Action on Federal Community College Legislation/Update on Watch List

Laura Kroeger, Senior Associate, Townsend Public Affairs gave the Committee an update for the Federal portion of the reports.

At this time the Government had operated on a full year funding bill continuing resolution for all federal funding that had extended funding levels from 2020 into 2021. Larger and more controversial issues, including the Covid-19 virus response bill, were pending.

Negotiations for education funding were among the less controversial elements of the continuing negotiations. \$82 billion for education, specifically \$20 billion for institutes of higher education, was on the table. There would be a "set-aside" for minority serving institutions and funding for the Governor's emergency response fund.

The budget for California state and local funding was one of the most controversial topics of the negotiations.

The Higher Education Act would be a priority for the following year.

On January 4, 2021 the new congress elects would be sworn into office.

6. Review, Discuss, and Possible Action on State Community College Legislation/Update on Watch List

Casey Elliott, State Capitol Director, Townsend Public Affairs provided important insight into the state community college legislation standings.

The Governor's budget was scheduled for release in January 2021. The Legislative Analyst's Office (LAO) had provided a fiscal forecast in November 2020 anticipating a one-time surplus of approximately \$26 billion dollars for 2020-2021. An operating deficit for state and local government was still anticipated for 2021-2022.

Speculation for the surplus allocations included backfilling of the current year or following year rainy day funds, Covid-19 response, unemployment, and small business financial assistance. Another early requirement would be extending the eviction moratorium and providing rent relief. It was also anticipated that deferrals would be addressed.

Committee Chairs were announced in the Assembly and Senate. Senator Nancy Skinner from Oakland was elected the Chair for the Senate Budget Committee.

7. Review, Discuss, and Possible Action on Future Legislation and Legislative Priorities for Next Year

Trailer bills were to be introduced in January and February 2021 with a deadline set for February 20, 2021. Early bond bills introduced covered housing, resources and wildfires, broadband access, preschool, K-12 and college levels.

8. Update from Orange County Legislative Task Force

Julie Clevenger provided an update from the OCLTF. The last meeting for the year covered issues related to budget schedules, bill schedules, diversity training and the F-1 student visa changes. The Higher Education Act and legislation to support our veterans were also discussed. A priority moving into the new year would be the mental health of students.

Chancellor Weispfenning gave an update on the UCI Covid-19 insurance addendum requirements and negotiations.

9. COVID-19 Updates

Chancellor Weispfenning indicated information for Covid-19 testing over the winter break would be included with the next "News Brief" email.

10. Future Meeting Dates

The next meeting was scheduled for Thursday, January 21, 2021 at 2:00 p.m.

11. Future Agenda Items

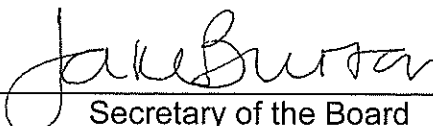
- a. Budget Update – Casey Elliott
- b. Selection of Chair and Vice Chair of the Legislative Affairs Committee
- c. Federal Legislative Updates
- d. State Legislative Updates
- e. Future Legislation

12. Adjourn

On a motion by Trustee Prinsky, seconded by Trustee Patterson, the Committee voted to adjourn the meeting at 3:10 p.m.

Motion carried with the following vote:

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



Secretary of the Board
Jane Burton

