

**Eastern Wyoming College Board of Trustees  
December 8, 2015  
Dolores Kaufman Boardroom**

**Board Meeting Minutes**

The Eastern Wyoming College Board of Trustees met in regular session on December 8, 2015 at 5:45 p.m. in the Dolores Kaufman Boardroom.

Those members attending were Angie Chavez, John Patrick, Marilyn Fisher, Lowell Kautz, Mike Varney, George Nash, Julie Kilty and Jim Willox.

The meeting was opened by Board President Chavez.

Mr. Meyer introduced Kyle Rice who was recently hired to fill the vacant director of residence life position.

Student Senator Alyssa Barnsdale presented the Civitas Awards. Student recipients were Alyssa Barnesdale and Johnathan Weitzel. Faculty/Staff recipients were Judy Brown and Lynn Bedient. Group recipients were the Grounds Department (Steve Akright and Don Snyder) and the Veteran's Day Committee, Student Speakers & Performers (Casey Debus, Becky Lorenz, Amy Smith, Holly West, Richard Patterson, Linda Evans, Michael DeMers, Peyton Lenz, Rishell Lizasuin, Nicole Smith, and Kyle Sabourin).

Ms. Barnesdale also presented the Student Senate update.

Dr. Landa and Heidi Edmunds made a presentation to the Board on the Persistence and Completion plan.

Election of officers was held with the following results:

Angie Chavez, President  
John Patrick, Vice President  
Marilyn Fisher, Secretary  
Mike Varney, Treasurer

**ACTION:** The Board was requested to approve the agenda with two additions. Mr. Varney moved to approve the agenda with two additional items; namely, the resignation/retirement of Sue McBride and Dr. Patterson's contract. Ms. Fisher seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

In his president's update, Dr. Patterson informed the Board of a new event at EWC which is called, "You at EWC." This event is meant to enhance and strengthen admissions of minority students at EWC. This year there were approximately a dozen students who attended. Dr. Patterson also mentioned planning a joint retreat between the Trustees and the Foundation. He indicated there is a need to have a preliminary meeting of the officers of the Board and the Foundation to develop the plans for a retreat. Dr. Patterson also informed the Board the Commission will meet with the JAC regarding the community colleges' budget. He further noted the College is looking at internal efficiency/austerity measures. We will need to make some adjustments to the current budget as well as the FY-17 budget once we know the results of the legislature. Dr. Patterson reminded the Trustees about the Christmas party on December 14th. President Patterson also shared the national higher education employee turnover rate is at 12.8% and EWC's rate is 11.8%.

**ACTION:** The Board was requested to approve the consent agenda. Mr. Patrick moved and Ms. Fisher seconded the motion to approve the consent agenda, which included the minutes from the November 10, 2015 meeting and executive session; the minutes from the November 17, 2015 work session and executive session; the designation of depositories with Points West Bank, Pinnacle Bank, First State Bank, U.S. Bank, Platte Valley Bank, Converse County Bank, and related signatories; and the designation of the Torrington Telegram as the College District's official newspaper. The motion carried unanimously.

**ACTION:** Mr. Laher presented the financial report and Mr. Jarvis provided the projects update. Ms. Kilty moved to approve the financial report, as presented. Mr. Kautz seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**ACTION:** The Trustees were reminded that the appointment of two Wyoming Association of Community College Trustees board representatives is held annually at the December organizational meeting. Mike Varney and John Patrick currently serve in this capacity. Ms. Fisher moved to reappoint Mr. Varney and Mr. Patrick as the Board's representatives to the WACCT; seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**ACTION:** Every December the Board of Trustees appoint a representative to the Board of Cooperative Educational Services. Ms. Chavez is the current representative. Mr. Varney moved to reappoint Ms. Chavez; seconded by Mr. Nash. Motion carried unanimously.

**ACTION:** Mr. Laher requested the Board appoint him to serve as the assistant to the treasurer of the Board. Mr. Laher indicated from time to time it is necessary for him to sign financial documents under this title as required by banking institutions. Ms. Fisher moved to appoint Ron Laher, EWC Vice President for Administrative Services as the Assistant to the Treasurer of the Board of Trustees; seconded by Mr. Varney. Motion carried unanimously.

**ACTION:** The Trustees completed their disclosure statements pursuant to W.S. 6-5-118.

**ACTION:** Dr. Cogdill requested the Board consider a proposal to increase the Student Activity and Use Fees for Torrington and Douglas students beginning with the 2016-17 academic year from \$24 per credit hour to \$28 per credit hour. The breakdown for the fee increase is as follows:

- **Student Support (supports scholarship funds):** Increase from \$4/hr. to \$5/hour.
- **Student Activities (admission to sporting, fine arts, recreational, and leisure activities for all Torrington & Douglas campus students):** Increase from \$4/hr. to \$6/hr.
- **Instructional Support (supports general educational costs):** Increase from \$8/hr. to \$9/hr.
- **Technology Fee (support and upgrade technology infrastructure):** No increase.

Dr. Cogdill indicated the increase in Student Activities and Use Fees was approved by the EWC Student Senate. Mr. Willox suggested the fees need to be reviewed on a regular basis rather than after 12 years. Mr. Patrick moved and Mr. Kautz seconded the motion to approve increasing the Student Activity and Use Fees to \$28 per credit hour, as presented. Motion was unanimously passed.

**ACTION:** The Scholarship & Grants Budget for FY-17 was brought before the Board for their consideration. Mr. Laher highlighted the changes to the budget. Ms. Fisher moved to approve the FY-17 Scholarship and Grants Budget, as presented. Mr. Varney seconded and the motion was unanimously passed.

**ACTION:** The Board was requested to consider moving forward with the planning and construction of the Agricultural building. Mr. Patrick stated he felt the Foundation soundly supported proceeding with the current floor plan, as discussed. Mr. Patrick moved with the Board's current understanding of the project directs the administration to proceed with the planning and construction of the Agricultural building using available resources from the College, the general obligation bond, and the EWC Foundation, as presented. Mr. Nash seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

**ACTION:** Mr. Kautz then moved to direct the administration to proceed with the assessment and planning related to the Agricultural program, as presented. Ms. Fisher seconded and the motion was passed unanimously.

**ACTION:** Mr. Laher requested the Board consider the lease agreement between EWC and the EWC Foundation for the Nighswonger property. David Evans noted some minor amendments needed to be made. Mr. Varney moved to approve the lease agreement, as amended. Mr. Nash seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

**ACTION:** The Board was informed that Sue McBride, Douglas Campus Director submitted her letter of resignation and retirement effective at the end of her current contract of June 30, 2016. Mr. Patrick moved to accept the request to resign; second by Ms. Fisher. Motion carried unanimously.

**ACTION:** The Board considered extending President Patterson's contract beyond his current one. Mr. Patrick proposed the Board offer Dr. Patterson a contract which closely mirrors his

current contract, with his term of employment being extended through June 30, 2018, with a statement added where he agrees if he is terminated for any reason EWC would not need to buy him out beyond the current year, and he be compensated at the same salary level he currently receives. Second by Ms. Fisher. The motion was unanimously passed.

Updates were provided by the Staff Alliance, Student Services, Academic Services, the Faculty Senate, Human Resources, and Institutional Development.

**ACTION:** The Trustees considered participating in the Governance Institute for Student Success (GISS) for Wyoming. The WACCT is working to bring ACCT's GISS to Wyoming and would include all seven community colleges, the Wyoming Community College Commission, and possibly the University of Wyoming and the Catholic College. Motion by Mr. Patrick to participate in the GISS-Wyoming; second by Mr. Varney. Motion carried unanimously.

**ACTION:** At 7:30 p.m., Ms. Kilty moved to adjourn to executive session to discuss litigation; seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

The executive session was closed at 8:10 p.m. and the regular meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by:

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Holly L. Branham

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Angie Chavez, President

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Marilyn Fisher, Secretary