

APPROVED MINUTES

COCHISE COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD WORK SESSION

Tuesday, July 22, 2021

Work Session

9:00 a.m.

1. GENERAL FUNCTIONS

1.01 Call to Order

Mr. Hudgins called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Board Members Present:

Mr. David DiPeso
Mr. Don Hudgins
Mr. Dennis Nelson
Mr. Tim Quinn
Mrs. Jane Strain

2. NEW BUSINESS

2.01 Executive Session – Information Security Briefing

Mr. Quinn moved, and Mr. Nelson seconded a motion to move into executive session at 9:01 a.m. There was no further discussion. The Governing Board unanimously approved with members David DiPeso, Don Hudgins, Dennis Nelson, Tim Quinn, and Jane Strain all voting aye. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Mr. Quinn moved, and Mr. Nelson seconded a motion to adjourn the executive session and resume the work session at 9:50 a.m. There was no further discussion. The Governing Board unanimously approved with members David DiPeso, Don Hudgins, Dennis Nelson, Tim Quinn, and Jane Strain all voting aye. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Dr. Rottweiler informed the board that Policy 627 – Holidays, would go through the policy approval adding Juneteenth to the list of Holidays. Also, Policy 1010 – Naming Buildings after Individuals, will be brought before the board for consideration to name the baseball field in honor of Bo Hall.

2.02 FY22 Budget

2.02.1 Legislative Update

Dr. Rottweiler led a discussion regarding Opportunity Dollars.

\$4,080,300 – Budgeted Rural Aid (First Responder's Academy (FRA))

\$6,251,000 – Rural Aid (Actual additional funding received)

\$4,000,000 – Fund Balance Match

\$ 900,000 – Prop 207 (purpose in providing workforce, job training, CTE, and STEM)

2.02.2 Prop 207

The requirements for spending Prop 207 (marijuana sales) funds are to provide Workforce Development, Job Training, CTE, and STEM education. Dr. Rottweiler suggested allocating future funds for the continued support of the FRA to possibly include a director of the academy position, new faculty, and equipment needs.

2.02.3 Fund Balance

- \$25.3M - current available funds
- \$11M – kept for a 3-month reserve
- \$14M - is left for additional possible opportunity dollars to be used for other projects.

Mr. Quinn asked for funds to push the electric car program; responding, Dr. Rottweiler noted that funds are allocated for the future program, and the process is still moving forward, just at a slower pace because the industry is limited on electric offerings.

The board recessed at 11:00 a.m. for a quick lunch.

2.03 Future Facilities

Dr. Rottweiler requested consideration to take the \$14M, including Prop 207 funds, and allocate them to a First Responder Academy for Police Academy, EMT, Fire Science, and Para-medicine. The Academy's immediate needs are for classrooms and a driving range. If the Academy were expanded, the college could offer the same fire science and para-medicine structure as it does for police. Additional opportunities could include CDL training, Diesel Technology, training opportunities for other agencies to conduct annual or leadership training to include housing for their attendees, an indoor shooting range for the police academy, and a possible revenue source for agencies to use for requalification.

Dr. Rottweiler presented a list of proposed projects to the board for their consideration priority; the projects include:

- First Responder's Academy – **First Priority** combined with Chiricahua Hall
- Chiricahua Hall Remodel to include some HERF Funds for minor remodeling (\$2 - \$2.5M with \$1M of that being HERF) - **First Priority**
- Diesel Technology – **Second Priority**
 - Explore leasing building off-site or building on campus
- Water Campus – Federal Application (waiting for a response from Congresswoman Kirkpatrick) – **Wait to see if the grant is approved.**
- Debt Services – Bonds callable on July 1, 2025, for \$11M with savings of \$1M
 - Payments of \$2M are already made; if Debt Services was a priority to pay more on each payment to increase the potential savings when callable in 2025, freeing up \$2M after the payoff.
- Fund Balance
 - \$25.3M - \$11M (3-months of reserves)
 - \$14M is left for possible opportunity dollars

Mr. Hudgins expressed that he would like to see the Solar issues resolved; Dr. Rottweiler stated that he, Dr. Davis, and Mr. Barrows, Director of Facilities, would look at options then schedule a meeting with Mr. Hudgins.

Mr. Quinn inquired about the conditions of athletic facilities; Dr. Rottweiler noted that the City of Sierra Vista offered the college the use of their new artificial turf soccer field. The college will consider having half the games on Douglas Campus and the other half under the lights on the City's field. He also noted that considerations could be made to expand athletics to include men's soccer and possibly women's softball, with a little investment.

Responding to Mrs. Strain, Dr. Rottweiler confirmed that the City of Sierra Vista is looking into manufacturing companies. He has written letters of support for two companies that are considering Sierra Vista as a location to build. One company is looking at acreage near Libby Field to build a large warehouse to recycle large planes. The college offered academic programming in support of the company. The second company may be for a small off-shoot electric car company.

Dr. Fick mentioned the consideration of looking into E-sports, which NCJAA just rolled out; virtual gaming between institutions. Dr. Rottweiler also noted another sport growing interest is Trap Shooting, a zoom competition with limited travel only needed for national finals.

2.04 4-year Degrees

Dr. Rottweiler led a discussion regarding the passing of Senate Bill 1453, allowing community colleges to offer four-year degrees. If the board would like the administration to explore the path of four-year degrees, some areas of interest include:

- Military Affairs
 - BAS in Intelligence Operations
 - BAS in Professional Studies
 - BAS in Management and Leadership
 - Fort Commanding General is supportive of four-year degrees
- Nursing – BA
 - Cochise College Degree before the BA

Dr. Fick expressed that the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) requests institutions do lots of preliminary planning and know what the college wants to offer before submitting for approval.

Mr. Quinn led a discussion regarding the significance of a student obtaining a Bachelor's of Applied Science (BAS) or a Bachelor's of Arts (BA). Dr. Rottweiler noted the degree type doesn't matter for most industries; a Bachelor's is a Bachelor's.

With the board's direction, the administration will research the requirements listed in the approved Bill and prepare, over the next year, for offering four-year degrees, and will then bring options before the board for action, which will take at least 18 months.

3. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Hudgins adjourned the meeting at 12:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Crystal Wheeler, Executive Assistant Office of the President

Mr. Dennis Nelson, Secretary of the Governing Board