



SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Friday, April 8, 2016

5:00 p.m.

Board Room

West Burlington Campus

1500 West Agency Road

Meeting Minutes

1.0 Routine Items

1.1 Call to Order, Roll Call, and Pledge of Allegiance

Board Chair Nabulsi called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. Roll call indicated Trustees Janet Fife-LaFrenz, Jeff Heland, Moudy Nabulsi, and Chris Prellwitz were present in the Board Room. Trustee Lanny Hillyard participated via teleconference. Also present were President Dr. Michael Ash, Secretary Sherry Zeller, Treasurer Kevin Carr, and the following college staff: Joan Williams, Dr. Carole Richardson, Chuck Chrisman, Michelle Foster, Becky Rump, and Jeff Ebbing. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

1.2 Adoption of Formal Agenda

Trustee Janet Fife-LaFrenz moved to adopt the formal agenda with a revision to remove agenda item 3.5 Tuition Rate and Technology Fee due to no decision being made at this time by the State regarding State General Aid funding. Trustee Heland seconded. Motion carried on a 5-0 roll call vote.

1.3 Audience Communications

The following individuals provided comments:

- Sandy Krell-Andre spoke in support of the Chemical Dependency Program and in support of retaining faculty who are being recommended for termination.
- Candice Merrill Cannon spoke in support of the Chemical Dependency Program.
- David Selmon spoke in support of the Chemical Dependency Program.
- Jacob Harvey spoke in support of the Chemical Dependency Program.
- Robert Kennon distributed materials to the Trustees and spoke in support of his position/contract as Art instructor being continued/not terminated.
- Maria Kepler spoke in support of the Art instructor position/contract being continued/not terminated.
- Susan Roberts spoke in support of the Chemical Dependency Program.
- Nicole Clark spoke in support of the Chemical Dependency Program.
- Pete Smiley spoke in support of the Chemical Dependency Program.
- Kristi Schroeder spoke in support of the Chemical Dependency Program.
- Dr. Ramona Linville spoke in support of the Chemical Dependency Program. She also spoke in support of her position/contract as Sociology Instructor being continued/not terminated.

- Milo VanVeldhuizen spoke in support of the Chemical Dependency Program. He also spoke in support of his position/contract as Chemical Dependency Program instructor being continued/not terminated.
- Travis Turner spoke in support of the Chemical Dependency Program.
- Sierra Garza spoke in support of the Chemical Dependency Program.
- Dr. Deborah Hedger stated that she conveyed the sentiments of the membership of the Higher Education Association that faculty positions should not be the only positions considered for termination.

Chair Nabulsi thanked everyone for their comments.

2.0 Budget Recommendations

President Ash gave a PowerPoint presentation which focused on the current financial status of the college and the impact upon the budget process for FY 2017. He reviewed the following information:

- History of SCC's total credit hours from FY 2000 to FY 2016
- A comparison of SCC's FY 2001 and FY 2016 General Fund budget expenditures
- History of Iowa Community Colleges' funding sources/percent of total revenue
- SCC's average class size and number of course sections for FY 2006 to FY 2015

(Trustee Heland left the meeting at 5:53 p.m.)

- SCC's credit tuition rate history for FY 2000 to FY 2016

(Trustee Heland returned to the meeting at 5:55 p.m.)

- Iowa Community College credit tuition rate comparison for academic year 2015-2016
- A list of 21 non-faculty and 2 faculty positions which have gone unfilled due to budget reductions
- A spreadsheet showing budget assumptions for FY 2017 which include staff reductions and a tuition increase

President Ash reported that budget challenges over the past few years have been addressed by using savings and by not replacing positions when vacated by retirements or resignations. Although positions vacated during this fiscal year have not been filled, a budget shortfall still remains.

With the following budget assumptions, a \$400,000 budget shortfall still remains:

- Flat enrollment
- Tuition increase of \$4 per credit hour
- Tech fee increase of \$1 per credit hour
- State General Aid increase of \$3.2 million (\$129,211 for SCC)
- Suspend Chemical Dependency Program
- Reduction of one Welding Instructor

In order to balance the budget, the following additional actions are recommended:

- Reduction of one Art instructor
 - Use adjuncts and current full-time instructors to satisfy classroom needs
- Retired Multi-Cultural Instructor position not filled
 - Use adjuncts and current full-time instructors to satisfy classroom needs
- Tuition increase of an additional \$6 per credit hour

- Retired Business Instructor position not filled
 - Use adjuncts and current full-time instructors to satisfy classroom needs
- Allowance for on-going collective bargaining

President Ash noted that declining enrollments at Iowa's community colleges tend to follow the unemployment rate. Since 2010, SCC's enrollment has steadily declined. President Ash stated that the college has been focused on ways to boost enrollment by attracting and retaining students. He indicated that modern facilities attract students and that the construction projects at the West Burlington and Keokuk Campuses are long overdue. President Ash reported that the new buildings are not being funded at the expense of layoffs. Facility and infrastructure improvements are being funded by state and federal programs, gifts to the College, and local voter-approved levies. These funds are separate from the College's operating budget that covers salaries and other operational costs. President Ash noted that the new student residence hall tower coming soon to the West Burlington Campus will be constructed under a public-private partnership in which private developers will incur the cost of construction.

President Ash reviewed some of the positions that have not been filled and the responsibilities of those positions which have now been delegated to other personnel through a reorganization plan. He noted that copies of the reorganization plan have been made available to the Trustees and college personnel.

Chair Nabulsi noted that the Trustees are working with the state legislators regarding improved funding levels for community colleges. He stated that the college will be successful if everyone works together.

Trustees Fife-LaFrenz, Heland, and Prellwitz expressed uncertainty about the proposed suspension of the Chemical Dependency Program and would like more information on the subject.

Trustee Hillyard indicated that the college must operate with a balanced budget and that the administration is proposing these options as their best recommendations to address a difficult budget situation.

President Ash indicated that a significant variety of options in connection with the budget reductions have been considered in development of the recommendations. He stated the students enrolled in their final semester of the Chemical Dependency Program will be provided with a plan to complete the program and graduate with a degree.

3.0 Action Items

3.1 Receive Teacher's Notice and Recommendation to Terminate Contract of Faculty Member Brian Brooks for Staff Reduction Reasons

President Ash reported that SCC teacher, Brian Brooks, has been served with a Notice and Recommendation to Terminate Contract and that it is his recommendation to the Board of Trustees that the teacher's contract be terminated for the reasons stated in the Notice. President Ash handed a copy of the Teacher's Notice and Recommendation to Terminate Contract of Brian Brooks to Board Secretary Zeller and thereby served the Board of Trustees with the Notice.

Trustee Prellwitz moved to terminate the contract of Brian Brooks for reasons stated in the Teacher's Notice and Recommendation to Terminate Contract. Trustee Fife-LaFrenz seconded. Motion carried on a 5-0 roll call vote.

Note: The previous vote on Contract Termination of Brian Brooks is void as the faculty member has requested a hearing and continuance per Iowa Code Chapter 279.15 and the request was pending; however, the Board was unaware of the hearing request. A hearing date will be arranged. On April 20, Brian Brooks withdrew his request for a private hearing with the Board of Trustees.

3.2 Receive Teacher's Notice and Recommendation to Terminate Contract of Faculty Member Robert Kennon for Staff Reduction Reasons

President Ash reported that SCC teacher, Robert Kennon, has been served with a Notice and Recommendation to Terminate Contract and that it is his recommendation to the Board of Trustees that the teacher's contract be terminated for the reasons stated in the Notice. President Ash handed a copy of the Teacher's Notice and Recommendation to Terminate Contract of Robert Kennon to Board Secretary Zeller and thereby served the Board of Trustees with the Notice.

Trustee Fife-LaFrenz moved to terminate the contract of Robert Kennon for reasons stated in the Teacher's Notice and Recommendation to Terminate Contract. Trustee Heland seconded. Motion carried on a 5-0 roll call vote.

Note: The previous vote on Contract Termination of Robert Kennon is void as the faculty member has requested a hearing and continuance per Iowa Code Chapter 279.15 and the request was pending; however, the Board was unaware of the hearing request. A hearing date will be arranged.

3.3 Receive Teacher's Notice and Recommendation to Terminate Contract of Faculty Member Milo VanVeldhuizen for Staff Reduction Reasons

President Ash reported that SCC teacher, Milo VanVeldhuizen, has been served with a Notice and Recommendation to Terminate Contract and that it is his recommendation to the Board of Trustees that the teacher's contract be terminated for the reasons stated in the Notice. President Ash handed a copy of the Teacher's Notice and Recommendation to Terminate Contract of Milo VanVeldhuizen to Board Secretary Zeller and thereby served the Board of Trustees with the Notice.

Trustee Heland moved to terminate the contract of Milo VanVeldhuizen for reasons stated in the Teacher's Notice and Recommendation to Terminate Contract. Trustee Prellwitz seconded. Motion carried on a 4-1 roll call vote. (Trustees Heland, Hillyard, Nabulsi, and Prellwitz voted yes; Trustee Fife-LaFrenz voted no.)

Note: The previous vote on Contract Termination of Milo VanVeldhuizen is void as the faculty member has requested a hearing and continuance per Iowa Code Chapter 279.15 and the request was pending; however, the Board was unaware of the hearing request. A hearing date will be arranged.

3.4 Suspension of Chemical Dependency Program

Trustee Hillyard moved to suspend the Chemical Dependency Program. Trustee Fife-LaFrenz seconded.

During discussion, the Trustees expressed uncertainty about the number of anticipated job openings projected for Chemical Dependency program graduates due to the closure by the State of Iowa of the Mt. Pleasant and Clarinda mental health institutes. Chair Nabulsi suggested that further research on the matter should be conducted.

Trustee Hillyard tabled the motion to suspend the Chemical Dependency Program. Trustee Fife-LaFrenz seconded. Motion carried on a 5-0 roll call vote.

3.5 Tuition Rate and Technology Fee

Note: This item was removed from the agenda and will be reviewed at a future Board meeting.

3.6 Service Charges and Fees

Vice President Kevin Carr reviewed a summary of the proposed revisions to the Service Charges and Fees schedule.

Trustee Fife-LaFrenz moved to approve the Service Charges and Fees schedule as presented. Trustee Prellwitz seconded. Motion carried on a 5-0 roll call vote.

4.0 Adjournment

It was moved by Trustee Fife-LaFrenz and seconded by Trustee Heland to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

These minutes have been approved by the Board of Trustees and this is certified to be a true copy.



Sherry Zeller
Board Secretary