



California School Employees Association  
Chapter 477 – Rio Hondo College  
MINUTES  
Regular Meeting  
September 11, 2018

**UNAPPROVED**

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2 **Call Meeting to Order:** Having a quorum present the meeting was called to order by Vice  
3 President Lisa Sandoval at **12:08 PM** with **39** members present. She informed Classified that  
4 as requested by Staff, CPRO Alberto Bretado got a camera and this would be the first meeting  
5 streamed live to the outreach locations. Alberto made contact with Sally Willsey at PICO and  
6 Kathy Tovar at SWEC and they could see the meeting live and text as needed.

7 **The Pledge of Allegiance** was led by Lisa Sandoval.

8 **Roll Call of Officers:** Sandra Rivera went to get documents and returned after the meeting was  
9 started by Lisa Sandoval, Janice Garcia-Lopez, Angelica Bio, Rowena Mendoza, Andrea Rivera  
10 Ringo, Albert Bretado and Yolanda Ramirez. Steven Gonzalez came in mid-meeting.

11 **Absent: NONE**

12 **VP Sandoval asked for a Motion to switch Agenda items:** A motion by Frank Garcia to  
13 switch Guest speaker first and reading of the Minutes after, Alberto Bretado second.

14 Vice President Sandoval introduced Dylan Logas candidate for the Board of Trustees for Area  
15 5, which covers Whittier, parts of South Whittier, La Mirada, Hacienda Heights, and La Habra.  
16 Logas spoke about his connections to the CSEA staff and thanked us for our endorsement and  
17 for our support of him as a student and now as a candidate for the Board of Trustees. He gave  
18 us a little bit about of his background, his life changes in 2015, his air conditioning experience,  
19 and having been an evening student here at Rio Hondo. It was then he noticed there were no  
20 Library services, counseling or food options for evening students. Therefore, he moved to ask  
21 the student body and help from the Board of Trustees to make some changes. Including  
22 changes to graduation and having to be on the same day as his final from 8:30 to 10pm. He was  
23 asked by the Board of Trustees: Why do you care to make these changes if next year you won't  
24 be here? He thought: Is that how everyone thinks? And he found out that No, CSEA Staff cares  
25 for individual students. Staff cares about students' problems. He's hoping to establish  
26 transparency between the administration, staff and students. He is available to discuss  
27 problems and issues. As a Board member, he will not be on a pedestal or unapproachable. He  
28 talked about his United Students club, which helped him request later hours at the Library, the  
29 Café to close at 9pm instead of 5pm, and opening Parking Lob B for students after 5pm, to  
30 increase safety. He is running to help staff and students work together to put pressure on the  
31 administration to get what is needed. He wants to remove barriers and guarantee student  
32 safety, add more full-time positions and investing in student service areas. He will be talking to  
33 students today at the upper quad. He will need students and staff's help to canvass and knock  
34 on doors this weekend. Sandra returned and asked him for the times. Canvassing will be this  
35 Saturday from 10 to 2 p.m. Volunteers would not just knock on doors, but would have a real  
36 conversation about the issues and problems in the community. Volunteers will be leaving flyers  
37 and at least 10 people are needed. There will be a barbecue for all those who volunteer. He will  
38 also be doing this on Sunday from 12 to 2 p.m. at Laurel Park and then Michigan Park. It is  
39 family friendly endeavor, so bring the family, and maybe students can get extra credit for  
40 helping. There is a sign-up sheet going around. Together we can do an impact on the  
41 community and the college. We will be marginalized no more. We are ready to speak and to  
42 help. He mentioned that he participated in the Pathway-to-Law school and cross-enrollment with  
43 6 units at RIO and at the same time students can attend at Cal State Long Beach courses at  
44 RIO price, which helps increase transfers to the universities. He wants to bring similar



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45 opportunities for students at Rio Hondo, which has done so much for him and he is giving back.  
46 He wants to listen to suggestions and make it the best place it can be. He wants to keep the  
47 highest level of pride. Lorraine Serrano asked for three statements on how Rio Hondo helped  
48 him turn the corner. First, in 2015 his sobriety was a fresh start and his parents graduated from  
49 RIO. Second, grateful for receiving Financial Aid and an Academic Renewal. Third, the Staff,  
50 who acknowledges the students' presences, listens and create a family connection here at Rio  
51 Hondo. Now,, he wants to leave it better than he found it. He thanked everyone for our support  
52 and for endorsing his candidacy for Board of Trustees and left. President Rivera continued the  
53 meeting reminding us that Logas also received the endorsement from the L.A. Federation of  
54 Labor. Steven Gonzalez came in.

55 **Approval of Minutes:** We went on to do the Minutes with corrections as needed. There was a  
56 motion by Lisa Sandoval to approve the Minutes for August 23 and Rowena Mendoza second.  
57 There was a motion to approve the July 23 Minutes by Monika Acosta and second by Alberto  
58 Bretado. Motion by Alberto Bretado to approve the August 7 Minutes was second by Monika  
59 Acosta.

60 Angelica gave us information on the budget. She requested a cancellation of the hotel room  
61 because delegates to conference were not able to attend. She is waiting for \$1862 refund from  
62 the hotel, but it was sent to Headquarters in San José, and she expects we will get it soon. She  
63 is also waiting for the \$1072 check with dues from 268 members. A motion by Jim Sass to  
64 accept the September budget was second by Michelle LaPierre.

65 President Rivera requested volunteers to form a Standing Budget Committee to help Chapter  
66 477 to make good, strong decisions due to Janus and the New Funding Formula. We are trying  
67 to be proactive rather than reactive to these changes. The Committee will explore how to  
68 sustain our expenses with only \$4 in dues, which have not changed since 2004. We will have to  
69 maintain our boat afloat. So, if you are interested or have questions please talk to Sandra,  
70 Angelica, or Jim. We hope to get this committee approved by December.

71 President Rivera brought up the fact that the L.A. Fed approved an employee strike against the  
72 Rite Aid Corporation. The company is denying health benefits to employees even for those who  
73 are already retired. Sandra asked members to please refrain from shopping at Rite Aid Stores.  
74 These employees belong to the same Union as the supermarkets that were on strike years ago.  
75 It is a serious fight, and we must respect the employees and not cross the picket lines. If they go  
76 on strike the union pays employees a very small amount just to keep them going until the strike  
77 is over. We need to actively support them to keep the pressure on the company to continue to  
78 provide health benefits and life sustaining wages to union families.

79 **Good of the Order:** President Rivera reported some bathroom statistics, which indicate a  
80 possible increase in FTEs. We have used 50 cases of towels and more toilet paper than we  
81 have in the past, by this time in the semester. She reported that we have fewer custodians, and  
82 only two work the dayshift. She asks that we help by adding more custodial staff in the Area and  
83 Program Plans. She wanted to congratulate Rowena Mendoza for receiving a \$500 CSEA Grant  
84 from The Jody Bell Member Student Loan Reducer Program. She also wanted us to thank the  
85 Negotiations Team for their great effort in getting us a raise and of course, she wanted us to  
86 thank Juan Figueroa and Wendy Huynh for their hard work in getting us are our retroactive pay  
87 checks. Members agreed clapping and cheering.

88 **Adjournment:** President Rivera adjourned the meeting at **12:59 p.m.**