1.0 CALL TO ORDER 6:00 p.m.
President Bruce Ketron called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. He announced that Michael Baldini would be late to the meeting, as he is commuting from an out of town worksite. Mr. Ketron explained that he would be attempting to allow Mr. Baldini to listen to the proceedings in order to be better prepared when he arrived. (Mr. Ketron used his cell phone for this purpose.)

Members Present: Mr. Ketron, Mr. Meng, Ms. Busenbark, Mr. Andrews, Ms. Knight, Mr. Meng,
Members Absent: Michael Baldini (arrived late)
Staff Present: Dr. Chris McCarthy, Sue Nelson,
Guests Present: Jillian Jones, Napa Valley Register

2.0 Pledge of Allegiance
The audience recited the pledge of allegiance.

3.0 Review of Previously Established Priorities for Campus Construction Projects
The board reviewed previously established priorities for campus construction projects and projected timelines associated with those projects. Dr. McCarthy explained that when the voters approved Measure N, they approved only the projects included in the ballot language. If a project was not included in Measure N, it cannot be paid for with bond funds.

Dan TerAvest led the board through supplementary materials, making the distinction between projects that are currently “unfunded” versus projects that are currently “underfunded.” He also clarified that when projects run over, it is noted as a “phantom deficit” as a way of keeping track of shortfall. Under no circumstances would the district spend funds that it does not have by “deficit-spending.”

Dr. McCarthy reviewed options for raising additional funds. One option is a tax rate extension (the tax extends for a longer duration, but it is not an additional tax for taxpayers.) Dan TerAvest noted that this is sometimes difficult to explain to voters. A second option is a general election held in 2008, 2010, 2012, or 2014. He noted that the original goal was to complete the projects the board originally set out to complete.

JoAnn Busenbark noted that the County is exploring a transit tax for 2008, which argues against the District returning to voters during the same election. Tom Andrews favored a new approach in 2010. Bruce Ketron said he attended a Measure N Citizens’ Oversight Meeting, and the presentation at the
meeting gave the committee a fuller understanding of the reasons for a sharp rise in construction costs. He also said had not previously understood the need for a significant amount of planning time, one reason for going out for another bond sooner rather than later. Charles Meng recommended moving forward with the currently planned projects without making other decisions at this point.

4.0 Review of Options to Address Currently Unfunded and Underfunded Bond Projects
The board discussed priorities for use of unspent Measure N funds and examined options for supplementing existing monies. Dan TerAvest stated that he was pleased that projects are coming in under budget, though the dollar is currently weak. Tom Andrews recommended looking at every decision for the unintended consequences that go with it. He also noted that it is difficult to make impartial decisions when the board is approached by groups with a request, so he suggested postponing decisions so that the information presented could be thoroughly processed. Dr. McCarthy focused the discussions, saying that the task is to determine whether or not the priorities established with Measure N funds should be re-affirmed or the priorities need to be changed.

Dan TerAvest stated that there is approximately $60 million remaining to be spent. He explained that the Physical Sciences remodel is in the governor’s budget, but is currently unfunded. If a state facility bond passes, the college would receive $3.5 million toward the project. Mr. TerAvest also explained that the college has already invested in the design of some projects, which would argue for proceeding with them. Brian Wright of TLCD also reviewed options. The ceramics building would be built on the gravel lot north of the art building. Brenda Knight asked for a walking tour to provide a better visual understanding of the spaces under discussion. Charles Meng said there needed to be a good decision-making process and a vision of what should be created on campus. Bruce Ketron said he felt a commitment to complete projects that had been outlined under in Measure N. Steve Reinbolt stressed the importance of maintaining flexibility. Chris Adams stated that students are ready to be involved in a campaign if the decision to move forward with another bond is made. Dr. McCarthy said that projects previously approved by the board would be given priority, and he asked board members if any other projects should be given priority. JoAnn Busenbark said that money already spent on planning related to a particular project should be taken into consideration. The board reaffirmed that they did not want to interfere with progress on projects currently underway.

5.0 Discussion of District Property at the Corner of Soscol and Imola
Dr. McCarthy reported that he is often approached by contractors interested in developing the District’s property at the corner of Soscol and Imola. He said it was an opportune time to have a philosophical discussion about what the board envisions for that property and on the process for evaluating options. Charles Meng said the most important decision for the board was between commercial or educational proposals. JoAnn Busenbark said she felt all creative projects that would benefit the college financially should be considered and said that educational and commercial uses do not have to be mutually exclusive. Tom Andrews said the board should look towards future. Michael Baldini recommended being creative in searching for funding and so should be open to hearing a wide range of topics. Chris Adams encouraged the board to be creative and to not delay, as things get more and more expensive as time goes on. Charles Meng said it was important to involve the community, and there must be a good process. Bruce Ketron said that we should put the education code into the backup packet.

Board president Bruce Ketron adjourned the meeting at 8:50 p.m.