

MINUTES

BOARD OF TRUSTEES FEATHER RIVER COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

President Elliott called the Regular Meeting of the Feather River Community College District Board of Trustees to order at 3:04 p.m. on Thursday, March 15, 2012 at Feather River College, Learning Resource Center Room #105, 570 Golden Eagle Avenue, Quincy, California.

Trustees present: Elliott, Schramel, Sheehan, Ware, West, Student Trustee Burfeind

Trustees absent:

President Elliott announced that the Board had met in Closed Session and that no action had been taken.

Ron Taylor, Superintendent/President and President Elliott requested that Consent Agenda Item #B1g, Ratification of Agreement between Feather River Community College District and Plumas Unified School District be removed from the Consent Agenda and be placed on the Regular Agenda (as Item C1a). There being no objection or further discussion, the regular and consent agendas for the March 15, 2012 meeting at Feather River College Learning Resource Center Room #105, 570 Golden Eagle Avenue, Quincy, California was approved as amended, (Sheehan/Schramel) unanimous.

The minutes of the Regular Meeting held February 16, 2012 at Feather River College Learning Resource Center Room #105, 570 Golden Eagle Avenue, Quincy, California were approved as presented, (Ware/Burfeind) unanimous.

A. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

Linda Batson, member of the public, stated that she was pleased with the Feather River College Vision Statement that was on the agenda for approval indicating that the statement was jargon free, meaningful, and easy for the general public to understand.

B. CONSENT AGENDA

Personnel Requisitions, Personnel Actions, Payroll and Commercial Warrants, Budget Transfers, Budget Augmentations and Reductions, and the Ratification of Agreement between Feather River Community College District and Lassen Union High School (Agency) for the purpose of outlining the duties and responsibilities of each party as they relate to providing an affiliated education course for the Agency were approved as presented, (Sheehan/Schramel) unanimous.

C. REGULAR AGENDA

* 1. Motion Items

a) Ron Taylor requested Ratification of Agreement between Feather River Community College District and Plumas Unified School District (PUSD) (Agency) for the purpose of outlining the duties and responsibilities of each party as they relate to providing an affiliated education course for the Agency. He explained that the College has secured grants to serve the wider region and that the District works with several other school districts to provide educational experiences for secondary students. He added that although the District holds the grant, it needs the cooperation of other districts for payments to faculty and staff, etc. while they encourage students to plan out career technical careers. He further explained that the original agreement and agenda item had been pulled from the consent agenda and placed on the regular agenda because PUSD had made some changes to the preamble wording of the initial agreement after the copy had been placed in Board packets for mailing. After further discussion and there being no objection, the request for Ratification of the Agreement between Feather River Community College District and Plumas Unified School District (Agency) for the purpose of outlining the duties and responsibilities of each party as they relate to providing an affiliated education course for the Agency was approved as substituted and amended, (Sheehan/Ware) unanimous.

b) Derek Lerch, Dean of Instruction/CIO Interim, requested Approval of Curriculum Actions. He noted that the request was comprised of revisions to existing course outlines and that the Board could expect additional revisions of this nature to appear on future Board agendas as the Curriculum Committee steps up the number of times it needs to meet in order to complete the volume of revisions necessary to prepare for development of the next course schedule and the printing of the 2012-2014 course catalog. President Elliott asked if revisions include an eye toward Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs) and Dr. Lerch replied that they do and he provided an explanation of how these outcomes are incorporated and linked into the process. Trustee Sheehan noted that one of the pieces of the accreditation site visit also focused on how SLOs are integrated into programs and majors and he requested information on how this is accomplished. Dr. Lerch responded that assessment of progress on course level SLOs is fairly mechanical in nature and although there is room for improvement he felt that the institution is doing good work. He added that making the step into the assessment of program level SLOs is a more difficult task because it is not as direct in nature and currently there are a number of different approaches being utilized by program leaders like student surveys, course scores, as well as other strategies and that the Student Learning Outcomes Assessment Cycle (SLOAC) Committee also plays a role as the District formally tries to determine whether or not assessment of student learning within a program means something on how a program is doing as a whole. After further discussion and explanation on the item that included how SLO assessment rubrics play a role in uniformity, the request for Approval of Curriculum Actions was approved as presented, (Sheehan/West) unanimous.

c) Ron Taylor requested Approval of Feather River College Vision Statement. He reported that the revision of the Vision Statement was the result of approximately two years of committee work and process that included community forums, on-campus discussions, and review by all shared-governance constituencies. After further discussion and there being no objection, the request for Approval of Feather River College Vision Statement was approved as presented, (Sheehan/Burfeind) unanimous.

*** 2. Roll Call Items**

a) Jim Scoubes, Chief Financial Officer, requested Approval of Resolution #11/12-07 – Approval to Participate in 2012-201 Tax and Revenue Anticipated Note (TRAN) Program. After further discussion and there being no objection, the request for Approval of Resolution #11/12-07 – Approval to Participate in 2012-2013 Tax and Revenue Anticipation Note (TRAN) Program was approved as presented.

Ayes: Elliott, Schramel, Sheehan, Ware, West, Student Trustee
Burfeind
Noes: None
Absent: None
Abstain: None

3. Special Items/Reports

a) Jim Scoubes presented the District's Monthly Financial Status Report as of February 29, 2012. He reviewed the Unrestricted General Fund Summary and reported that revenues for the period totaled \$7,309,826 or 58% of approved budget and expenditures totaled \$8,012.585 or 64% of approved budget. He also read from an email that he had received from the Chancellor's Office regarding alternative ways that the State may be able to increase revenues through voter initiatives that may be placed on the ballot in November.

b) Ron Taylor provided a review of Board Policies, BP 2430 Delegation of Authority – Policy, BP 2431 CEO Selection, and BP 2432 CEO Succession. He stated that the review was in response to the Board's request that a review of policies be conducted during meetings in an effort to keep trustees updated on institutional policies and processes and as part of ongoing training for Board members.

c) Ron Travel provided a report to the Board of Trustees on travel procedures. Discussion and explanation on the report included the draft of AP 7400, travel request forms, staff travel policy and expense voucher forms, mileage rate reimbursement and how the rate is stated in the policy, and athletic travel and developing the athletic travel budgets.

d) Ron Taylor provided introductory comments on whistleblower protection and he then introduced David Burris, Director of Human Resources/EEO

Interim who provided a Power Point presentation on whistleblower protection that included whistleblower definitions, how it's reported, and the EEO Plan and Board responsibility. Mr. Burris also provided an overview of unlawful discrimination and harassment complaints, how these complaints are reported, who investigates the reports, and investigative report timelines.

4. Communications, Presentations, and Reports

a) **Board of Trustees**

No Report

b) **Associated Students**

No Report

c) **Academic Senate**

Rick Stock, Academic Senate President reported that he recently returned from a conference where he was notified that the Outdoor Recreation Leadership Program will receive a \$16,000 grant from the California Department of Boating and Waterways and that this funding will be used to enhance the Program's whitewater rescue offerings including the contract education done through Sierra Rescue. Mr. Stock added that the Program is also completing a curriculum for a trail-building certification to provide contract education for trail-building crews and it also plans to submit a curriculum for a certification in back-country search and rescue primarily using courses already offered at the College.

d) **Classified Senate**

Connie Litz, Classified Senate President, stated that members of the Classified Senate have been working to complete their part in the evaluation of four administrators who are currently up for evaluation. She explained that the process involves members submitting their own evaluations to her which will then be summarized and submitted to administrators as one document.

e) **Instruction**

Derek Lerch reported that the accreditation site visit has been completed and he felt that the week went as well as he could have hoped for. He also reported that he is anxious to read the team's formal report in terms of the recommendations that were announced (at the exit interview) and that in his opinion, most of the recommendations do not appear to be that hard to remedy. Dr. Lerch additionally thanked the Board for their efforts to meet and interview with the accreditation site visit team and he noted that they had expressed their appreciation of the Board's time. He also reported that the ad-hoc budget sub-committee has been meeting to review and help build a tentative budget for 2012-2013 and that they have submitted a memorandum to Dr. Taylor outlining budget strategies that will be provided to the Strategic Planning Committee for further consideration. Dr. Lerch reported that enrollment numbers are still low by about 60 FTES and that he has put together a plan using a mixture of contract education,

ISP, and summer offerings to fill the gap. He also stated that he had met with local fire chiefs recently to discuss how the College could help some of the local agencies with training and it looks like a partnership that would allow for standardization of training across different agencies might develop in the future for this purpose. In closing comments on the report, Trustee Sheehan stated that it was noteworthy to indicate that it was March 15th and the Board was not having to consider layoff notices with Dr. Lerch responding that although things could be better, the District does find itself in a better fiscal position this year than last which he attributes to the fiscal prudence of District leadership including the Board of Trustees.

f) **Student Services**

No Report

g) **Superintendent/President**

Ron Taylor stated that he had neglected to mention at the last Board meeting that former employee in Disabled Students Programs and Services (DSP&S), Dr. Larry Holcomb had passed away recently and that he had been recognized by staff for his many contributions over the years. Dr. Taylor also reported on the accreditation site-visit, stating that Board members had been provided with a list of the six commendations and eight recommendations cited by the visiting team in their exit interview and without going into detail he would say that he felt that the best news was that none of the previous accreditation recommendations were renewed. He added that he wanted to assure the Board that he plans to take action on the eight recommendations even before the formal report is received in July.

Dr. Taylor distributed material that contained articles of national exposure and recognition for the College's entrepreneurship education efforts and its grants programs. He also reported that ASFRC held the, "I Love the Nineties" event for students and the community and that from what he understands it went well although he couldn't be in attendance. Dr. Taylor also reported that the "Tuskegee Airmen" event was extremely popular both on campus and in the community and that he felt the event said a lot about the United States Forest Service (USFS), the College, and the community in commemoration of "Black History Month".

Dr. Taylor also reported that he had provided color handouts earlier to the Board on the Child Development Center and the work that has been going on in their outdoor classroom and he thought it appropriate to show the Board how the Center operates with pride and continues to make improvements to its program. He additionally stated that the College has also submitted or will submit very soon a nomination for a state-wide sustainability award to secure recognition for the Feather River College Geo-Exchange as underground leaders with regards to its ground source heat pump technology.

Dr. Taylor also reported that the Feather River College women's volleyball team will be honored on April 4, 2012 by the California Community

College Athletic Association (CCCAA) as CCCAA Scholar Team Recipients for their collective team 3.45 GPA and academic performance. He also reported that the men's basketball team was named Golden Valley Conference Champions and Randy Rick, Head Men's Basketball Coach, was honored as Golden Valley Conference Coach of the Year. He additionally reported that the women's softball team has recorded eight wins and one loss at this point in the season and the men's baseball team is currently ranked number one in the north state, a first for Feather River College.

Dr. Taylor additionally reported on upcoming events including the "Kony 2012" social conscience film sponsored by Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE) taking place on Monday, March 19, 2012, a Women's History Chautauqua honoring great women in our cultural history on Wednesday, March 28th, and as part of a continuing speaker series on entrepreneurship, Carrie Hawthorne, a local entrepreneur, would be speaking to students and the community at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 20, 2012 in the Learning Resource Center Room #103.

Dr. Taylor also reported that he is planning to have a report on Feather River Fitness and Recreation at next month's Board meeting and if members of the Board are still interested in taking part in a tour of the facilities to please let him know and he will arrange it. He also stated that if members of the Board feel like they might want to contribute in some way, there is an upcoming opportunity and invitation from the Chancellor's Office to participate in a conference panel taking place in May concerning the roles of board members in economic development, and the Accrediting Commission is also soliciting input on a possible revision and review of the Accreditation Standards at its June 6th meeting that he plans to attend and if anyone else has an interest, he would welcome their attendance, information, or referral on the topic.

Dr. Taylor noted that along with their Board memorandums, Trustees had also received information from Chris Stampolis, Trustee, West-Valley Mission Community College District who is asking for input with regards to community college boards interfacing with K12 trustees and if Board members have any other information on the topic to please forward it to him for packaging to Trustee Stampolis.

Dr. Taylor informed the Board that if they plan to submit a vote on the Statewide Trustee Board it is due at the April meeting and that he had prepared a packet of material for Trustees to take with them for review of background information on candidates. He added that he would assume as in past years that the Board would recommend that he prepare a list of candidates that would favor small rural colleges and there was consensus agreement on Dr. Taylor's assumption.

Dr. Taylor also stated that he continues to look for good information and a "silver lining" with regards to the Federal budget and that he has discovered through information from local community member, Bill

Wickman, that if the House and Senate don't agree on Secure Rural Schools funding, it may default back to a rolling seven-year average which would be good for the institution.

Dr. Taylor additionally reported that he recently wrote a letter in opposition to SB 1560 which attempts to change the funding mechanism for community colleges and he also referred to a report by the Little Hoover Commission regarding the strengths and weakness of the community college system as seen from the State's perspective. He added that Feather River College is specifically featured in the report as being the lowest headcount enrollment district in the State while the report made comparisons between it and the highest headcount enrollment district in the State, the Los Angeles Community College District. He added that the Commission also reinforced all of the recommendations suggested by the Student Success Task Force which are now moving forward in legislation at the State level and Dr. Taylor reviewed additional recommendations put forth in the report by the Commission regarding major changes that it felt should be implemented to improve the current system.

In closing comments on his report, Dr. Taylor stated that the Board of Trustees of Santa Monica Community College recently acted to adopt a two-tier fee structure for the 2012-2013 academic year, one fee to enroll students at the standard \$46.00 a unit for credit courses and another fee structure beyond that if there is room and the student is non-degree-seeking and can afford to pay for classes. He added that some people believe the action is illegal and the fee structure may likely be challenged by the Chancellor's Office in the near future. He also noted that Chancellor Jack Scott has announced his retirement from the Chancellor's Office as of September 1, 2012 and that the individual who will replace Chancellor Scott will be of significant interest to all involved with the community college system.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:46 p.m.

RT/ch