
*Rogue Community College District
Board of Education – January 20, 2015 Meeting Minutes*

1. **Call to Order** – The Rogue Community College (RCC) Board of Education (Board) meeting was called to order by Patricia Ashley, Chair, at 4:00 p.m., Tuesday, January 20, 2015, Table Rock Campus (TRC), Room 206, 7800 Pacific Avenue, White City, Oregon. Due notice was given.
2. **Determine Presence of Quorum** – A quorum of the Board was present including Pat Ashley, Ron Fox, Tim Johnson, Kevin Talbert, Dean Wendle and Joseph Zagorski (via Skype).

Board member absent: Brett Johnson

3. **Introduction of Guests and Public Comment** – Emanuel Begaj, International Cultural Exchange Student; Liela Forbes, Redwood Campus (RWC) Student Government President; Zachary Malatesta, Riverside Campus (RVC) Student Government President; Hannah Sohl, Rogue Energy Alliance; and RCC District employees including Bob Bagwell, Judy Basker, Kori Bieber-Ebenhack, Roger Friesen, Kirk Gibson, Erika Giesen, Kevin Hoff, Linda Renfro, Larry Sheely (Classified Association Representative), Jodi Simons, Lori Sours, Lisa Stanton, Curtis Sommerfeld, Denise Swafford, Grant Walker,
4. **Presentations**

- A. International Cultural Exchange Student – As part of the exchange student program, Emanuel Begaj, RCC International Cultural Exchange Student, provides 3-4 presentations per term. He is from the Eastern Europe country of Albania. He plays soccer for the RCC team and is a part of the Discovery Program. Emanuel provided a brief background his Albania. His educational goal is to transfer to Oregon State University to study mechanical engineering. He would eventually like to work for a company in the United States. He reported that many international students attending schools in Southern Oregon are not aware of community colleges. He recommends increased outreach to international students at area high schools.
- B. Rogue Energy Alliance: Community Energy Plan – Erica Giesen, Social Sciences and Human Services Faculty and RCC Green Team member, introduced Hannah Sohl, Rogue Energy Alliance representative. Rogue Valley Council of Governments in collaboration with Geos Institute, Energy Trust of Oregon, the City of Ashland, and Jackson Soil and Waters Conservation District contracted with Good Company to conduct a Renewable Energy Assessment (REA) for Jackson and Josephine counties. The purpose of the REA is to review existing renewable energy projects and assess the potential for new renewable energy generation development that can create jobs, increase local energy security, buffer local economies from energy price volatility, reduce fossil-fuel dependency, and reduce the associated greenhouse gas and local emissions.

10.A.a

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Highlights from the study include the potential for:

- 24% of energy needs in the Rogue valley to be met through energy conservation
- \$2 million in annual savings through energy conservation measures from businesses and community residents
- 17.9 jobs for every million dollars invested in energy conservation projects
13.8 jobs created for every million dollars invested in solar
- Weatherization of 60,000 homes in the Rogue Valley
- Up to 40% of the energy in the Rogue Valley to come from solar

The REA provided a strong baseline understanding of where southern Oregon could go in terms of renewable energy and energy conservation. The next step is expanding renewable energy and energy conservation to create a Community Energy Action Plan (CEAP) that will serve many purposes. A CEAP will ensure that we have a plan to manager our energy resources and consumption now and in the future. The CEAP for Jackson County will utilize the Department of Energy’s (DOE) Community Energy Strategic Planning Tool, a detailed, step-by-step project management tool that has been successfully used by many cities and counties with impressive results. The City of Eugene is already implementing a CEAP and Bend and Corvallis have both recently completed CEAPs and will be implementing in 2015.

The CEAP process can be fairly quick. It will take one year to develop the CEAP beginning in May 2015. The creation of the CEAP will take ten months and an additional two months will be dedicated to publicizing the results and engaging relevant businesses, community groups and relevant stakeholders in the plan through a clean energy summit at the end of the CEAP process.

Erica Giesen reported this effort ties in with the mission, vision and strategic plan of the College. It is supported by the RCC Green Team and ties into the President’s Climate Commitment.

- Stakeholders sign the letter of support
- Appoint an RCC representative as a member of the Energy Action Plan Advisory Team
- Communicate support to others
- Dedicate resources to the effort

Southern Oregon has a strong history of leading the way in renewable energy development and energy conservation in Oregon. Oregon Tech introduced the first B.S. degree in Renewable Energy *in the country*, and Jackson County boasts one of the highest rates of solar installations per capita in the state.

Southern Oregon University is participating in this effort.

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- C. School Board Recognition Month – Governor Kitzhaber declared January 2015 “School Board Recognition Month.” President Angstadt thanked Board members for their service and commitment to RCC and the students we serve. Their work is greatly appreciated and this recognition is well deserved.

5. Reports

- A. Student Government – Liela Forbes, RWC Associated Student Government President, reported the RWC Welcome Days event went well. They noticed an increase in food consumption compared to previous years. Student Government is providing information to students on local resources by posting a list of food banks on various bulletin boards around campus. The group also hosted a scholarship/financial aid event. They are in the process of organizing Student Lobby Day in Salem on 2/12 and Diversity Day next month. In recognition of School Board Recognition Month, Liela thanked RCC Board of Education members for their work.

Zachary Malatesta, RVC Associated Student Government President, reported the RVC Student Governments efforts are tied into the mission of the College. This team, with the involvement of many clubs, held a Halloween Bash to help improve student retention by connecting students with each other, especially the volunteers. The well attended event was open to the community and all student families. Another event, the Volunteer Fair, consisted of 12 organizations and fit the various diverse interests of students. Over 100 people attended and 81 potential volunteers signed up. Every organization commented they would happily return to a repeat event. This team is also providing information to students regarding local food bank resources. A recent Red Cross blood drive exceeded the amount of participants expected to donate (20) with an actual count of more than 30 people donating. Red Cross had to turn people away because the volume of people who walked in was too high compared to the amount of room they had.

- B. Faculty Association – No report
- C. Classified Association – Larry Sheely, Classified Association Representative, advised things are going well.
- D. Faculty Senate – No report
- E. Finance and Audit Committee – Tim Johnson attended the 2:15 p.m. committee meeting and advised the December Financial Statement and Quarterly Budget Transfers were reviewed. The committee also discussed audit services. The most recent contract for audit services was a three-year contract with Eide Bailly, LLP. During the last request for proposals (RFP) for audit services, RCC received three different responses, one local, one regional and one out-of-state. Administration is very pleased with the services provided by Eide Bailly, LLP.

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Dean Wendle commented there are minimal audit companies that provide audit services to colleges. Ron Fox commented, in his experience, five year contracts seems to be normal. Board members agreed and recommended advance planning to coordinate an RFP when the time comes.

MAIN MOTION

Kevin Talbert moved, seconded by Dean Wendle, the RCC Board of Education extend the current contract with Eide Bailly, LLC, two more years.

The motion unanimously carried.

6. President's Report

A. Monthly Calendar and College Issues

- The State of Oregon Ways and Means Committee co-chair's budget recommends a substantial increase to community colleges. This increase would more than offset the estimates shortfall in RCC's upcoming budget. \$535 million in funding from the state translates to approximately \$15 million for RCC.
- Using a Budget Scenario model, Peter recommends seeing what RCC's budget will look like with different funding levels. In the best case, the state budget will not be finalized until the end of May, traditionally, it is not finalized until sometime in June.
- Friday, 1/23, the Oregon Community College Association (OCCA) will be holding a teleconference to discuss free college.
- Peter is working with Graham Slater, State of Oregon Employment Department, to expand the "Creating New Taxpayers" data to include all 17 community colleges in the statewide database. He is hopeful by February/March we will have good data for the legislature.
- The joint RCC/SOU Social Gathering will be held 2/9.
- The next Board work session will be held 2/17 just prior the regular Board meeting. Board members were asked to forward suggestions regarding topics of discussion to Peter via email.

B. FTE Report – (see file)

C. Faculty Senate Meeting Notes – (see file)

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D. Winter 2015 Issue – *Rogue Matters* (see file)

7. Foundation and Vice President’s Reports

A. Foundation – Judy Basker reported the Assistant Director, Jodi Simons, transferred into this position after working at the College eight years with TRiO. Lisa Dunagan has started her position with the Foundation and will handle scholarships. Leslie Cox has been hired on a contract basis and has Foundation experience having working with the Asante Foundation. Katie Hamlyn is working part-time and is handling accounting matters. President’s Office staff, Denise Swafford and Cindy Harboldt, are helping the Foundation with file review. It has been challenging to find a donor data base system. To date, seven new members have joined the Foundation Board and two more prospective members are being interviewed on Friday. The Foundation website has been updated and Judy is working with Grant Walker on marketing material. Judy is also getting out into the community.

B. Student Services – Vice President Bieber-Ebenhack indicated the Student Services report this month relates to the International Cultural Exchange Student presentation at the beginning of this meeting. The International Cultural Scholarship Program (ICSP) committee has existed at RCC for many years as the Multicultural committee. A new task force has been formed and they will take a comprehensive look at international enrollment. Tim Johnson volunteered to participate in outreach efforts to international students.

C. Instruction – Vice President Gibson has been spending time in discussions regarding accelerated learning. He met with Senator Bates and Representative Buckley regarding this topic. Thoughts/ideas discussed were very well received. Discussion is occurring throughout the state regarding instructor qualifications and licensing standards for accelerated learning/college credits. Mr. Gibson advised the achievement compacts will be changing to a three year strategic look vs. annual report. On Friday, 1/23, a major event will mark southern Oregon regional success when Governor Kitzhaber will visit Medford for the Declaration of Cooperation signing ceremony. Dr. Talbert commented the accelerated learning qualification issues has immense public support, but it is a complicated issue. He is glad that Mr. Gibson is so involved with discussions regarding this topic.

D. College Services – Vice President Sommerfeld distributed information regarding the Strategic Energy Management – Southern Oregon Cohort 2015 (see file) – the cohort model is only offered every 2-3 years. An engineer developed the energy model which improves bottom line expenses, achieves consistent savings over time and builds a foundation for continued energy savings. Energy Trust cash incentives for electric energy savings total \$.02 per annual kWh saved. Mr. Sommerfeld requested application materials sent to us for review – this does not obligate us. Dr. Talbert asked for an update on the status of the President’s Climate Commitment. Staff will look into this and distribute an update to the Board.

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The College is also working with Energy Trust completing their Capital Study wherein an engineer takes a long-term look including the gymnasium HVAC system, the Wiseman Learning Center (all electric) and Coates Hall.

8. Board Action and/or Information Items

A. Board Policy IX.A.030: Press Releases

Dean Wendle moved, seconded by Tim Johnson, the RCC Board adopt Resolution No. P50-14/15 approving proposed revisions to Board Policy IX.A.030: Press Releases.

The motion unanimously carried.

B. 2015 Southern Oregon Business Conference – January 29, 2015

Joseph Zagorski moved, seconded by Ron Fox, the Board approve Resolution No. P51-14/15 approving the participation of Pat Ashley, Tim Johnson and Dean Wendle in the 2015 Southern Oregon Business Conference.

The motion unanimously carried.

C. Faculty Emeritus Status – Tom Miller

Tim Johnson moved, seconded by Kevin Talbert, the Board adopt Resolution No. P52-14/15 awarding the honor of *Faculty Emeritus* status to Tom Miller.

The motion unanimously carried.

D. Faculty Emeritus Status – Wanda Sherman

Tim Johnson moved, seconded by Kevin Talbert, the Board adopt Resolution No. P59-14/15 awarding the honor of *Faculty Emeritus* status to Wanda Sherman, posthumously.

The motion unanimously carried.

E. Advisory Committee Member Resignation – John Harelson

Tim Johnson moved, seconded by Dean Wendle, the Board adopt Resolution No. P53-14/15, accepting the resignation of John Harelson from the RCC Advisory Committee/Budget Committee effective January 20, 2015.

Dean Wendle commented on Mr. Harelson's wonderful service as a previous member of the Board of Education and for his service and dedication on the Advisory/Budget Committee. Mr. Harelson's background as a Certified Public Accountant and the Josephine County Treasurer complimented his service at the College. John Harelson always considered the best interests of our students and is recognized as an outstanding person. He provided a great service to RCC and will be missed.

The motion unanimously carried.

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F. Oregon Community College Association (OCCA) Legislative Summit – February 25-26, 2015

Tim Johnson moved, seconded by Dean Wendle, the Board adopt Resolution No. P60-14/15, approving the participation of Pat Ashley, Ron Fox, Kevin Talbert and Dean Wendle in the 2015 OCCA Legislative Summit.

The motion unanimously carried.

G. Revised Accreditation Schedule – NWCCU

Denise Swafford, Accreditation Liaison Officer/Administrative Coordinator, advised that RCC has received a letter from the North Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU) indicating RCC's accreditation schedule has been moved back as follows:

Mission Fulfillment and Sustainability (Year Seven): Fall 2019
Mission and Core Themes (Year One): Fall 2020
Mid-Cycle Evaluation: Fall 2022
Mission Fulfillment and Sustainability (Year Seven): Fall 2026

H. ACCT Governance Leadership Institute – March 19-21, 2015

There was no interest in attendance at this event.

I. State of Oregon Employment Department – Labor Trends

Board members commented they like receiving this report with Board meeting material. Staff will continue to do so.

9. Board Discussion Items

A. Oregon Business Plan Leadership Summit – Dr. Talbert reported the Summit was interesting. Primary focus included:

- Connecting education to careers
- Modernizing our infrastructure
- Putting our natural resources to work

Bill Thorndike and John Roberts presented the WISE Project (Water for Irrigation Streams and Economy). This is a huge project and will require high level collaboration in the future. Another presentation provided was around finding ways to use juniper as a commercial product such as large buildings built with laminated wood beam construction vs. steel. People make higher wages working with engineered products vs. timber. The Governor talked about his budget. There are indications the economy is recovering but not reaching everyone. Ron Fox served on the steering committee coordinating this Summit.

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B. Higher Education Coordinating Commission Dinner – January 6, 2015

Dr. Talbert attended and reported that the dinner was an opportunity to meet and talk with community college board members, university representatives, the Higher Education Coordinating Commission and the Oregon Education Investment Board.

Pat Ashley requested the addition of “Board Focus Areas” to the February meeting Board agenda. Peter provided a potential list of items including the Community Engagement process and the corresponding request for proposal. Also, it is important for Board members to contact southern Oregon legislators about funding community colleges at \$550 million. Pat challenged all Board members to report (at the February Board meeting) how many contacts they made. In addition, we should work on changing the “fifth year high school concept” to an “accelerated learning concept” to provide high school students with college credits. Pat Ashley requested brief talking points (a couple paragraphs) regarding the accelerated learning concept for Board member use at high school and educational service district meetings.

10. Consent Agenda

Dean Wendle moved, seconded by Tim Johnson, the Board approve the Consent Agenda as presented:

- A. Meeting Minutes**
 - a. December 16, 2014 Board Meeting
- B. Human Resources**
 - a. Full-Time Faculty Nursing Instructor – Iris Reagan
- C. Grants**
 - a. STEM Academy Grant
 - b. Music – Timpani Grant
- D. Financials**
 - a. Monthly Financial Data Report – December 2014
 - b. Quarterly Budget Transfers

The motion unanimously carried.

11. Board Committee/Advisory Reports

- A. Jackson/Josephine County Advisory Committees** – President Angstadt reported the Josephine County Advisory Committee members discussed the resignation of John Harelson and potential replacements. Jackson County Advisory Committee members discussed the free college and accelerated learning concepts.

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B. Executive Committee – Pat Ashley reported the committee met to review the January Board meeting agenda.

C. Facilities Committee – Dean Wendle reported the water tanks will be fixed this spring. He is glad to hear we are moving forward with the Energy Trust.

D. OCCA/OSBA – Kevin Talbert reported OCCA staff are very busy reviewing over 2,000 bills. He indicated the OCCA Board will be prioritizing bills and advised RCC Board members to contact Peter and/or Kevin with questions or input regarding bills. President Obama’s free college proposal has added to the work load of OCCA staff. Some staff from other community colleges have pitched in to help OCCA.

Tim Johnson complimented OCCA staff for their good preparation regarding the trip to Washington, D.C. for the ACCT National Legislative Summit.

Pat Ashley called for a ten minute break at 6:20 p.m.

12. **Executive Session** – Pat Ashley called the meeting into Executive Session at 6:30 p.m. Pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(e) Real Property Transactions and closed Executive Session at 6:56 p.m.
13. **Old Business** – Dr. Talbert stated he really appreciated the recent Campus Security presentation and is impressed with the measures taken toward improvement in this area. He recommended showing the “Run, Hide, Fight” video to students and also recommended the Board spend time discussing this. Ms. Ashley directed Denise Nelson to add this topic to the February Board meeting agenda under “Board Discussion Items.”
14. **New Business** – An independent audit of the Foundation was conducted last month and the report is available via hard copy or electronic review.
15. **Roundtable** - None
16. **Adjournment** - Pat Ashley adjourned the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Meeting minutes submitted by Denise Nelson, Assistant to the President and Board of Education.