HARTNELL COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Candidate Interviews for Trustee Area 5
August 5, 2008

MINUTES

OPEN SESSION
The Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees was called to order at Hartnell College Board Room at 4:11 p.m. by Board President Kari Lee Valdés.

PRESENT
Board of Trustees: Kari Lee Valdés, President
Patricia Donohue, Vice-President
Bill Freeman, Trustee
Elia Gonzalez-Castro, Trustee
Kevin Healy, Trustee
John Martinez, Trustee
Brad Rice, Trustee
Armando Cortes, Student Trustee

ALSO PRESENT
Phoebe K. Helm, Superintendent/President
Celia Perez Martinez, Trustee Area 5 Candidate
Eloy Alaniz, Trustee Area 5 Candidate
Ray Montemayor, Trustee Area 5 Candidate
David Serena, Trustee Area 5 Candidate

PUBLIC COMMENTS
Enrique Mendez-Flores, Coalition for Fairness, Equality, and Justice, spoke in support of David Serena, candidate for Trustee Area 5 based on Mr. Serena’s track record and hard work.

Patty Saenz, school Board member, spoke on behalf of herself and other elected women officials who were in attendance. She stated that they stand in solidarity – they stand in support of Elia Gonzalez-Castro in her role as a Trustee of Hartnell College. They further trust that she will make the right decision in selecting the best qualified candidate for our students.

CANDIDATE INTERVIEWS
Board President Valdés stated the appointment is a Board decision and from this point forward the discussion will remain with the Board. The student trustee has an advisory vote. The candidates have drawn a number to determine the order in which they will be interviewed. Each candidate will begin with a three-minute presentation on one of three topics: Salinas Valley 2020, Alisal Campus, or Accreditation. Each candidate will then be asked a series of questions.

Celia Perez Martinez drew number one and gave a three-minute presentation on the Alisal Campus, followed by a series of questions selected by the Board.

Eloy Alaniz drew number two and gave a three-minute presentation on his background, followed by a series of questions selected by the Board.
Ray Montemayor drew number three and gave a three minute presentation on the Salinas Valley 2020, followed by a series of questions selected by the Board.

David Serena drew number four and gave a three minute presentation on Salinas Valley 2020, followed by a series of questions selected by the Board.

**APPOINTMENT OF TRUSTEE AREA 5**

A motion was made by Trustee Freeman, seconded by Trustee Martinez, to give the people of Area 5 the opportunity to vote for their next representative. The motion failed on a vote of 2 to 6.

YES: Freeman, Martinez
NO: Cortes (Advisory), Donohue, Gonzalez-Castro, Healy, Rice, Valdés

Trustee Martinez stated he continues to support an election based on his personal experience and based on what he has been told by community members who want a special election, and he encouraged the Board to vote for a special election.

Trustee Valdés stated when the Board was discussing how to fill Area 5 earlier in July, with the exception of Trustee Freeman, the Board reached consensus to an appointment because it would cost the district in excess of $23,000, not including what the candidates would have to pay. At last month’s meeting, when the Board discussed this issue, it was determined that it was too late for the November election. With that, she recommended that the Board move forward with the appointment. She also stated that she is pleased to see there are four well qualified candidates.

Trustee Freeman restated his desire to allow the people of Area 5 to vote; that it’s the public’s right.

The following nominations were made for the appointment to Trustee Area 5:

Trustee Freeman nominated David Serena. This nomination lacked a second, and failed.

Trustee Gonzalez-Castro nominated Celia Perez Martinez, seconded by Trustee Rice, and on a roll call vote of 6 to 2, the nomination passed and Celia Perez Martinez was appointed to Trustee Area 5.

YES: Cortes (Advisory), Donohue, Gonzalez-Castro, Healy, Rice, Valdés
NO: Freeman, Martinez

Celia Perez Martinez will be sworn in at the regular Board meeting of September 9, 2008.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Board President Valdés stated that tomorrow her resignation goes into effect; that she will miss everyone; that she appreciates everything that she has learned from the Board; that she looks forward to her continued involvement in the Ag program, and keeping informed of what is happening at the College.
Board President thanked all four candidates, all of whom are all very well qualified. She is pleased and excited in their interest in serving the community and hopes that they continue.

On a motion by Trustee Rice, seconded by Trustee Healy, and unanimously carried, the Board moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:36 p.m.

*Patricia Donohue  Phoebe K. Helm
Board of Trustees President    Board Secretary

*Trustee Donohue, serving as Vice-President, assumed the role of President effective August 6, 2008.