

**LOS ANGELES COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
Educational Services Center
Board Room – First Floor
770 Wilshire Boulevard
Los Angeles, CA 90017
Wednesday, February 10, 2010
9:00 – 10:00 a.m.**

Committee: Sylvia Scott-Hayes, Chair; Kelly G. Candaele, Absent: Georgia L. Mercer (arrived at 9:15 a.m.).

Participants: Adriana Barrera, ESC; Dawn Bastin, ESC; David Beaulieu, DAS; A. Susan Carleo, LAVC; Kelly Cauvel, Build-LACCD; Larry Eisenberg, ESC; Carl Friedlander, Los Angeles College Faculty Guild; Camille Goulet, ESC; Thomas Hall, ESC; Kevin Jeter, ESC; Jamillah Moore, LACC; Don Sparks, LAVC; Judith Valles, LAMC; Tyree Wieder, ESC

Trustee Scott-Hayes called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

PUBLIC SPEAKERS

None.

REPORTS/RECOMMENDATIONS

Potential Legislative Initiative Regarding CalPERS Medical Coverage

A document entitled “Los Angeles Community College Board of Trustees, Legislative Committee Meeting, February 10, 2010” was distributed.

Dr. Adriana Barrera indicated that with the transition of medical benefits to CalPERS, the survivor benefits under CalSTRS have been altered. She indicated that these individuals were previously covered under the previous Master Plan agreement. She deferred to Ms. Dawn Bastin.

(Trustee Mercer arrived at 9:15 a.m.)

Ms. Dawn Bastin indicated that CalSTRS retirees prior to 1988 do not have a statutory allowance; a survivor of a CalSTRS retiree must be receiving a pension in order to receive health benefits. Therefore, the survivors are not eligible to receive District health benefits. After 1988, CalPERS automatically pays a survivor allowance, which allows the survivor to be eligible to receive District health benefits.

Ms. Bastin indicated that in the interim the District is covering the CalSTRS survivors through Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (COBRA) until a long-term option is accomplished. She deferred to Mr. Kevin Jeter.

Mr. Jeter indicated that through discussions with CalPERS and CalSTRS, “Alternative One” and “Alternative Two” are being considered in order to resolve the CalSTRS survivor benefits. He explained both options.

Dr. Barrera indicated that the purpose of today’s meeting is to inform the Board members of the issues with CalSTRS survivors’ health benefits, get direction to move forward to attempt to change legislation by means of “Alternative One” or “Alternative Two,” and clarify who will be initiating the proposed amendments to legislation, the Los Angeles Community College District (LACCD) or CalPERS. She further indicated that discussions will be held soon to come to an agreement with respect to reaching a consensus from the District, CalPERS, and CalSTRS to support the same alternative, in order to attempt to change the legislation as a group.

Motion by Trustee Candaele, seconded by Trustee Mercer, to direct staff to move forward to attempt to change legislation in order to resolve the CalSTRS survivors' health benefit issues.

APPROVED: 3 Ayes

Evaluation of Advocacy Firms

A two-sided document entitled "EXHIBIT A – Schedule of Services and Specifications for Cassidy & Associates (side one) and the McCallum Group, Inc. (side two) was distributed.

Interim Chancellor Wieder indicated that the Board members requested that staff review the scope of work of the legislative advocacy firms in order to evaluate what has been accomplished in the last year and clarify what changes or additions should be made to the current scopes of work. She discussed the document (side one), Exhibit A, Scope of Work for Cassidy & Associates and (side two), Exhibit A, Contractor's Services for the McCallum Group, Inc. with respect to reviewing the schedule of services and specifications to reflect the current events that address the District's specific needs.

Interim Chancellor Wieder indicated that she has had several discussions with Mr. Patrick McCallum with respect to a proposed outline of activities for the next legislative year.

Dr. Barrera indicated that with the transition to the Interim Chancellor, the scope of work for the McCallum Group, Inc. for the new contract was rolled over with no changes.

Trustee Scott-Hayes expressed her concern that the McCallum Group Inc. contract was not reviewed before signing the new contract. She requested that staff work on an annual evaluation/assessment of the legislative advocacy firms to be scheduled at the end of the year.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Trustee Mercer, seconded by Trustee Candaele, to adjourn.

Without objection, so ordered.

The meeting adjourned at 9:52 a.m.