



**WEST  
HILLS**  
COMMUNITY  
COLLEGE  
DISTRICT

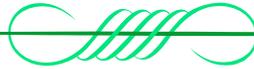
**WEST HILLS COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT**

**Board of Trustees**  
9900 Cody Street  
Coalinga, CA 93210  
(559) 934-2100

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**MINUTES OF THE STUDY SESSION OF THE GOVERNING BOARD**

**October 27, 2009**



**CALL TO ORDER / OPEN SESSION**

Vice President Henry called the study session of the Board of Trustees to order at 1:00 p.m. and led the Board members and audience in the flag salute.

Board members present:

Bill Henry, Vice President  
Nina Oxborrow, Clerk  
Jeff Levinson  
Edna Ivans  
Jack Minnite  
Steve Cantu  
Johan Maeda, Student Trustee

Board members absent:

Mark McKean, President

Administrators present:

Frank Gornick, Chancellor  
Ken Stoppenbrink, Vice Chancellor of Business Services  
Don Warkentin, President, West Hills College Lemoore  
Willard Lewallen, President, West Hills College Coalinga  
Carole Goldsmith, Vice Chancellor of Educational Services and Workforce Development  
Pedro Avila, Vice Chancellor of Institutional Research and Enrollment Management  
Rick Post, Interim Executive Director of West Hills Community College Foundation  
Jill Stearns, Vice President of Educational Services, West Hills College Coalinga  
Frances Squire, Director of Marketing  
Susan Whitener, Dean of Learning Resources  
Richard Larson, Director of Farm of the Future, West Hills College Coalinga  
Dave Bolt, Vice President of Educational Services, West Hills College Lemoore  
Sylvia Dorsey-Robinson, Dean of Student Services, West Hills College Lemoore

**Introduction of Guests**

Ms. Frances Squire, Director of Marketing, introduced the following agriculture students: Mr. Ethan Garcia, Mr. Roy Branco, Mr. Herman Daniel Delgado, and Ms. Shannon Higueta.

## Public Comments

There were no public comments made at this time.

## **STUDY SESSION**

Farm of the Future Report – Dr. Willard Lewallen introduced Mr. Richard Larson, Director of the Farm of the Future. Mr. Larson provided a presentation on the farm status and program status and commented on the increase in the number of class sections and enrollment.

Mr. Clint Cowden, instructor, commented on the various students in the agriculture program and asked those in attendance to briefly speak about their experiences at West Hills College. The students each commented on their success in the program and their activities and interests. Mr. Cowden discussed the program, status and timeline of the agriculture programs, including those which are scheduled for implementation in spring 2010.

Mr. Larson introduced Mr. Ray Rawn, faculty member in the agriculture program. Mr. Rawn provided information on the ag maintenance mechanics program.

Mr. Cowden provided information on programs and crops, including irrigation training, heavy equipment operation program, welding technology program and the mobile welding lab currently under construction. He also discussed the almond production and yield constraints.

Mr. Larson discussed the pistachio harvest, stating that they will not be harvesting a 2009 crop due to poor production. Dr. Lewallen discussed the development of a crop schedule. Information was also provided on the student vegetable garden, the sudan grass crop, hay crops, sugar beets, range cattle inventory and the Vince Motte CIMIS Weather Station.

Mr. Bruce Hunt addressed the Board and discussed the rodeo program and ag science facilities. He stated that facilities have been a major factor in recruiting students.

Mr. Larson discussed irrigation well repair history and the associated problems. Dr. Gornick commented on working with Provost and Pritchard and if the contractor followed their specifications. He stated that staff is following up on this issue and hope to have some answers soon.

Future plans for the Farm of the Future were discussed which include continuing advisory committee meetings for vocational programs, updating the strategic plan for the farm, setting up a farm production advisory group, and developing an annual crop production schedule.

Trustee Minnite left the meeting at this time.

Bid Timeline on Ag Science Facility and Student Center – Mr. Stoppenbrink provided a presentation on bid timelines and project updates. He reported that the West Hills College Coalinga Ag Science Facility will go out for bid in January 2010. The project cost is \$12.4 million. The West Hills College Lemoore Student Center project will go out for bid in March 2010. Its project cost is \$11 million.

Update on SFID Projects – Mr. Stoppenbrink summarized the projects that have occurred for SFID #1, #2 and #3.

Trustee Minnite returned to the meeting at this time.

Preliminary Budget Estimates, 2010-2011 – Mr. Stoppenbrink provided a report on preliminary budget estimates.

Trustee Cantu arrived during the presentation.

Mr. Stoppenbrink discussed FTES history from 2007-2008 to the present and the estimated number for 2010-2011. He commented on previous savings in the 2008-2009 and 2009-2010 fiscal years and the budget estimates for 2009-2010 and 2010-2011. Mr. Stoppenbrink reported that it appears the shortage for 2010-2011 will be approximately \$1.5 million. Discussion took place regarding closing the budget gap. Mandatory holidays and vacation accrual were discussed, along with other strategies being used in the state which include retirement incentives, hiring freezes, furloughs, layoffs and salary reductions.

West Hills Community College Foundation – Dr. Rick Post reported that the West Hills Community College Foundation adopted a Donor Bill of Rights at their last meeting. He explained that it is a covenant with donors telling them that they have rights as a donor and it also establishes a fiduciary relationship. Dr. Post briefly commented on the definition of trustee and foundation board roles and responsibilities related to friend-raising and fundraising and reviewed the qualifications and board member commitments in the Foundation Board Member job description.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business before the Board of Trustees, the study session was adjourned at 2:51 p.m.

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Nina Oxborrow  
Clerk of the Board of Trustees

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