

SIERRA JOINT COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

Review of Post Retirement Medical Fund

Discussion

The 2001-2002 Grand Jury was advised to continue to monitor the Post Retirement Medical Fund. The fund was depleted by \$93,000 in 1995-96 and again in 1998-99 by \$72,000. These funds were restored in 2000-2001. The Post Retirement Medical Fund was created by collective bargaining agreements between the College and two employee organizations, the Sierra College Faculty Association and the Federation of United School Employees. There is no authority granted in the collective bargaining agreements between the College and the employee organizations for anyone or any entity to remove funds from the Post Retirement Medical Fund, other than in conformance with collective bargaining agreement provisions regarding resigning or noncontributing employees. The President and his staff assured the Grand Jury that they had followed the advice of the previous Grand Jury in organizing a committee to monitor the Post Retirement Medical Fund. According to the Vice President of Finance and Administration at Sierra College, as of June 30, 2001, the balance of the fund was \$4,066,678. In comparison the fund balance as of June 30, 1997 was \$2,212,211 and as of June 30, 1998 was \$2,539,167.

On several different occasions members of the Grand Jury attended the Sierra Community College Board meetings. In these meetings it seemed as though the Board did not put forth adequate effort in answering questions from the public. The Board needs to treat the public with courtesy and allow time to provide answers to public inquiries. This extra time would help insure that interaction between the Board and public would be productive.

In March 2002, the Grand Jury was given a tour of the College. Sierra College serves over 17,000 students of all ages on four campuses: Rocklin, Roseville Gateway, Grass Valley, and Truckee. The facilities offer a wide variety of learning opportunities. The curriculum is vast, innovative, and varied. Sierra Joint Community College District provides a valuable resource to a large and growing community.

Finding 1

The Post Retirement Medical Fund was created through collective bargaining agreements and is not to be invaded for any reason other than in conformance with the original provisions or as may be modified by future negotiations between the parties.

Recommendation 1

The 2002-2003 Grand Jury should continue monitoring the Post Retirement Medical Fund.

Finding 2

The Grand Jury attended Sierra College Community Board meetings. During these meetings it seemed the Board did not put adequate effort into answering questions from the public. Occasionally the public was not treated with courtesy.

Recommendation 2

In order to provide a more positive image with the public, the Board needs to be aware of providing time in answering questions and concerns from the public.

Commendation

The Sierra College Board should be commended for its focus on providing a valuable resource to a large and growing community. The curriculum is vast, innovative and varied, serving people of all ages and interests.

No response is required.