

**Eastern Wyoming College Board of Trustees**  
**October 25, 2013**  
**Dolores Kaufman Boardroom**

**Special Board Meeting Minutes**

The Eastern Wyoming College Board of Trustees met in a special session on October 25, 2013 at 2:00 p.m. in the Dolores Kaufman Boardroom.

Those members attending were Lowell Kautz, John Patrick, Angie Chavez, George Nash, Gary Olson, Julie Kilty, and Mike Varney. Also attending the special meeting were Dr. Tom Armstrong, Mr. Jim Willox, Chair of the Converse County Commissioners, James Holloway with GSG Architecture, Ron Laher, Dee Ludwig, Clyde Woods, Stuart Nelson, Rex Cogdill, and Mike Durfee. Participating by phone were Hal Hutchinson, Mary Keating, Barbara Bonds, David Evans, and Karen Werner.

Dr. Armstrong explained the Board would be adjourning to executive session for approximately twenty minutes and would reconvene the meeting at 2:30 p.m. Those participating by telephone would need to redial to join the meeting.

**ACTION**        The Board was requested to approve the agenda. Mr. Kautz moved to approve the agenda; second by Mrs. Chavez. Motion carried unanimously.

**ACTION:**        Mr. Varney then moved to adjourn to executive session at 2:10 p.m. to discuss possible litigation. Ms. Kilty seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Following the executive session the special meeting was reconvened at 2:32 p.m.

Mr. Willox, chair of the Converse County Commissioners provided a background relating to the bids and the next steps to be taken. County Commissioners requested bidders extend their deadline to November 14 to allow time to make a decision since all bids were over budget. He felt a project delay will ensue if the footprint is changed and the project rebid. Mr. Willox suggested if EWC was able to fund a significant portion of the shortfall he may be able to convince his board to chip in as well.

Mr. Willox also informed the Trustees that the Joint Powers Board has decided they are not ready to issue the bonds yet and are looking towards the first of the year.

Mr. Laher stated he had some concerns with the project budget. He estimates the overage at \$2 million instead of \$1 million and is concerned the bond interest will be significantly higher than the estimated \$145,000. Mr. Willox as well as Barbara Bonds and Mary Keating stated the \$145,000 is an accurate number for the bond interest.

Dennis Egge from the State Construction Management Division informed the Trustees and Mr. Willox that if the project is more than \$9.6 million the College will need to seek appropriate approvals from the Commission and Legislature.

College Attorney David Evans suggested there were two options for consideration:

1.        Reject all bids and redesign the project; or
2.        Move forward with low bid, and Converse County and EWC will need to determine how the shortfall will be divided.

Mr. Willox indicated he was willing to discuss with the Commissioners letting the College pay back over time the additional dollars needed.

**ACTION**        Mr. Olson moved to recommend that Converse County proceed with awarding a contract to the low bidder, subject to the following: 1) The project to be controlled by Converse County with EWC's assistance and these entities will jointly make every effort to lower costs through value engineering; 2) Converse County agrees to loan up to \$450,000 to EWC to be paid back over a period of 5-7 years; 3) The EWC Board of Trustees will review the offered loan terms, including interest rate, for approval at an appropriate future meeting; 4) This financing is contingent upon all appropriate approvals. Ms. Kilty seconded and the motion was unanimously passed.

There being no further business the special meeting was adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

Submitted by:

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Holly L. Branham

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George Nash, President

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John B. Patrick, Secretary