

## MINUTES

### **BOARD OF TRUSTEES FEATHER RIVER COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT**

#### **1. Call to Order:**

President Ware called the Special Meeting of the Feather River Community College District Board of Trustees to order at 11:03: a.m. on Tuesday, July 7, 2020, via a Zoom virtual platform.

*Trustees present:* Ware, Elliott, McNett, Sheehan, Student Trustee Wilson

*Trustees absent:* Saxton

#### **2. Items from the Public:**

None

#### **3. SPECIAL AGENDA**

Kevin Trutna, Superintendent/President, read into the record the following email request message from Trustee Trent Saxton.

Dear Kevin and Board, My phone lines were cut at my home and business. It happened yesterday when a construction crew was laying fiber optic cable. I cannot communicate with you. If you called my business, all you would hear is a recording from my answering service. You may verify by calling Folchi Construction 530-832-5214. AT&T said it might be a couple of days to repair communications.

Dear Board and Plumas County Community: I would like to contribute my statement toward this resolution since I will not attend. In case you missed Chancellor Oakley's statement following this brutal crime, it sums up any lengthy resolution in one paragraph, and he represents all 115 community colleges in California. I would respectfully request that FRC's resolution represent all races. I happen to agree with Chancellor Oakley, when he said (paraphrased) "To all our African American students, black students, black teachers, and those serving our community colleges as classified staff; we need to do better at making you feel welcomed". I would add to his statement, you do belong, you are important, and you do matter to our academic family and beyond. We all have an opportunity to grow from the senseless death of George Floyd. In the future, I hope we will listen to each other instead of just hearing each other. I would also hope that we lift every voice in harmony to better our American family. As Chancellor Oakley also said, "let's get to work on what we know has to be done". Dr. Trent Saxton, Trustee District 1

#### **\*A. Roll Call Item**

##### **1) Resolution #20/21-03 - Rejecting Racism and Supporting Diversity at Feather River College**

President Ware asked if all trustees had received a copy of Resolution #20/21-03, Rejecting Racism and Supporting Diversity at Feather River College and the response was yes. Trustee McNett stated that according to Robert's Rules

of Order, you do not have to read the resolution into the record, but it is recommended that it be read into the record. President Ware then read into the record the entire content of the resolution into the record.

**WHEREAS**, the Feather River Community College District (“FRC” or “District”), through its policies and values as a District, rejects racism and supports diversity within the District;

**WHEREAS**, the FRC Board of Trustees has adopted various policies regarding and supporting diversity at the District, including, Key Principles; Value Statements; Board Policies 3050 (Code of Ethics), 3410 (Nondiscrimination), and 3430 (Prohibition of Harassment); and Administrative Procedures 3050 (Code of Ethics) and 3430 (Prohibition of Harassment);

**WHEREAS**, the FRC Board of Trustees is committed to governing by and enforcing the ideas reflected within its adopted policies;

**WHEREAS**, the FRC Board of Trustees believes that diversity among the District’s community of students, staff, parents/guardians, and community members is integral to the success of the District’s vision, mission, and goals;

**WHEREAS**, the FRC Board of Trustees prohibits unlawful discrimination, including discrimination against an individual or group based on race, color, ancestry, nationality, national origin, immigration status, ethnic group identification, ethnicity, age, religion, marital status, pregnancy, parental status, physical or mental disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, gender expression, or genetic information; a perception of one or more of such characteristics; or association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics;

**WHEREAS**, the FRC Board of Trustees prohibits harassment based on race, color, national origin, ancestry, religious creed, physical disability, mental disability, medical condition, genetic information, marital status, sex, gender, gender identity, gender expression, age, sexual orientation of any person, military and veteran status or the perception that a person has one or more of these characteristics;

**WHEREAS**, the FRC Board of Trustees adopted a Code of Ethics, which offers a series of values to collectively, serve as a Statement of Ethics, which is meant as the articulation of collective ethics and to guide the ethical deliberations of each member of the FRC community;

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the adopted Code of Ethics, the FRC Board of Trustees values: a respect for persons; collegiality and individual responsibility; commitment to doing no harm and promoting increased individual self-worth, dignity and safety; the right to learn and work in a safe environment free of discrimination; honesty and openness; respect of differing opinions; supporting decisions made by the majority while respecting the rules of democracy and providing constructive analysis free of personal

prejudices and biases; freedom which includes investigating and describing their values and beliefs, exploring and discussing controversial points of view, and advocating what they believe is in the best interest of the college; students right to be free from indoctrination and other forms of miseducation that fail to respect the autonomy of the student; and a sense of place;

**WHEREAS**, the FRC Board of Trustees is also committed to celebrating individuals, including the uniqueness of the individual by affirming that personal identity and cultural heritage are the base from which each person may aspire to any height;

**WHEREAS**, the FRC Board of Trustees affirms and recognizes the right of individuals to freely express their opinions and speech under the First Amendment;

**WHEREAS**, the FRC Board of Trustees intends for these policies to support the District's goal of rejecting racism and supporting diversity;

**WHEREAS**, the FRC Board of Trustees desires to continue to advance its goals and policies to support diversity;

**WHEREAS**, the FRC Board of Trustees affirms its responsibilities under The Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges standards, specifically to act in a manner consistent with its policies and bylaws, and to regularly assess its policies and bylaws for their effectiveness in fulfilling the college/district/system mission and revises them as necessary and to uphold a code of ethics and conflict of interest policy, and individual board members adhere to the code.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that, to meet the FRC beliefs and commitments, the Board will implement the following actions:

- Continue to denounce and combat incidents of racism and hate that occur within the District;
- Continue to promote and support diversity amongst students and District staff;
- Continue to create and support a safe environment and community for all students;
- Engage students and District staff to learn how the District can further advance these goals;
- Continue to adopt policies that are consistent with the District's goal of supporting diversity; and
- Continue to protect and recognize the rights of students and District staff.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the FRC Board of Trustees vows to reflect upon its policies values and goals to ensure its commitments to all members of the District's community.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the FRC Board of Trustees vows to make decisions with a deliberate awareness of impediments to learning faced by students of color and/or diverse cultural, linguistic, or socio-economic backgrounds.

There being no objection, Resolution #20/21-03 was passed as presented, (McNett/Elliott)

|          |   |
|----------|---|
| Ayes:    | Ware, Elliott, McNett, Sheehan, Student Trustee<br>Wilson |
| Noes:    | None  |
| Absent:  | Saxton  |
| Abstain: | None  |

Trustee Elliott stated that he thought the resolution was a great document and he was thankful it was put together. Trustee McNett stated that the resolution is a clear statement of what the values are at Feather River College and have been for many years, and President Ware concurred. Student Trustee Wilson stated that she felt it was a great document and that it may be something that the trustees have believed in and worked at upholding, but it is great to have it as guidelines for the school officially because it is what needs to happen.

Kevin Trutna introduced Jesse Williams, President, Associated Students of Feather River College (ASFRC). Mr. Williams provided a brief description of his background indicating that he is from Hilo, Hawaii, and attended the spring semester. He stated that he found that everyone welcomed him and it made him want to work in a position of leadership to help other college students that might be feeling lost.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:28 a.m.

KT/ch