
LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MINUTES

Coast Community College District

Special Meeting of the Legislative Affairs Committee

Monday, April 11, 2022 at 2:00 p.m.

Zoom Meeting

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Trustees Present: Trustee Prinsky and Trustee Patterson

Trustees Absent: None

In Attendance: Dr. John Weispfenning, Chancellor; Dr. Andrew Dunn, Vice Chancellor of Finance and Administrative Services; Dr. Andreea Serban, Vice Chancellor of Educational Services and Technology; Erik Fallis, District Director, Public Affairs and Marketing; Julie Clevenger, Director, Chancellor's Office Operations & Governmental Affairs; Dana Emerson, Dean, Coastline College, Roy Sahachaisere, Student Trustee; Casey Elliott, Vice President, Townsend Public Affairs; Mary Grady, Administrative Assistant, Board of Trustees; Jane Burton, Manager/Board Secretary

3. Opportunity for Public Comment

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

4. Authorization under Brown Act, Government Code § 54953(e), for Conducting Meetings Remotely Due to the COVID-19 Emergency Because Meeting in Person Would Present Imminent Risks to the Health or Safety of Attendees

On a motion by Trustee Prinsky, seconded by Trustee Patterson, the Committee voted to authorize remote meetings due to the COVID-19 emergency.

Motion carried with the following vote:

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

5. Approval of Minutes: Meeting of March 17, 2022

On a motion by Trustee Patterson, seconded by Trustee Prinsky, the Committee voted to approve the minutes of the meeting of March 17, 2022 as presented.

Motion carried with the following vote:

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

6. Budget Update – Casey Elliott, Townsend Public Affairs

Mr. Casey Elliott, Vice President, Townsend Public Affairs, provided a budget update and a brief overview from the Capitol.

- The Legislature was currently on Spring Break.
- The Policy Committee Deadline would be April 29, 2022.
- The Governor's May Revise was expected approximately May 15, 2022.
- The Assembly and Senate Budget Subcommittees had continued to meet with the Assembly Budget Subcommittee on Education to discuss the status of various elements related to community colleges
- Important Committee meeting topics were enrollment declines, apportionment funding, part-time faculty health, and a presentation on the status of Cal Bright.
- The Senate had not scheduled upcoming Budget Committee meetings.
- Projections for COLA in the May Revise might be higher than anticipated.
- Cal Bright could remain at zero budget.
- There were several budget proposals related to gas tax relief. Two Assembly Democratic plans and one from the Administration.
- The Assembly Republican's proposal to suspend the state's excise gas tax for a year was the subject of hostile amendments by the Democratic members of the committee, and was amended to add a windfall profits tax on oil and gas businesses, causing the bill to be abandoned.

Dr. Andy Dunn, Vice Chancellor of Finance and Administration, reported that the inclusion of the Golden West Fine Arts project in the budget was looking favorable. He and Mr. Elliott discussed the Governor's Sunset proposal for Hold Harmless. The "how to" questions were still in the process of being worked out. A possible change for the Hold Harmless date was also discussed.

Trustee Patterson expressed interest in learning more about the shortage of airline pilots and if there would be any opportunity to include community colleges in the training of airline pilots. The advancement of that sector could be included in some of the broad-based workforce development funding programs.

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

Mr. Elliott provided the Federal update.

FY 2023 Appropriations update: The President released the FY2023 Budget proposal on March 28, 2022, with a significant increase.

- Department of Education FY 2023 Budget Request: \$88.3 billion
- Department of Education FY 2022 Enacted: \$76.4 billion

The House and Senate were soliciting Congressionally directed spending requests again, for submission to the Appropriations Committee by the end of April.

The Continuing Resolution would be based off of FY2022 funding levels. The Department of Education had received a significant increase for FY2022 and those levels would continue.

Earmark requests would be included in the final FY2023 budget. Julie Clevenger provided additional information regarding the Federal earmark requests. Two proposals had been received, one from Golden West College for mannequins for the nursing program, and one from Orange Coast College for equipment for the Performing Arts Program. Ms. Clevenger noted she would work with Ben Goldeen to submit the applications to Michelle Steel's office, and then letters of support would be requested. Trustee Patterson and Trustee Prinsky recommended that an item be placed on the next Board of Trustees' agenda authorizing the Chancellor to draft a letter of support on behalf of the full Board.

Build Back Better – This legislation did not have an avenue for advancing, however portions related to climate change were still under consideration. It was unlikely at this stage that the provisions related to community colleges would be included in the package.

HERE Act – Senator Padilla's bill to increase Latino enrollment in postsecondary education through a new annual grant program for both K-12 and higher education would provide funding to partner together, and create access and target specific communities.

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

Mr. Elliott provided a brief update for the Committee and discussed the following priority legislative items:

AB 1705 (Irwin D) Seymour-Campbell Student Success Act of 2012: matriculation: assessment. This bill was referred to the Assembly Higher Education Committee for consideration. Amendments were in process to modify the language.

AB 1746 (Medina D) Student financial aid: Cal Grant Reform Act. This bill was referred to the Assembly Higher Education Committee for consideration.

AB 1856 (Medina D) Community colleges: part-time employees. The bill was approved by the Assembly Higher Education Committee (11-0) on April 5, 2022. Referred to the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

AB 2624 (Kalra D) – Public postsecondary education: Course materials. This bill was moved over to the Assembly Higher Education Committee; no hearing date as of now but it would be subject to the April 29th deadline.

SB 1080 (Min D) College and career fairs. The District's bill. Moved out of the Senate Education Committee (7-0) on March 23rd and then approved by the Senate (39-0) on March 31st. At the Assembly Desk waiting referral to a policy committee. Working to increase support of this bill and there were no current concerns.

SB 1141 (Limon) – Exemption from payment of nonresident tuition. Approved by the Senate Education Committee (5-0) on March 30th. Referred to the Senate Appropriations Committee.

9. Review, Discuss, and Possible Action on Future Legislation and Legislative Priorities

No other future legislation was discussed.

10. Covid-19 Update

Chancellor Weispfenning updated the Committee. Orange County had begun reporting the COVID case numbers only one day per week. The new case numbers for a 7-day average were 115 new cases per day, down from approximately 7500 cases in mid-January 2022.

The information was positive as of this date. The Chancellor felt that if the numbers didn't change by next week, the Board may consider movement on vaccination testing, mandate and/or masking. Decisions would be forthcoming from the District in the coming weeks.

11. Future Meeting Date

The next Legislative Affairs Committee meeting was scheduled for Monday, May 23, 2022 at 2:00 p.m.

12. Future Agenda Items

- a. Budget Update – Casey Elliott
- b. Federal Legislative Updates
- c. State Legislative Updates
- d. Future Legislative Priorities
- e. Covid-19 Update

13. Adjourn

On a motion by Trustee Prinsky, seconded by Trustee Patterson, the Committee voted to adjourn at 3:01 p.m.

Motion passed unanimously with the following vote:

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



Secretary of the Board
Jane Burton

