Board of Trustees Finance Committee

Meeting Minutes – May 14, 2026

San Bernardino Community College District, Boardroom Extension
550 E. Hospitality Ln., Ste 200, San Bernardino, CA 92408

Members Present:
Trustee Stephanie Houston
Trustee Cherina Betters
Trustee Nathan Gonzales
Members Absent:
None
Staff Present:
Dr. Diana Z. Rodriguez, Chancellor
Jose Torres, Executive Vice Chancellor
Steve Sutorus, Executive Director
Jorge Andrade Cortes, Accounting Services Manager
Charmaine Ligon, Senior Executive Administrative Assistant

I. WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

Trustee Houston called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m.

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS

None

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. 2026-04-09 Minutes

Trustee Gonzales made a motion to approve the 2026-04-09 minutes which Trustee Betters seconded. The motion passed with the following vote.

AYES: Gonzales, Houston, Betters
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTENTIONS: None

IV. CURRENT TOPICS

A. Bond Measure Workforce Report

Executive Director Farrah Farzaneh provided an update on Measure CC and Measure Mbond construction projects, highlighting the positive impact on the local community through workforce participation and local business engagement. She shared that local hire participation exceeded the 50% goal, with 2,891 workers representing 55% local participation. The projects generated approximately $70 million in wages for the local workforce, including $19.8 million for minority women workers, and awarded $207.5 million in contracts to local businesses. She noted that veteran participation remains at 3% due to the limited available workforce pool, though outreach efforts will continue.

Associate Director Abel Favela reviewed project-specific updates, including the Crafton Hills College Performing Arts Center, which exceeded local hire goals with over 50% participation and 60% of work hours completed by local workers. The Valley College Student Services Building is 42% complete, with additional subcontractor work expected to increase workforce participation in the coming months. The Crafton Hills College Instructional Building is 40% complete and progressing quickly under the progressive design-build process, while the Valley CP2 project is 10% complete with 60% local hire participation.

Trustee Cherina Betters emphasized the importance of continued outreach efforts, particularly in addressing smaller workforce pools, and requested additional details on community engagement strategies. Trustee Stephanie Houston noted the value of highlighting not only outcomes but also the outreach activities supporting workforce participation. Staff agreed to enhance future presentations to include additional outreach information, including efforts focused on mountain communities.

V. MONTHLY UPDATES (as necessary)

A. Bond Construction Highlights

None

B. BOT Budget to Actual

Executive Vice Chancellor Torres explained there remains 30% of the budget. There are no concerns or anything to report at this time.

C. Budget Revenue & Expenditures

Executive Vice Chancellor Torres explained there are no concerns or anything to report at this time.

D. Enrollment

Executive Vice Chancellor Jose Torres reported that summer registration has begun and highlighted that enrollment, which had remained stagnant at 99%, has now exceeded expectations at 100.01%. He shared that the District is now above 16,000 FTES and has surpassed pre-pandemic enrollment levels. Trustee Stephanie Houston noted that prior enrollment growth during the pandemic was supported by college promise initiatives, including free books and other incentives, whereas the current enrollment growth has occurred without those supports. She emphasized that the District's growth reflects the value students and the community place on the colleges rather than compensatory enrollment efforts.

Executive Vice Chancellor Torres added that the District continues to remain affordable for the community and noted that dual enrollment programs have demonstrated positive impacts for students and their families.

Trustee Stephanie Houston stated that the savings associated with dual enrollment provide opportunities to reinvest resources back into the community. Trustee Cherina Betters commented that enrollment is generally declining statewide, making the District's continued growth especially significant. Chancellor Diana Rodriguez added that retention efforts have also remained strong and noted the overall positive trends reflected in the enrollment data.

E. PARS Investment

Executive Vice Chancellor reported that the market has shown signs of rebounding following the State's May Revise and recommended revisiting the investment performance again in another month. Trustee Stephanie Houston noted that the recent market changes had been forecasted during the previous meeting. Trustee Cherina Betters commented that the earlier forecast helped prepare the Committee for the recent downturn.

F. State Budget

Executive Vice Chancellor Torres summarized the Governor's May Revision, noting increased State revenues while acknowledging continued caution regarding potential revenue fluctuations. He reported that Proposition 98 funding includes an additional $2.3 billion for K–12 education and a proposed $4.6 billion contribution to the State rainy day fund.

For community colleges, discussions continue regarding a proposed "super COLA," which includes a 4.3% adjustment to the Student-Centered Funding Formula in addition to a 1.4% COLA. He also noted the addition of up to 14 weeks of paid pregnancy leave, funded through the 1.4% COLA allocation. Executive Vice Chancellor Torres added that some categorical programs are not receiving COLA funding and noted that proposed 0.5% growth funding would provide approximately $2 million to support enrollment growth. He stated that the District will continue advocating for expanded funding support and will provide additional updates as discussions continue.

VI. FUTURE TOPICS

A. BFC Planning Calendar

The committee reviewed the 2026 BFC Planning Calendar. No changes.

B. Trustee Suggestions

None.

VII. NEXT MEETING DATE & ADJOURNMENT

A. The next meeting of the Board Finance Committee is scheduled for Thursday, June 11, 2026, at 2:30 p.m.

B. The meeting was adjourned at 3:02 p.m.

Charmaine Ligon, Senior Executive Administrative Assistant