

PALO VERDE COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT
SPECIAL MEETING
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
145 NORTH SPRING STREET, BLYTHE
SPRING STREET CONFERENCE ROOM
Monday, November 7, 2011
3:00 p.m.

Meeting 11-13

MINUTES

OPENING OF MEETING

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees was called to order by the President of the Board, Mr. Gonzales at 3:15 p.m.

The Salute to the American Flag was led by Mr. Edmond, Trustee of the Board.

Present: Ed Gonzales, President
Millie Rodriguez, Vice President
Ted Arneson, Trustee
Sam Burton, Trustee (arrived at 4:35 p.m.)
Lincoln Edmond, Trustee
George Thomas, Trustee

Administrators Present: Diana Rodriguez, Vice President of Student Services
(Recorder at meeting) – typed minutes by Carrie Mullion

Absent: Jerry Lewis, Clerk of the Board

It was moved by Dr. Thomas, seconded by Mr. Edmond, and unanimously carried, that the agenda for this meeting be approved.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION IN CLOSED SESSION (AT BEGINNING OF MEETING)

Public Employee Interview/Appointment: Interim Superintendent/President.

HEARING OF CITIZENS (AGENDA ITEMS)

Mr. Derek Copple, CTA President, addressed the Board of Trustees on behalf of the faculty concerning the difficulty of faculty being able to attend this Special Board Meeting, due to the time and place of this meeting.

Dr. Hossain Sahlolbei addressed the Board of Trustees concerning the contract of the Interim Superintendent/President, and the Superintendent/President and the Chief Financial Officer reporting directly to the Board of Trustees. Dr. Sahlolbei also gave suggestions on how not to repeat past history of college practices.

(These minutes are a concise summary of reports, discussion and actions taken at this meeting. For detailed comments and discussion a tape is available to the public for 30 days after the date of this meeting.)

HEARING OF CITIZENS (AGENDA ITEMS) continued

Mr. Rich Soto, CSEA President, addressed the Board of Trustees concerning the time and place of this Special Board Meeting, and encouraged transparency from the Board of Trustees, administration, and employees. Mr. Soto expressed his and students' discord of the current financial state of the College. Mr. Soto would like to present to the Board of Trustees and Mr. Walters, ideas and solutions that he has to help save the College money.

Ms. Judy Schuster, Palo Verde College student, addressed the Board of Trustees concerning her and students dissatisfaction of having to pay for someone else's actions, and services that are being cut that affect students' education.

Mr. Richard Castillo, Academic Senate President, addressed the Board of Trustees regarding the importance of hiring of an Interim Superintendent/President that is a leader in finances, human resources, and also in education and curriculum. Mr. Castillo requested that the names of those interviewed become public record, and cautioned the Board of Trustees to not hastily appoint an Interim Superintendent/President, but bring the candidate to the campus in order for the candidate to meet with Academic Senate, CTA and CSEA representatives, and Division Chairs, in order to get a sense of the candidate's character.

HEARING OF CITIZENS (NON-AGENDA ITEMS)

Ms. Olga Padilla spoke concerning the lack of trust in the Board of Trustees, and concern for current and future students.

Mr. Robbin Marsh spoke concerning his appreciation for everyone who works at Palo Verde College, and how he hopes the situation is resolved so that everyone will benefit.

Mr. Quenton Hanson spoke concerning the public relations of the college, more transparency, the Certificates of Participation loans, and the Board of Trustees taking responsibility for decisions that were made, and will need to be made in the future.

Dr. Hossain Sahlolbei spoke concerning the lack of trust in the Board of Trustees, and the responsibility of Board of Trustees.

Mr. Rich Soto spoke concerning the articles in the Palo Verde Valley Times newspaper. Mr. Soto recommended to the Board of Trustees that an article be written detailing the exact issues that are happening at Palo Verde College, and that the article be approved by constituent groups.

Ms. Judy Schuster spoke concerning trust in the Board of Trustees, and asked Board members to remember whom they represent.

ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION

The Board of Trustees adjourned to Closed Session at 3:55 p.m.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

The Board of Trustees returned to Open Session at 7:25 p.m. and reported that no action was taken and there was no report.

The next Regular Meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 15, 2011 in Blythe.

**Minutes approved at the November 15, 2011
Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees**

Secretary of the Board