

APPROVED MINUTES

COCHISE COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD BOARD RETREAT

Friday, January 28, 2022
Amerind Foundation Museum
10:00 a.m.

1. GENERAL FUNCTIONS

1.01 Call to Order

Mr. DiPeso called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Board Members Present:

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

1.02 Board Initiatives

1.02.1 Self-Assessment

Each Board Member was presented with a self-assessment tool prior to the retreat for completion. During the retreat each of the twelve assessment topics was discussed and given an average score between the five board members. The score helped recognize areas of strength and areas for possible improvement.

Strengths:

- Communication – email, meetings, information sharing, and with the college president
- Knowledgeable of board roles and responsibilities
- Accountability – the board works with and evaluates the college president annually, and the board stays informed of accreditation.
- The Board Chair's role is clear and supported
- The Board participates in professional development activities – attending Association of Community College Trustee (ACCT) annual Leadership Congress and shares that information with other trustees who were not able to attend.
- Actively involved in advocating for the college at local and state levels.
- Actively involved in the college and community; participating in local Rotary clubs, presenting to local organizations, and attending college events regularly
- Have up-to-date Bylaws and a fair process for selecting officers; the board will limit chair and secretary positions to two consecutive one-year terms.
- Have protocols in place for handling the media and keeping the college informed – the chair is the one single voice on behalf of the board.

Areas for possible improvement:

- Annual participation in board self-assessment – the board will revise the current assessment tool and update it with a Cochise College focus using suggested

input. The tool will be added to the Governing Board Responsibilities Policy and ensure annual completion.

- Well-defined policies regarding code of conduct – the board will generate a new code of conduct and add it to policy.
- Active involvement in Foundation and fundraising for the college – the board will participate more in activities supporting fundraising events; however, it feels that asking for donations should be the responsibility of the foundation board rather than the college board.

1.02.2 Code of Conduct

With the understanding that the Governing Board does not have statutory authority to discipline one another, Mr. Quinn and Mr. Nelson will work together forming a Board Code of Conduct policy. The policy will be submitted for legal review then brought before the board for a first read then a second read and approval.

1.02.3 Other

A discussion was had regarding any recommended changes to board agenda topics. The board chair will no longer ask for a motion and a vote adopting the agenda. Student and dean reports are appreciated and will continue. No other changes were suggested.

1.03 College Initiatives

Dr. Rottweiler noted that the FY23 college budget initiatives are tied to Strategic Think Tank Strategies.

1.03.1 Potential Revenues

FY23 Budget (if approved):

- State Aid - \$4,234,600; decrease of \$135,900 from FY22
- Equalization - \$8,771,400; increase of \$846,100 (assessed valuation)
- STEM/Workforce - \$899,500; decrease of \$28,900
- Rural Aid (ongoing) - \$3,125,500
- Total - \$3,806,800
- Rural Aid (FY23 one-time) - \$1,757,100

Prop 301 (primarily nursing):

- \$1,738,000; increase of \$160,260

Prop 207 (anticipated):

- \$2,300,000; increase of \$1,195,342

Tuition – dependent on the board’s direction. One dollar per credit hour equals \$80,000. Current rate is \$91 per credit hour.

Property Taxes:

- \$25,298,420 (plus new construction)

1.03.2 Early College

Dr. Rottweiler led a discussion regarding an initiative for the college to consider forming its own charter high school creating an early college opportunity for students, especially those in career and technical education. Trades programs such as HVAC, welding, and automotive are areas that Cochise County really needs. With the removal of “shop” classes from many high schools, this opportunity would allow students to take their classes on the college campus while also attend the vocational trades classes during their junior and senior years. The hope and goal would be that a high school student would earn their high school diploma and college degree at the same time. Dr. Rottweiler’s vision would be to use this as an opportunity to develop an early college model that gets students through and into the training they need, enhancing the educational opportunities in Cochise County.

Arizona statute allows for any community college to sponsor a charter school. Maricopa Community College has a charter school at their Gateway College and it is a successful program. Dr. Rottweiler offered to take board members for a visit or to attend a meeting with Maricopa administration.

Dr. Rottweiler addressed questions from board members to include: funding, average daily membership (ADM), high school age students on campus, and board responsibility for discipline. A couple of board members expressed their concerns and a few expressed their support to help students, preparing them for college and for career readiness. Dr. Rottweiler will do further research; to include meeting with representatives from American Leadership Academy: Charter Schools (ALA) who have approached the college about sponsoring them on the Sierra Vista Campus. Dr. Rottweiler will provide the board a written report once more information is obtained.

Mr. Quinn led a discussion regarding meeting with district superintendents, in which Dr. Rottweiler informed the board that he attended several meetings with superintendents in the fall. Mr. Quinn asked to attend future meetings.

1.03.3 Douglas Campus

New Port of Entry

The new Douglas Port of Entry was approved as part of the infrastructure bill with \$400M allocated. The state of Arizona is already working on the road and the county did a \$390K a contract for infrastructure. The project is moving forward and with that, the college needs to layout future plans for sustainability. Dr. Rottweiler asked the county to find ways to tie the college into Douglas City water and sewer. The Port will be a game changer for the Douglas Campus.

First Responders Academy

Dr. Rottweiler led a discussion regarding possible future programs, which include: First Responders Academy, CDL training, consider the addition of other athletic teams, and explore expansion opportunities.

Fort Huachuca

Eighteen members of the president’s leadership team took the opportunity to tour and have a briefing on Fort Huachuca led by Jeff Jennings, Matt Walsh, and Alanna Riggs. During the briefing, the leadership for the Electronic Proving Grounds (EPG) expressed difficulties with hiring experienced individuals. Discussions led to an idea to create a Skill

Center to train soldiers who are transitioning out of the military. The college will work with appropriate leaders to explore appropriate curriculum development that would include stackable certificates.

Mr. Jennings also briefed college leadership of the new multidomain range they are developing that will be electromagnetic, which is possible because of the bowl-shaped environment unique to Sierra Vista.

Good Jobs Grant

Dr. Rottweiler informed the board that the college has entered into a consortium agreement with six other community colleges in Texas. The college was approached by Southmost Community College in Texas, with an invitation to participate in an EDA, Good Jobs Challenge grant with other institutions that are port of entry, seaports, and borderland colleges. The sector of good jobs is in aerospace and defense. The funds, approximately \$2-\$3M, for the three-year grant are coming from the American Rescue Plan.

Workforce Accelerator

Also, as the governor pushes workforce accelerators and advanced manufacturing, all the community colleges in Arizona have come together to submit an advanced manufacturing grant proposal. On January 26, the college presidents met with the Governor and Sandra Watson with the Arizona Commerce Authority (ACA), who has been allocated \$30M for setting up six workforce accelerators in Arizona. The Governor is allocating \$7M to rural community colleges and \$30M to urban colleges to reestablish STEM. During the meeting, Dr. Rottweiler proposed the idea for a workforce accelerator in partnership with the Fort to train transitioning soldiers for civilian workforce. He also discussed the opportunities the new Port of Entry could bring to Cochise College; such as the First Responders Academy, CDL training, supply chain management, and advanced manufacturing.

The Governor also inquired about the college's plans with baccalaureate degrees; Dr. Rottweiler informed him that the college has a team exploring baccalaureate degrees in programs such as nursing and allied health, testing, electronics, military intelligence, and aviation.

Legacy Grant – Behavioral Health

Dr. Horne and Dean Hill are applying for a grant through the Legacy Foundation to create curriculum for a one-semester certificate for a case manager in behavioral health. Area hospitals and the sheriff's office have already expressed interest in sending individuals through the training.

Mr. Quinn led a brief discussion regarding accelerating the nursing program to include offering other clinical opportunities, virtual simulations, and baccalaureate degrees.

1.03.4 Staffing

Dr. Rottweiler announced that he will be working to establish a succession plan as Dr. Fick announced his retirement for June 2022. He has expanded his cabinet-level administration, adding Jennifer Wantz and Dana Horne. As he moves to replace Dr. Fick, there is a realization that many years of service will be leaving and an additional administrative level position may need to be added to address the experience discrepancy.

1.03.5 Other

Mr. Hudgins asked that the solar panel and APS topic be addressed in the near future. Dr. Davis will arrange for a meeting to include the director of facilities.

Mr. Quinn led a discussion regarding the possible future housing needs in Sierra Vista if the college expands to include the baccalaureate degree programs. Dr. Rottweiler noted that housing on the Sierra Vista Campus is currently part of the Master Plan and it will be considered if the decision to move forward with the baccalaureate program is confirmed.

2. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. DiPeso adjourned the meeting at 3:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Crystal Wheeler, Executive Assistant, Office of the President

Mr. Dennis Nelson, Secretary of the Governing Board