

Eastern Wyoming College Board of Trustees
April 8, 2014
Dolores Kaufman Boardroom

Work Session Minutes

The Eastern Wyoming College Board of Trustees met in a work session at 4:00 p.m. on April 8, 2014 in the Dolores Kaufman Boardroom.

Those members attending were Gary Olson, Angie Chavez, John Patrick, Lowell Kautz, Mike Varney, and Julie Kilty. George Nash was unable to attend. Barbara Bonds, bond attorney was also present.

The work session was held to review and discuss proposed funding for the CTEC and ATEC buildings and whether to proceed with a general obligation bond election. Dr. Armstrong reviewed what was presented at the last meeting. Mr. Laher provided additional details such as the annual millage to be assessed, the estimated annual bond payment, and the estimated additional annual property tax burden to property owners. General obligation bonds and revenue bonds require 7% maintenance/repair reserves. Mr. Laher estimated a 25 year payout.

Barbara Bonds suggested the Board needs to consider what other competing items may be on the ballot for the November general election. Mr. Laher noted the County has a continuing resolution so they would not be competing with a college GO bond.

Ms. Bonds stated the Board needs to think about selling the other side of the bond issue to get the needed funds to access the CTEC building funds. Can the College really sell the GO bond with both projects included? Can the College answer the questions of what money does the College have in order to complete the ATEC?

Ms. Bonds stated the College really has two alternatives. The first is to bundle the projects and be prepared to sell it. Or, run a GO bond election to get the needed funds for the CTEC for a shorter term and then run a second election for the ATEC. She suggested the Board could adopt the resolution at the meeting in July and spend the time between now and then getting information out to the community to assess their feelings about a GO bond.

The discussion then turned to the golf program. Dr. Armstrong reviewed the reasoning behind the original decision to phase out the golf program. He stated the board voted on this as part of the Governor's budget reductions and Title IX requirements.

Dr. Cogdill provided the Trustees with information relative to the costs associated with the program. He noted the issues to consider were 1) the number of days the golfers spent away from class (at least 10 days per semester), 2) the program costs of approximately \$30,000 plus scholarships, and 3) Title IX compliance. Local golf pro Dave Dent was allowed to comment. Mr. Dent stated he would hate to see the program go away and indicated he would be happy to help with fundraising through his PGA contacts and community members in order to assist the program.

Following the discussion, President Olson suggested Dr. Cogdill and Mr. Dent work together over the next 60 days and then bring back a recommendation for the Board to act upon.

The work session was closed at 5:20 p.m.

Board Meeting Minutes

The Eastern Wyoming College Board of Trustees met in regular session at 4:00 p.m. on April 8, 2014 in the Dolores Kaufman Boardroom.

Those members attending were Gary Olson, Angie Chavez, John Patrick, Lowell Kautz, Mike Varney, and Julie Kilty. George Nash was the only member unable to attend.

Board President Olson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

ACTION: The agenda was considered for approval by the Trustees with one addition. Mr. Patrick moved and Mr. Varney seconded to approve the agenda with the addition. Motion carried unanimously.

Debbie Ochsner, Student Senate sponsor was on hand to introduce the Civitas Award recipients. Student winners were Marilee Stringham, Brandon Ridout, Nathan Pieper, Joe Steel, Kyle McDonald, Sergio Santos-Legarreta, and Trae Kautzman. Faculty/Staff winners were Heidi Edmunds, Kate Steinbock, John Hansen, David Banville, Lance Petsch, John Cline, Mai Lee Olson, and Zach Smith. Group winners were the Student Ambassadors and the Rodeo Team.

Student Senate President Trae Kautzman presented the Student Senate update.

In his president's update, Dr. Armstrong informed the Trustees he had met with Dennis Egge on the CTEC building, met with GSG regarding the Lancer Hall Entry and Additions, attended a recognition luncheon hosted by the Commissioners for commission staff, attended the Foundation meeting where he discussed the two building projects and was met with great support. Also attended the CCW meeting in Casper and the WCCC meeting in Powell. He noted a recent development was the scheduling of a meeting with Chris Boswell and Dick McGinity next week to discuss the ATEC building. In addition, Senator Barasso's staff will be on campus next week as well as working on the College Drive corridor initiative.

ACTION: The consent agenda was considered by the Board. Mr. Varney moved and Mrs. Chavez seconded the motion to approve the consent agenda, which included the minutes from the March 11, 2014 meeting and executive session and the resignation of Coventry Dougherty-Woodin. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Olson announced the Trustees would take a few moments to hear comments from the public. Chris Cook commented on the search process for a new volleyball coach. There were no other comments from the audience.

ACTION: Following the public comment period, Mr. Olson stated the Board would adjourn to an executive session. A motion was made by Mr. Patrick to adjourn to executive session to discuss personnel; Mr. Varney seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

The executive session was closed at 7:05 pm. and the regular meeting reconvened.

ACTION: Mr. Laher presented the financial report. Following the financial report, Mr. Woods provided the Board with an update on the construction of the Douglas Branch Campus. A motion was made by Mr. Kautz to approve the financial report, as presented. Mrs. Chavez seconded and the motion was unanimously passed.

ACTION: The Board of Trustees were requested to consider the proposed employee compensation cost adjustments. Mr. Laher presented the recommended salary adjustments which consisted of a horizontal 2% move on the salary schedule for eligible benefited part-time and full-time employees on the payroll as of July 1, 2014, up to classification maximums, and excluding new hires. The approximate cost to implement the increase is \$143,000. The State is providing \$121,605 in new resources to help fund the 2% move. In addition, Mr. Laher requested the College continue covering the employees' share of the standard state retirement benefit, which includes an increase of 1.25% of eligible salaries on July 1, 2014. This will cost approximately \$73,000 and new state aid resources to be provided toward this benefit increase are estimated to be approximately \$31,398. Mr. Varney moved to approve the employee compensation adjustments for FY 2015, as presented. Seconded by Ms. Kilty and unanimously approved.

ACTION: Mr. Nelson requested the Board consider the appointment of Julie Sherbeyn to the position of EWC volleyball coach. Ms. Sherbeyn has nineteen years of coaching experience and her teams have averaged 20 plus wins per season. Mr. Patrick moved to appoint Julie Sherbeyn to the position of EWC volleyball coach, as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Kilty and unanimously passed.

ACTION: Dr. Ludwig presented the Eastern Wyoming Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES) Agreement and By-Laws for consideration by the Board. The EWBOCES has been reviewing the Agreement and By-Laws for the past 18 months and have completed the revisions. Kelley Pearson from Hickey and Evans reviewed and approved the agreement as well. It was moved by Mrs. Chavez and seconded by Mr. Kautz to approve the EWBOCES Agreement and By-Laws, as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

ACTION: Dr. Ludwig informed the Board of Trustees that for several years, EWC has been exploring nursing program options for the Douglas Campus. She further noted that Douglas focus groups identified nursing as a needed program for Converse County and Memorial Hospital of Converse County has encouraged EWC to start an Associate Degree Nursing Program. The Hospital is also considering providing financial support for the program and the classrooms in the new Douglas Campus Building. Ms. Kilty moved to approve the request to add the Associate Degree Nursing Program for the Douglas Campus; second by Mr. Varney. Motion carried unanimously.

ACTION: Dr. Ludwig informed the Trustees that the Douglas Advisory Group has created a subcommittee that has been working on some fundraising ideas to enhance the new campus with specialized equipment or furnishings. This committee has created a list of areas or rooms that would allow “naming rights” for a 10-year period with an option to acquire permanent naming rights if the amounts were increased. A discussion ensued regarding the Douglas Building naming rights. Mr. Patrick voiced concern regarding the amounts associated with the rooms, and that it had not been brought before the Foundation and Trustees before it was published for public view. He commended the group’s efforts but is concerned that the naming should be permanent instead of for a 10-year period. Mr. Patrick indicated the Foundation had been left out of the process. Dr. Armstrong requested the Board act on the request and follow up with the Foundation’s approval. Following further discussion, Mr. Patrick moved to table action on this item for further review; second by Mr. Varney. Motion carried unanimously.

ACTION: The Board was requested to approve the resignation of Michelle Lett, Veterinary Technology instructor. Ms. Lett submitted her resignation effective May 13, 2014. Mr. Varney moved to accept the resignation of Michelle Lett and wish her well; second by Mr. Kautz. Motion carried unanimously.

Updates were provided by the offices of Institutional Development, HR, Learning, and Student Services.

Dr. Ludwig presented the Survey of Entering Student Engagement (SENSE) survey results. Dr. Ludwig noted EWC does well with “early connections” and “clear academic plan and pathway” benchmarks for first year students.

In addition, Dr. Ludwig presented the Fall 2013 Wyoming Community College Commission System Enrollment Report. She noted EWC’s headcount enrollment change over the past five years has increased by 30.43% compared to the overall system increase of 2.25% . The FTE five year increase amounts to a 28.55% increase compared to the system change of 7.39%.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm

Submitted by:

Holly L. Branham

Gary D. Olson, President

John B. Patrick, Secretary