
Rogue Community College District
Board of Education – February 2, 2019 Special Board Meeting Minutes

1. **Call to Order** – The Rogue Community College (RCC) Board of Education (Board) special meeting was called to order by Claudia Sullivan, Board Chair, at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, February 2, 2019, at the RCC Redwood Campus, Conference Room H-2, 3345 Redwood Highway, Grants Pass, Oregon. Due notice was given.
2. **Determine Presence of Quorum** – A quorum of the Board was present including Claudia Sullivan, Kevin Talbert, Pat Ashley, Pat Fahey, Ron Fox, Shawn Hogan, and Roger Stokes.
3. **Guests in Attendance** – Jean Ann Miles, resident of Cave Junction; RCC District employees Cathy Kemper-Pelle, John Miles, Curtis Sommerfeld, and Cheryl Johnson.
4. **New Business**

A. Approval of Science Building Construction Project: new construction or renovation of the existing Elk building:

The Bond Oversight Committee met on Wednesday, January 30, 2019. RCC had received conflicting information from the state of Oregon. RCC received \$6M matching funds to renovate Elk building for Science. Since then, we have considered building a new building. According to the state of Oregon, we need to have the language inserted to the pending bill on Monday, February 4, 2019. The next opportunity to insert a language change would be May 2019. The decision today is whether or not the board wants new construction or a renovation.

Pat Ashley expressed her position for a new building. Kevin Talbert asked Curtis Sommerfeld to explain the background information. Curtis Sommerfeld shared that we originally intended to remodel, and now with the changes to the Nursing project, it now allows us additional flexibility on the RWC. The intention is to now explore the opportunity for new construction. Roger Stokes shared that the current building is likely not big enough and would either limit our options or be subject to additional costs for expansion after gutting the existing facility. We would have further limitations due to the physical location of the building. Claudia Sullivan expressed her opinion that a new building which encapsulates both Science and Health is preferred.

Roger Stokes asked if we would be locked in to only new construction. Curtis Sommerfeld said yes, that is the case – whatever decision is made is the direction we have to proceed. Ron Fox cautioned that we are making a decision in the absence of the total amount of the costs. Pat Fahey offered that we need to be aware of the optics of how Josephine County would perceive a remodel on the heels of new construction in Jackson County for the Health Professions Center at the Table Rock Campus. Roger Stokes asked about use of the Elk building after a new building is finished. Pat Ashley and Claudia Sullivan talked about the opportunity to find other uses – such as office spaces or other uses. Curtis Sommerfeld said that the cost of a remodel would depend on how extensive the changes to the building are.

Kevin Talbert concurred with Ron Fox that we are making a decision in a void, however, we will be very much constrained by the current building. Shawn Hogan agreed with Kevin Talbert and

the opportunity to build new. Roger Stokes expressed concern that we are locked in to a decision one way or the other. Curtis Sommerfeld explained that yes, we would be locked in – either way... renovate or build. Cathy Kemper-Pelle asked if either project would affect our water issues. Curtis Sommerfeld stated that it is not significant to either project. Ron Fox asked if we have the option to address this a year from now when we are able to be better informed. Curtis Sommerfeld said that we run the risk of not being able to submit a change to the legislation.

MAIN MOTION:

Kevin Talbert moved that we amend our request to new construction, seconded by Pat Ashley.

*Ron Fox stated that he will vote in favor of the motion, however, he is concerned about being pushed to make a decision with a lack of full information. Cathy Kemper-Pelle assured him that this is not how she and her administration operate and with the upcoming master plan design for the Redwood Campus, this will not be an issue in the future.

Claudia Sullivan: YES

Kevin Talbert: YES

Ron Fox: YES*

Pat Ashley: YES

Roger Stokes: YES*

Shawn Hogan: YES*

Pat Fahey: YES

Motion passed unanimously.

Curtis Sommerfeld will be submitting this information to the legislature today, for the submission on Monday. Pat Ashley expressed that if we are not allowed to make the change now, and we address this project again in May, we need to have more information to make a fully informed decision.

Curtis Sommerfeld explained that if we are not able to make this change, then we will have the opportunity to revisit the project in May 2019. Pat Ashley stated that if that is the case, then we need to fast-track the preliminary work so that the board can make a more informed decision.

5. Adjournment – Claudia Sullivan adjourned the meeting at 10:25am.

Meeting minutes respectfully submitted by Cheryl Johnson, Assistant to the President – Governance