

Navajo County Community College District Truth in Taxation Public Hearing Minutes

May 17, 2016 – 10:00 a.m.
Painted Desert Campus, Tiponi Community Center
2251 East Navajo Boulevard, Holbrook, Arizona

Governing Board Member Present: Ms. Ginny Handorf; Mr. Daniel Peaches; Mr. James Matteson; Mr. Prescott Winslow; Mr. Frank Lucero.

Staff Present: President Jeanne Swarhout; Interim Vice President Maderia Ellison; Vice President Mark Vest; Director PJ Way; Recording Secretary to the Board Paul Hempsey.

Others Present: Kim Reed; Betsyann Wilson; Rebecca Hunt; Amber Hill; Stuart Bishop; Everett Robinson; Ann Hess; Kelley Harvey-Brannon; Bill Fee; Donna Soseman; Peggy Belknap; Rickey Jackson; Josh Rogers; John Spadaccini; Linda Kor; Ed Gentry; Brad Farber; Wayne Reeves; Martha Brooks; Jay Williams; Dorothy Williams; Ken Wilk; Jorge Meza; Margaret White; Jeremy Raisor.

Agenda Item 1: Call to Order

Chair Handorf called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. and Mr. Winslow led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Agenda Item 2: Truth in Taxation Publication

Interim Vice President Ellison addressed the Board and stated the college was following Arizona statutes by notifying property taxpayers of its intention to raise primary property taxes over last year's level and holding a Truth in Taxation Hearing. Interim Vice President Ellison noted that the initial press release had contained an error and was therefore reissued with a correction.

Chair Handorf confirmed that \$3.50 would be the increase on a \$100,000 home for the year, or approximately 29 cents per month. Interim Vice President Ellison stated it was.

Mr. Lucero asked what the total increase would be for the taxpayer. Mr. Matteson answered that for a \$100,000 home the total property tax would be \$175.34. Mr. Lucero asked when and how the property tax rate could go down. Mr. Matteson responded that the Board would be responsible for making the decision to reduce the tax rate. Mr. Winslow commented that the meeting packet had included information on tax rate reductions in many districts around the state including Northland Pioneer College. Mr. Winslow continued that the taxpayer focuses less on the tax rate and more on the amount of the tax bill commenting that the tax rate could go down but the tax amount could still go up and the taxes that Navajo County Community College District levies is not the only county tax.



Agenda Item 3: Request of Proposed 2016-2017 Primary Property Tax

Interim Vice President Ellison reviewed the Proposed 2016-2017 Primary Property Tax with the Board commenting that Northland Pioneer College was proposing the maximum allowable levy limit of \$14.3 million dollars with a corresponding rate of 1.7884.

Mr. Lucero asked what the percentage increase to the levy was. Interim Vice President Ellison responded that it would be 2.6%.

Chair Handorf asked when the secondary tax rate, that ended in 2009 was actually adopted. President Swarhout suggested it was adopted around 1999.

Agenda Item 4: Call for Public Comment

Interim Vice President Ellison read a statement from Mr. Lowry Flake in objection to the tax increase.

Mr. Jay Williams addressed the Board in objection to the tax increase.

Mr. Brad Farber addressed the Board in objection to the tax increase.

Mr. Wayne Reeves addressed the Board in objection to the tax increase.

Agenda Item 5: Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:35 a.m. upon a motion by Mr. Matteson, a second by Mr. Winslow, and a unanimous affirmative vote.

Respectfully submitted,



Paul Hempsey
Recording Secretary to the Board

