



For Immediate Release

Thursday, June 14, 2012

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Southwestern College Governing Board Begins PLA Process Vote directs staff to enter into negotiations

CHULA VISTA – Last night the Southwestern College Governing Board—on a 4-1 vote—approved staff entering into negotiations for a “Community Benefit Agreement,” more commonly known as a Project Labor Agreement or Project Stabilization Agreement on future Proposition R projects. Board Member Dr. Jean Roesch opposed the resolution.

The action signifies the beginning of negotiations. Any final agreement will be brought forward to the Governing Board for additional discussion and a decision.

The Governing Board listened to more than an hour of communication from supporters and opponents of Project Labor Agreements.

As a result of the public input at the meeting and in emails and letters to board members, the board revised the resolution to ensure the inclusion of any and all contractors—union and non-union. There is also interest by board members to meet with a group of non-union contractors with businesses within the boundaries of the district to ensure their concerns are reflected in the negotiations.

“My focus has been, and always will be, the students of Southwestern College and this district,” said President Norma Hernandez.

Here is the link to the revised resolution: <http://www.swccd.edu/pdfs/20120513resolution-cba-propr.pdf>

About Southwestern College

Established in 1961, Southwestern College is the only public institution of higher education in southern San Diego County, serving approximately 400,000 residents of communities including Bonita, Chula Vista, Imperial Beach, National City, Nestor, Otay Mesa, Palm City, San Ysidro, Sunnyside and Coronado. The College District offers more than 300 associate degree and certificate options. More information at swccd.edu.

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