



GOVERNING BOARD MINUTES
SPECIAL MEETING, GOVERNING BOARD
PALOMAR COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT
GOVERNING BOARD ROOM, STUDENT SERVICES CENTER
COLLEGE CAMPUS
SAN MARCOS, CALIFORNIA
TUESDAY, APRIL 27, 2004
6:00 P.M.

A. CALL TO ORDER

Ralph G. Jensen, President, called the regular meeting of the Palomar Community College District Governing Board to order at 6:00 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL

TRUSTEES PRESENT:

RALPH G. JENSEN, B.A., PRESIDENT
MICHELE T. NELSON, PH.D., VICE PRESIDENT
NANCY C. CHADWICK, M.S.W., M.P.A., SECRETARY
MARK R. EVILSIZER, M.A., TRUSTEE

TRUSTEES ABSENT:

DARRELL L. McMULLEN, M.B.A., TRUSTEE
AMADOR SOTO, STUDENT TRUSTEE

EXECUTIVE ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:

Sherrill L. Amador, Ed.D., Superintendent/President
Berta Cuaron, M.A., Assistant Superintendent/Vice President, Instruction
Joseph Madrigal, M.A., Assistant Superintendent/Vice President, Student Services
Jerry Patton, M.B.A., Assistant Superintendent/Vice President, Finance and Administrative Services

STAFF PRESENT:

Barbara Baldrige, Executive Assistant to Superintendent/Governing Board
Leslie Briggs, Academic Department Assistant, Chemistry/Physics and Engineering
Bonnie Ann Dowd, Faculty Senate Secretary; Associate Professor/Chair, Business Education
Gene Jackson, Part-time Faculty
Barbara Kelber, President, The Faculty; Associate Professor, English
Katie Townsend Merino, Associate Professor, Behavioral Sciences
Rocco Versaci, Co-President, PFF/AFT; Associate Professor, English

GUESTS:

Others present are listed on the sign-in sheets.

QUORUM ESTABLISHED

Following the pledge of allegiance to the flag, Mr. Jensen declared a quorum present, and the meeting proceeded with the order of business.

A TAPED RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THIS MEETING IS ON FILE IN THE PRESIDENT'S OFFICE FOR THIRTY DAYS OR UNTIL THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HAVE BEEN APPROVED BY THE GOVERNING BOARD, WHICHEVER IS LONGER.

C. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

The following persons addressed the Board:

1. Bonnie Ann Dowd – presented the Board with a petition requesting that Gene Jackson be named Interim Superintendent/President.
2. Leslie Briggs – requested the Board name Gene Jackson Interim Superintendent/President.
3. Katie Townsend Merino – spoke against the naming of Lou Zellers as Interim Superintendent/President.
4. Barbara Kelber – requested that more faculty input be considered in the process of naming an Interim Superintendent/President.
5. Rocco Versaci – reminded the Board of its responsibilities and requested it make a decision to bring the campus back together.
6. Gene Jackson – stated the reasons for his application for the position of Interim Superintendent/President.

Mr. Jensen made the following statement: “Regardless of any decisions that may be made with regard to this, I want to say that I’ve known Gene Jackson for going on 12 years, and I consider him a friend and I highly respect him.”

Dr. Nelson made the following statement: “I, too, have found Gene a dedicated, committed person to Palomar. However, I think we need realistically to look at the record. I’ve been on the Board six years, and from my own dean perspective, to which I am going to speak now, I have observed the division that he led to be the most expensive, having the lack of understanding of how they fit into the whole college. The fact that we are \$6 million away from closure on a contract is due entirely to that division. The outrageous reassigned time in that division, unfortunately, I think that speaks for itself. As much as I appreciate his wonderful commitment to the college, his marvelous personal skills, at the time, six years ago, he did not see the writing on the wall when the changes were coming. It was brought about with new leadership in the Instruction Office, it still remained an issue, and it does to this day. It is serious; it is costing the safety net. We are running in the red. You have spoken, and I appreciate the fact that you have let me speak my piece without interruption, and I thank you for that. I know we disagree, but that’s how I experience this stepping forward. It is of grave concern to me that you are putting forward a candidate whose division is costing this campus an enormous loss. I am speaking about ESL and English.”

Mr. Jensen: “With regard to the process, this is how we hired the previous Interim President. Eighty-eight thousand people voted for me and expect me to represent them and, to the best of my knowledge, to make the wisest decisions for the college. That’s my responsibility.”

D. CLOSED SESSION

The Board recessed at 6:30 p.m. and went into Closed Session to discuss:

1. **APPOINTMENT/EMPLOYMENT OF INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT/PRESIDENT**
Pursuant to Government Code 54957
2. **EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT FOR INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT/PRESIDENT**
Pursuant to Government Code 54957

O. RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

The Board reconvened to Open Session at 8:51 p.m. President Jensen made the following statement: "The Board is continuing to explore options for the Interim Superintendent/President and, as of this evening, there was no reportable action taken during Closed Session."

P. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:52 p.m.