MINUTES OF THE CITIZENS’ BOND OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE OF JANUARY 14, 2010

Chair Israel Landis called the Orientation Session to order at 5:03 pm.

Members Present
Mr. David Barnhart
Mr. Richard Chavez
Ms. Allison Dale
Mr. Tom Kenney
Mr. Israel Landa
Mr. Robert Taylor

Staff Present
Dr. Brenda Davis, President, Norco College
Dr. Gaither Loewenstein, Vice President, Academic Affairs (N)
Mr. Aaron Brown, Associate Vice Chancellor, Finance
Mr. Orin Williams, Associate Vice Chancellor, Facilities Planning
Mr. Michael Stephens, Capital Program Administrator
Mr. Bart Doering, Capital Program Administrator
Mr. Jim Parsons, Associate Vice Chancellor, Public Affairs and Institutional Advancement

Mr. Parsons conducted the Orientation Session, giving a brief overview of the Citizens’ Bond Oversight Committee, its role, and its charge as an independent committee authorized by the RCCD Board of Trustees. Committee members asked clarifying questions regarding authority, duties, financial processes, and facilities development processes as they related to Measure C; various Staff members answered the questions.

Chair Landis adjourned the orientation session at 5:39 pm; the Committee took a break until 6 pm, at which time Chair Landis Called the regular meeting to order.

Approval of minutes – October 15, 2009
(M/Barnhart,S/Taylor/4 ayes, 1 abstention [Kinney])

Dr. Davis provided a brief, informal state-of-the-college presentation. Topics discussed included the original Measure C Campaign, for which Dr. Davis expressed the campus’s thanks to the community; the strategic planning process in place at the campus; implementation of new technology; and, the recent granting of college status to the Norco Campus by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges.
Dr. Loewenstein provided a campus overview, discussing Measure C-funded projects, including the new Industrial Technology Building; the Student Success Center currently under construction; planned secondary impact projects; and a future Center for Health, Wellness and Kinesiology. Dr. Loewenstein also discussed student retention, the College’s master education plan, and ongoing planning for a South Corona center affiliated with Norco College.

Mr. Brown discussed assessed valuation of parcels within the District and the relationship of assessed value to Measure C. Currently, the tax rate paid by property owners is in the $12.10-$12.50 range. When the Board approved placing a general obligation bond on the ballot in 2004, its stated intention was to not exceed $18/$100,000 of assessed value. (Note: the legal limit is a maximum of $25/$100,000.) Mr. Brown also discussed the possibility of a new issuance occurring within the next year and discussed the process the District follows to sell bonds. Responding to a Committee member’s question, he explained the acronym NOC (Network Operations Center).

Mr. Williams reported on the status of Measure C projects across the District, including information about basic timelines, how projects qualify for state funding, phases of projects, the issuance of FPPs and IPPs, and overall project planning. He distributed and explained changes in the reporting documents, including the addition of % to specify state funding and Measure C funding proportions and other elements designed to impart more information to Committee members.

The Committee voted to set the date and location for the October 2010 meeting: October 14, 2010 at Riverside City College. (M/Kinney, S/Chavez/5-0 aye)

Chairman Landis adjourned the meeting at 7:07 p.m.