

# Motion to censure VVC's Brady fails

Receives supportive comments during meeting

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VICTORVILLE • A motion to approve a censure on Victor Valley College trustee Joseph W. Brady failed on the dais at Tuesday night's board meeting, resulting in mixed emotions from the audience.

Many clapped, while some threw their hands in the air and shook their heads disapprovingly.

The motion stems from a Republican political fundraiser recently held by Brady. Victorville Councilwoman Angela Valles felt the designs on fundraising materials at the political luncheon [too closely resembled the Victor Valley College logo](#), and Valles reported it to school officials. Trustees Dennis Henderson and John Pinkerton, who were on a subcommittee designed to investigate the issue, voted in favor of the censure, while trustee Lorrie Denson voted against it.

One trustee, Michael Krause, was absent and not available by phone, so his vote was considered a "nay" and the tie resulted in a failed motion. Brady was prohibited from voting on the issue.

Before the vote, the motion was the most discussed topic at Tuesday's meeting, and every public commentator spoke on Brady's behalf, pleading with the board to reconsider their motives.

One speaker called the agenda item "petty and mean-spirited." Another called it "silly" and a "violation of civil rights."

Brady said after the meeting that he was humbled by the outpouring of support he received from members of the community, and that there appears to be a clear divide on the board.

"I really hope that the board can finally come together because we are here to train students, teach students and graduate students, and I really believe that there was a clear political message here," Brady said.

Pinkerton, however, said that although he likes Brady, he believes the logo in question was misleading, as the seal gives the impression of official college business.

"This subcommittee is not commenting on whether the use of the logo on the mailer constitutes a violation of any law, but rather whether the use is a violation of the code of ethics standard of practice for board policy 2715 and specifically gives the appearance of a conflict of interest," Pinkerton said, referencing the subcommittee's notes. "We don't have the teeth to stop Trustee Brady from doing this again, but I do recommend that we look at whether or not this is appropriate and decide tonight if we are going to condone this in the future."