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***Rogue Community College District  
Board of Education – December 6, 2017 Special Meeting Minutes***

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1. **Call to Order and Determine Presence of a Quorum** – Tim Johnson, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. A quorum of the Board was present including Pat Ashley, Ron Fox, Shawn Hogan, Tim Johnson, Claudia Sullivan, Kevin Talbert and Dean Wendle. Due notice was given.
2. **Welcome and Introductions** – Mr. Johnson welcomed participants to the Special Board meeting. Guests in attendance from the Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC) included Ben Cannon, Patrick Crane and Kyle Thomas.

RCC administrators and staff included: Cathy Kemper-Pelle, Kori Ebenhack, Kirk Gibson, Curtis Sommerfeld, Sarah Bristol and Denise Nelson.

Lunch was provided during the first twenty-five minutes of the meeting.

3. **Overview of Discussion Topics – Cathy Kemper-Pelle, President**

President Kemper-Pelle provided an overview of discussion topics to include items currently being discussed with the Oregon Community College Association (OCCA) such as strategies for the second half of this biennium and also priority issues of the HECC.

4. **Discussion with Ben Cannon, Executive Director, Patrick Crane, Director of Community Colleges and Workforce Development and Kyle Thomas, Director of Legislative and Policy Affairs**

Mr. Cannon indicated he was happy to have the opportunity to visit RCC and see the work we're doing in this region.

- A. **State Funding** – Mr. Cannon indicated it is important to increase visibility of the community college funding need. The HECC is very engaged in looking ahead to 2019 funding. They will soon put together budget recommendations for the next biennium (2019-2020). HECC looks forward to working with OCCA and for the colleges to work together to develop a funding model. Community colleges can help build the case to show the impact of additional investment in community colleges.
- B. **Transfer Issues** – Mr. Cannon reported House Bill 2998, which passed in 2017, requires community colleges and college universities to develop a unified statewide transfer agreement. Patrick Crane has been involved in many meetings regarding this. Participants are bringing good intent resulting in productive meetings. Board members were provided the opportunity to ask questions about this topic.

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**C. HECC Strategic Plan for Community Colleges** – The 2016-2020 HECC Strategic Plan was distributed and reviewed by Mr. Cannon (see file). As a reporting agency, the HECC collects a lot of data. This information is used to evaluate and report on progress. An important function of the HECC is to drive change by informing the public and policy makers. The Commission’s major powers, duties and functions are categorized as follows:

- Provide one strategic vision for higher education in Oregon
- Make budgetary recommendations for state institutions and programs
- Authorize programs and degrees
- Manage key programs in Oregon
- Evaluate success of efforts

Mr. Cannon reported HECC staff is deeply engaged. Staff members travel throughout the State of Oregon (generally once per month). He is grateful the governor and legislators acknowledge and understand the important role higher education plays in lifting up Oregonians.

Mr. Cannon distributed other items for review and discussion including draft documents titled “Strategic Framework 2017-2021” and “2013-2017 Featured Accomplishments” (see file).

**5. Questions and Answers** – A general question and answer session was conducted.

**6. Round Table**

- Pat Ashley commented the Higher Education Coordinating Commission has been good for Oregon’s Community Colleges.
- Board members thanked HECC representatives for attending the information meeting, facility tours and lunch meeting with the Board of Education.

**7. Adjournment** – Tim Johnson adjourned the meeting at 1:08 p.m.

Meeting minutes submitted by Denise Nelson, Assistant to the President – Governance.