MINUTES

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE GOVERNING BOARD
SOUTHWESTERN COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

NORMA L. HERNANDEZ, GOVERNING BOARD PRESIDENT
HUMBERTO PERAZA, JR., GOVERNING BOARD VICE PRESIDENT
TIM NADER, GOVERNING BOARD MEMBER
JEAN ROESCH, ED.D., GOVERNING BOARD MEMBER
TERRI VALLADOLID, GOVERNING BOARD MEMBER
CLAUDIA DURAN, STUDENT GOVERNING BOARD MEMBER
MELINDA NISH, ED.D., SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNING BOARD AND
SUPERINTENDENT/PRESIDENT

Written notice is hereby given in accordance with Government Code Section 54956 that a special meeting of the Governing Board of the Southwestern Community College District will be held as noted below:

DATE: Thursday, March 15, 2012
TIME: 10:00 a.m.
LOCATION: Southwestern College
900 Otay Lakes Road
Learning Resource Center (LRC), Room L238 North
Chula Vista, CA 91910

Compliance with Americans With Disabilities Act

Southwestern Community College District, in compliance with the American Disabilities Act (ADA), requests individuals who may need special accommodation to access, attend, and/or participate in Board meetings to contact Mary Gario at (619) 482-6301 in advance of the meeting for information on such accommodation.

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<th>ITEM</th>
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<td><strong>Call to Order</strong></td>
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<td>1. CALL TO ORDER</td>
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<tr>
<td>(Peraza)</td>
<td>10:00 a.m., L238 North</td>
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<td>Attendance at this special meeting (Board members arriving after meeting commences will be noted as “present” at point in this suggested order of business at which they arrive).</td>
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<td>Present: Peraza, Nader, Roesch</td>
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<td>Absent: Hernandez, Valladolid</td>
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<td><strong>Oral Communication</strong></td>
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<td>(Peraza)</td>
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<td>Persons wishing to address the Governing Board under this item should fill out a yellow request card (available at the reception table) and indicate on the card if they wish to be called under Oral Communication, or when a specific agenda item is considered. Pursuant to the Brown Act (Government Code Section 54954.3) members of the public shall be afforded the opportunity to directly address the Governing Board concerning any agenda item that has been described in the notice for the special meeting.</td>
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<td>An oral presentation to the Board does not constitute an open discussion on the presentation topic, unless that topic is on the posted agenda. Pursuant to the Brown Act (Government Code Section 54954.2(a)): &quot;No action or discussion shall be undertaken on any item not appearing on the posted agenda, except that members of a legislative body or its staff may briefly respond to statements made or questions posed by persons exercising their public testimony rights under Section 54954.3.&quot;</td>
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<td>Vice President Peraza requested that speakers' comments be made after the Board and Superintendent/President's statements.</td>
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Vice President Peraza gave the following statement:
Welcome to Southwestern College! Our Board President Norma Hernandez wanted to be here today, but she is out of town on a prior commitment. I am happy to speak on behalf of our Board about a couple of actions we took last night to move us into the future. Dr. Nish will be going into the details on this in a moment.

We are here today to discuss some proactive steps our Board has unanimously taken to apply the lessons of the past to our future operations. You now are in possession of our internal focused review. Most importantly, though, you also have our internal analysis --a road map to improving our business processes.

You will see there are a series of recommendations, as well as specific implementation actions that are now being taken and will be taken in the future to make all of this a reality. Some of the best news in all of this is that we will be completing all work on Proposition R ten years earlier than originally projected. Before we start this work, though, we need to take the time to make sure that the future Prop R projects suit the needs of our students and conform to the intent of the voters. That is what we will be doing over the coming months.

Our vote earlier this year to start the process of severing contracts with the project manager and architect of Proposition R projects set the stage for this year-long process of improving college business practices and facility and program planning. We can't change what has happened in the past, but we can use those lessons to improve transparency and make this college a better place.

VP Peraza turned the floor over to Superintendent/President Nish to talk about some of the specifics.

Superintendent/President Nish gave the following statement:
First, let me say how impressed I am to be at a college where the Governing Board responded so thoughtfully and thoroughly when it first became aware of potential problems.

Thanks to the Governing Board's proactive direction, we now have a special focused review. We also have our staff's internal analysis that lays out the steps we are taking to strengthen our business procedures and improve our contracting and procurement policies. Our intent is to use this experience to set a new standard for transparent decision-making and institutional integrity.

All challenges present new opportunities. And, this is one of those times. The Governing Board took two courageous steps last night to seize the opportunity to build a greater future for Southwestern College.

Over the next year, we will work to strengthen the college's business practices using the lessons learned from the special focused review. Simultaneously, we will be taking a hard look at Proposition R with the idea of completing construction 10 years earlier than initially planned and ensuring that all work done meets the future needs of our students.

With that in mind, we will be re-evaluating all Proposition R projects that have not yet started, including the Corner Lot. The re-evaluation will not affect ongoing work with the Field House, the college-wide central plant, the National City center or the Elmhurst and Gotham entry ways.

Many things have changed since Prop R passed in 2008. We are in a brand new normal and assumptions that existed when the bond passed are no longer valid. Over the next 12 months, the campus will work to modify and update Southwestern College's Educational and Facilities Master plans. These plans will help us determine the buildings, infrastructure, IT and parking needs the college faces. When complete, those plans will provide the information to help us ensure all bond money is spent where it is needed to help students achieve their educational dreams.
This, in a nutshell, is why we are here today. As you can see we have a lot of work ahead. You have the focused review and internal analysis and the roadmap of how we are developing a new look for Prop R with a 2025 completion date.

Oral Communication:
Michael Buckley, faculty member from theater arts, spoke in support of building a Southwestern College Performing Arts Center on the Corner Lot and suggested to repurpose Mayan Hall.

Press Conference

3. PRESS CONFERENCE – PROPOSITION R SPECIAL FOCUSED REVIEW

The Governing Board will hold a press conference regarding its Proposition R Special Focused Review and Internal Analysis.

The Board and Superintendent/President Nish answered questions from the media, community members and college community members.

Adjournment

4. ADJOURNMENT 10:45 a.m.

Melinda Nish, Ed.D.
Governing Board Secretary

Norma L. Hernandez
Governing Board President