

**RIO HONDO COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT**  
**Citizens Oversight Committee**

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Tuesday, June 21, 2011 at 6:30 p.m.  
Rio Hondo Community College Board Room

**Minutes**

**I. Call To Order**

- A. Call to Order** - *The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.*
- B. Pledge of Allegiance** – *COC Chair Michelle Yanez-Jimenez led the Pledge of Allegiance.*
- C. Roll Call** - *COC members that were present: Michelle Yanez-Jimenez, Richard Garner, John Ramirez, Maria Claver, Tom Guzman (Student Representative), Vicky Santana, Steven Valdes, Maribel Garcia, Daniel Canchola and Fred Hawthorne. COC Members Absent included: Ray Chacon and Gustavo Camacho.*
- D. Open Communication for Public Comment** - *Chair, Michelle Yanez-Jimenez called for open comment and there was no comment from the public.*
- E. Approval of Minutes: March 22, 2011** – *The COC committee voted to approve the minutes.*

**II. Reports**

- A. President's Update** – *Superintendent/President Ted Martinez, Jr., welcomed all COC Members and thanked them all for attending the meeting. He noted how many activities were happening at Rio Hondo College and highlighted a few in particular. 1.) The State Budget – He said the Legislature passed a budget and that the College was waiting for final numbers. He said that Vice President of Business and Finance Teresa Dreyfuss had prepared a budget for Rio Hondo College that was "shatterproof." He also said, "Her budget allows us to operate as we did last year with no cuts, however, every year gets harder. We cannot always do magic with the budget." He said that we will continue to monitor the State budget and look forward to finding resolutions. 2.) Enrollment – Dr. Martinez said that the College was up 13 percent from last year's enrollment at this time. He noted that Rio Hondo College's high enrollment was not similar to other universities, which have had to cut class offerings. He noted that once a college decreases their enrollment, it often takes two-to-three years to return to normal. 3.) Police Academy – Dr. Martinez provided an update to COC members on the College's Police Academy. He provided information about the California Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) and how it authorized Rio Hondo College to resume presentation of the Police Academy 664-Hour Basic*

Course effective with this fall semester. The College received notification of the authorization during a POST meeting in Sacramento March 15. He noted the first class will have 40-45 students, compared to past years higher class numbers. 4.) Accreditation – He noted that the College is working “very hard to provide information and updates to the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) regarding its accreditation. A report will be sent in on Oct. 15, 2011 to provide information on the College to WASC. “This type of report is not graded by WASC,” said Dr. Martinez. “It is reviewed.” Dr. Martinez then commented how proud he is of Rio Hondo College being named a “Military Friendly” institution for the third consecutive year. He said the College currently serves more than 2,000 veterans. COC Member, Fred Hawthorne asked how much tuition is at Rio Hondo College. Dr. Martinez answered “\$36/unit this Fall.”

- B. Building Program Progress Report** – Program Manager Jim Sinsheimer gave COC members an overview of the eight projects currently in progress at Rio Hondo College. He said that the Administration of Justice (AOJ) Building was moving along well and that progress had been made since the March meeting. Interior construction continues. He noted about the delay and referenced the need to change general contractors due to the AOJ’s general contractor going out-of-business due to cash-flow problems. He also stated that this would not affect the College’s commitment to stay on budget. “That being said,” he said, “it does affect the project’s completion date.” The original completion date for the AOJ was February 2011, now it is October 2011. COC Member Fred Hawthorne mentioned that he had been contacted by the media with inquiries regarding the AOJ’s construction. He asked what the overall message point on this would be. Dr. Martinez advised all members to direct any and all media inquiries to Director of Marketing and Communications, Susan Herney. Jim Sinsheimer continued to highlight project updates on the remaining projects as well as projects that are currently in-design. COC Member Maribel Garcia asked when the El Monte Educational Center will be completed. Jim Sinsheimer answered, September 2012.
- C. Bond Quarterly Expenditure Report** - Each member of the COC was given a copy of the Bond Measure A Expenditure Summary to review. Vice President of Finance and Business, Teresa Dreyfuss walked everyone through the information, which included a summary of projects and expenditures as well as project details and expenditures by company.
- D. Future Meetings** – The next meeting is scheduled on Tuesday, Sept. 27, 2011 at 6 p.m.
- E. Adjournment** – The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m.