

APPROVED MINUTES

COCHISE COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD REGULAR MEETING

Tuesday, December 17, 2024
Sierra Vista Campus
HR Building 300 Room 301
6:00 p.m.

Members of the public who wished to attend the meeting via video conference joined at <https://cochise.zoom.us/j/99313270424>

1. GENERAL FUNCTIONS

1.01 Call to Order

Mr. Quinn called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Board Members Present:

Mr. Tim Quinn
Mr. David DiPeso
Mr. Don Hudgins
Mr. Dennis Nelson
Mrs. Jane Strain

1.02 Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Nelson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

1.03 Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was adopted with no modifications.

Mr. Hudgins moved, and Mr. Nelson seconded a motion to adopt the meeting agenda. With no further discussion, the Governing Board approved with Mr. Quinn, Mr. Nelson, Mrs. Strain, Mr. Hudgins, and Mr. DiPeso all voting aye. **MOTION PASSED.**

1.04 Citizen's In-person Interim

There were no requests to address the Governing Board.

1.05 Standing Reports

1.05.1 Representative to the Arizona Association of Community College Trustees (AACCT)

There were no new AACCT updates.

1.05.2 Senate Report

The written Senate report was provided in the board packet for review and was accepted as published.

1.05.3 Student Government Association (SGA)

A written Student Government Association report was submitted in the board packet and was accepted as published.

1.05.4 College President

Dr. Rottweiler, College President, wished all a happy holiday season, and then provided updates to the Governing Board; highlights include:

Legislative Update:

- The college is in a wait and see mode until the 57th Arizona Legislature begins January 13, 2025. The next critical point will be the Governor's State of the State and the release of the Executive Budget.

Facilities Update:

- All construction projects are on time and on budget.
 - Held the FTC Ribbon Cutting on Monday, December 16th. It was a wonderful event and well attended.
 - Bugen Hall Grand Opening will be held on Tuesday, January 7th at 3:00 pm.

Initiatives:

- Dean's Molina and Scarborough, addressed some college strategic initiatives during their reports later during the meeting.

Community Engagements:

- November 14 – Salvation Army Kickoff (keynote)
- November 14 – Leadership Southern Arizona 2024 Graduation (Congratulations to Dean Angela Garcia)
- November 15 – Pit Fire
- November 16 – Hall of Fame induction for Mark Dannels, Mike Ortega, and David Valasco
- November 18 – Assumption of Responsibility Ceremony – Brigadier General Michael Liesmann
- November 22 - President's Student Leadership Academy
- December 4 – Douglas Land Donation Signing Ceremony (City of Douglas – Port of Entry land) – Quint Molina attended on behalf of the president and college
- December 4 – Met with Border Czar and Dr. Phil regarding border security
- December 5 – Police Academy Graduation
- December 6 – Legacy Foundation and Major General Appelhans Holiday Celebrations
- December 10 – Met with Hensel Phelps (Port contractors) discussions to host them on the Douglas Campus. Anticipated opening in late 2028.
- December 13 – Canyon Vista Medical Center Holiday Reception
- December 16 – Firearms Training Complex Ribbon Cutting

Upcoming Activities:

- December 23 – January 6 – Winter Break (College Closed)
- January 7 – Grand Opening and Dedication Ceremony for Bugen Hall
- January 14 – Governing Board Meeting – Sierra Vista @ 6 pm

1.05.5 Monthly Financial Report – November 2024

The Financial Report for November 2024 was provided in the board packet, and approved as submitted.

1.05.6 Monthly Academic Progress Report – December 2024

The monthly Academic Progress Report for December 2024 included an update on the accreditation evidence workshop.

2. NEW BUSINESS *

2.01 Consent Agenda *

The following items were approved:

- 2.01.1 * Non-Exempt Staff; Appointment (*Alesha Mart, Academic / Career Advisor - Douglas, Douglas Campus*)
- 2.01.2 * Non-Exempt Staff; Appointment (*Ricardo Parra, Building Maintenance Technician II, Sierra Vista Campus*)
- 2.01.3 * Non-Exempt Staff; Appointment (*Alexandra Rivera, Division Assistant - Academics, Douglas Campus*)
- 2.01.4 * Exempt Staff; Appointment (*Dr. Lilla DeLuca, Director of Grants Development and Management, Downtown Center*)
- 2.01.5 * Exempt Staff; Appointment (*Ciarra Lalles, Residence Hall Director, Sierra Vista Campus*)
- 2.01.6 * Faculty; Appointment (*Kelsey Cartwright, Instructor of Nursing – License Practical Nurse, Downtown Center*)
- 2.01.7 * Non-Exempt Staff; Resignation (*Evan Morgan, User Support Technician, Sierra Vista Campus*)
- 2.01.8 * Exempt; Resignation (*Dr. Lynette Bagwell, Director of Student Recruitment, Sierra Vista Campus*)
- 2.01.9 * Exempt; Resignation (*Michael Kreitz, Director of User Support Services, District-wide, based on the Sierra Vista Campus*)
- 2.01.10 * Faculty; Resignation (*Huemac Badilla, Instructor of Aviation Pathways, Douglas Campus*)
- 2.01.11 * Faculty; Resignation (*Michael Bogner, Instructor of Computer Information Systems, Sierra Vista Campus*)
- 2.01.12 * Faculty; Resignation (*Janet Jones, Instructor of Behavioral Health, Downtown Center*)
- 2.01.13 * Amendment to IGA – Southeastern Arizona Law Enforcement Training Academy
- 2.01.14 * Course Fee Change
- 2.01.15 * Acceptance of Minutes for November 12, 2024 – Regular Meeting
- 2.01.16 * Acceptance of Minutes for December 4, 2024 – Special Meeting
- 2.01.17 * Acceptance of Minutes for December 6, 2024 – Special Meeting

Mr. Nelson moved, and Mr. DiPeso seconded a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. With no further discussion, the Governing Board approved with Mr. Quinn, Mrs. Strain, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Hudgins, and Mr. DiPeso all voting aye. **MOTION CARRIED.**

2.02 Selection and Appointment of College President

The Board Chair is requesting the Governing Board adopt a motion to select and appoint the next College president.

Mr. Hudgins moved, and Mr. Nelson seconded a motion to select and appoint Dr. James Perey as the next President at Cochise College effective February 16, 2025. Mrs. Strain expressed the excitement of moving forward with the next president. Mr. Hudgins stated that it is great pleasure for this next adventure and that he looks forward to another amazing 15 years ahead with Dr. Perey. Mr. Nelson said he feels very comfortable with the selection and believes that Dr. Perey will be a great president. Mr. DiPeso expressed his appreciation for stepping up to take the position. Mr. Quinn stated the fact that Dr. Perey's family was in attendance for this announcement exemplifies his investment in the institution and the rural community. With no further discussion, the Governing Board approved with a roll call vote:

Mr. David DiPeso – aye
Mr. Dennis Nelson – aye
Mr. Tim Quinn – aye
Mr. Don Hudgins – aye
Mrs. Jane Strain – aye
MOTION CARRIED.

Questions/Comments:

Dr. Perey took a moment to express how deeply honored and humbled he is to serve as the twelfth President at Cochise College. He thanked the board for their confidence and unanimous support in him. He also expressed his gratitude to Dr. Rottweiler, who has been a guiding light for the college and has left an incredible mark on the community and the institution. He looks forward to this next chapter and working alongside the faculty and staff, because they are what sets the college apart.

2.03 Trustee Emeritus Designation for Mr. Dennis Nelson

The administration requested the Governing Board adopt a motion to resolve the designation of Trustee Emeritus to Mr. Dennis Nelson.

Mr. Hudgins moved, and Mr. DiPeso seconded a motion to resolve the designation of Trustee Emeritus to Mr. Dennis Nelson. With no further discussion, the Governing Board approved with Mr. Quinn, Mrs. Strain, Mr. Hudgins, and Mr. DiPeso all voting aye; Mr. Nelson abstained. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Mr. Nelson was presented with a framed proclamation and a medallion.

Mr. Nelson thanked the voters for the last 12 years of elected support. He also thanked JD, and fellow board members for helping make the college a great place. Mr. Nelson also welcomed new board member, Stephanie Money. Lastly, Mr. Nelson reflected on college accomplishments during his 12 years of service; highlights include:

- Expanded the First Responders Academy by reviving the police academy, constructing a fire tower, a driving track, and a pistol range.
- Expanded training with Virtual reality to include an ambulance simulator
- Building a housing facility
- Gifted a hospital that was remodeled and now houses nursing and a state-of-the-art computer lab.
- Refurbished the Douglas campus to include the baseball field, the water systems, the roofs, the HVAC system, established a campus dean, revamped the Aviation program.
- Progressed from Dial up internet to microwave to now fiber
- Added a new automotive technology center
- Developed superior vocational classes, with welding, construction, HVAC, etc.

- Added 4-year degree programs

However, he commented on what he remembers most about the college is the spirit and dedication to students with a drive-by graduation celebration during the COVID-19 pandemic. Those students had a chance of not having a graduation ceremony but administration was innovative and came up with a drive-thru celebration as way to commend these students' accomplishments. He stated there have been great times, great memories, and great progress.

2.04 Intergovernmental Agreement with Cochise County Elections Office

The administration requested the Governing Board adopt a motion to authorize the college president to sign an IGA with Cochise County Election's Office.

Mr. Nelson moved, and Mr. DiPeso seconded a motion to authorize the college president to sign an IGA with Cochise County Election's Office. Mr. Nelson asked if the document was a ratification seeing as it states effective November 5, 2024. Dr. Rottweiler noted the document was received after the election, along with an invoice for the election and expressed his frustration. Mrs. Strain also expressed her frustration with the election's office and hopes the issues get resolved. With no further discussion, the Governing Board approved with Mr. Quinn, Mrs. Strain, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Hudgins, and Mr. DiPeso all voting aye. **MOTION CARRIED.**

3. INFORMATION ITEMS

3.01 Communications

- Dr. Rottweiler received an email from Higher Learning Commission (HLC), notifying the college that Angela Garcia, Dean of Liberal Arts, has been selected to serve as a peer reviewer for the Open and Standard Pathways for the Higher Learning Commission. Peer reviewers are volunteers who generously share their time and expertise to help colleges and universities advance their quality.

3.02 Business, Career, and Technical Education Division Report

Quintin Molina, Dean of Business, Career, and Technical Education, will provide a presentation on the Business, Career, and Technical Education Division; highlights include:

Thanked his team, to include Kathy Carrillo, Department Assistant, and Dr. Kristy Ritter, who previously served as the Dean.

New Instructors:

- BUS – Catherine Laganosky
- CIS/CYBER – TJ Chenoweth
- WLD – Jeramie O'Dell

Early College Numbers:

- Automotive – 18
- Culinary – 9
- CIS/CYBER – 10
- HVAC – 16
- Welding – 69 (both Douglas and Sierra Vista)
- Culinary on the HS Campus – 24

Agriculture:

- Hydroponic Nutrient Injection System and growing medium installed.

- Vertical Hydroponic towers are producing leafy greens and herbs. Exploring a community support program.
- Revamping curriculum to meet student needs and transfer requirements.

Automotive:

- Student count has increased from 77 to 95
- New EV/Hybrid Certificates going very well (Instructor Alan Anderson)
- Completed the Academic Program Review
 - Highlighted successes and looked at areas for improvement

Welding:

- Number of Graduates Increased from 15 to 72
- Student count increased from 230 to 273
- Completed the Academic Program Review

Residential Construction:

- Sold House #6 on Danny Lane
- House #7 at 106 N. 1st Street is underway – moving quickly
- Properties for houses #8 and #9 have been secured and are in discussions to get the grounds cleared and ready for next year
- Completed the Academic Program Review

New Initiatives in the Works:

- Business, Career, & Technical Education:
 - Ann Marie Stephens Viticulture Program – brought from Ann Marie herself and her conservatorship. She has been active in viticulture and wine throughout the state and wanted to leave a legacy component. The college is in talks with potential donors/donations and will update the board as it progresses.
- Workforce Development Collaboration:
 - Excelsior Mining, Johnson Camp Mine, Apprenticeship Program Coordination – potential jobs to the county
- Arizona G&T Pre-Apprenticeship Program Development with Pima and Mohave community colleges
- Focusing local

Questions/Comments:

Mr. DiPeso noted that he read an article that Congressman Ciscomani is putting forth a bill to increase residential construction trade to try to lower the cost of housing and bring more people into the trade; if this is passed, it would be a tremendous help to the program. Dean Molina agreed and noted the Douglas City Council did pass the tiny homes initiative, which may add some opportunities to the program as well.

Mr. Nelson noted that he has received comments as to why the college has not explored the wine industry more so he is very excited for the institution to move forward with a viticulture program.

Mr. Quinn inquired about the number of individuals taking welding courses versus the number of people graduating. Dean Molina stated most of it is a refresher course, some students do complete a certificate but do not necessarily record the fact that they completed but head straight to work, while some come in and gain skills then exit for a while, then return. However, it is important to note, students are completing the courses they are enrolling in.

Mr. Quinn also questioned the proximity of houses #8 and #9 in relation to property #7, and if local HVAC companies are hiring college students. Dean Molina stated the houses are a stone's throw away from each other, and yes local businesses are hiring college students.

Lastly, Mr. Quinn inquired what program would we offer where an apprenticeship would be needed. Mr. Molina replied stating right now with G&T and the mine, they are looking for CPR courses, applied mathematics, OSHA, etc. Mr. Quinn also extended his thanks for the detailed written report that was included in the board packet.

Mrs. Strain asked how does the college package workforce development initiatives to present to elected officials in Phoenix. Dr. Rottweiler responded stating the institution focuses on meeting local needs, and community impact.

Mr. DiPeso asked if the college is participating in internships or apprenticeships for hands-on training in the local auto shops. Mr. Molina stated the department works closely with industry advisory boards to address local needs. Mr. James Krause, automotive instructor, noted it is a work in progress. There has been a big change in the community since Ed Morse bought out most of the dealerships, but things are still moving forward. Currently, the program has about three students going to work in town either at a dealership, aftermarket shop, or a tire shop.

3.03 Workforce Development and Military Programs Report

Cullen Scarborough, Dean of Workforce Development and Military Programs, provided a presentation on the Workforce Development and Military Programs Division; highlights included:

Division Overview:

- Collaboration across Cochise College, Cochise County, and Arizona
- Update the Governing Board on the major accomplishments and initiatives for the 5 directorates

Military Programs:

- Major Accomplishments (12/2023 – 11/2024) enrollment above 3,000 following the great work Barbara Lopez and her team are doing
 - Assisted with launching BAS-LMO degree
 - Credentialing and recredentialing of MOS courses (48 total)
- Major Initiatives (6-12 Month)
 - Promote, advertise, and advise BAS-LMO
 - Program review and program assessment
- 2024 MOS Programs Student Data
 - Registrations – 3319
 - Completions – 3112
 - Graduates - 980

Adult Education:

- Major Accomplishments (12/2023 – 11/2024)
 - High school equivalency graduation rate among highest in the state
 - Launched Employability Skills Workshops
- Major Initiatives (6-12 Month)
 - Expand IET to include Dental Assistant and other certifications
 - Community Partnerships
 - Employability workshops – how to dress for an interview, how to write a resume, speak to an employer, etc.
- 2024 Student Data

- Students Served – 665 – state level testing; Cochise college has the highest graduation percentage rate; success rate is beating other institutions.
- IET Participants – 101
- HSE Graduates – 41
- Total contact hours: 15,106

Small Business Development Center:

- Major Accomplishments (12/2023 – 11/2024)
 - Established office hours across Cochise County
 - Conducted 7 major training events
- Major Initiatives (6-12 Month)
 - Lead community collaborative calendar initiative
 - Transition to new director
- 2024 Data
 - Customers Served – 276
 - Attendance – 169
 - Business Starts - 48

Center for Life Long Learning:

- Major Accomplishments (12/2023 – 11/2024)
 - Increased contract training classes from 12 to 31 over this year
 - Initiative-driven partnership
- Major Initiatives (6-12 Month)
 - Expand customized contract training in support of community/workforce needs
 - Build a core of qualified instructors and cadre
- Student Attendance
 - Students Served – 2865
 - Contract Training – 426
 - Free Lecture – 1493
 - Total contact hours – 22, 259

Workforce Development:

- Major Accomplishments (12/2023 – 11/2024)
 - Community Workforce Forums
 - Follow-on training across county
- Major Initiatives (6-12 Month)
 - Expand workforce training programs
 - Scaffolded early college training
- Student Attendance
 - CDL – 43
 - OSHA – 52
 - Comp TIA Sec+ - 13

Questions/Comments:

Mr. Quinn noted military officers will no longer be able to do credentialing, how will that impact the military programs. Dean Scarborough replied stating currently, there is one captain in the EMT course whom the credentialing did not impact; However, it has impacted one soldier who is going through the paramedicine course. The department was able to quickly change him from credentialing assistance to tuition assistance to be sure it would not impact him. Even still, the department remains reactive as to bypass future impacts on this change.

Mr. Quinn asked for an update on the roadblocks for the dental program. Ms. Beth Hill, Dean of Nursing and Allied Health, replied stating the biggest challenge is due to liabilities.

Mr. Quinn thanked Dean Scarborough for the written report included in the board packet as well and expressed his appreciation to work through many classified courses to give the military students that credentialing.

4. COMMENTS FROM GOVERNING BOARD MEMBERS

Mr. Quinn turned the time to Governing Board members to provide comments/share information.

- Mrs. Strain
 - Noted this was a phenomenal meeting; it will live in history.
 - Expressed her confidence about the progress of Cochise College and the peaceful transition from Dr. Rottweiler to Dr. Perey.
- Mr. Nelson
 - Commented on the great experience he has had being a board member but it is time for a younger generation.
 - Very appreciative of being selected as trustee emeritus
- Mr. Hudgins
 - Expressed his appreciation for all that everyone does for the college and the students.
 - Merry Christmas to everyone
- Mr. DiPeso
 - Thanked Mr. Nelson for his work on the board.
 - Welcome to Dr. Perey
- Mr. Quinn
 - Thanked Melanie for attending the meeting and welcomed Stephanie to the meeting.
 - Thanked Dr. Davis for all her work on the presidential search.
 - Gave congratulations to Dr. Perey.
 - Happy Holidays to all

5. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Quinn adjourned the meeting at 7:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Crystal Wheeler, Executive Assistant, Office of the President

Mr. Tim Quinn, Chair of the Governing Board