
***Rogue Community College District
Board of Education – March 15, 2016 Meeting Minutes***

1. **Call to Order** – The Rogue Community College (RCC) Board of Education (Board) meeting was called to order by Dr. Kevin Talbert, Chair, at approximately 4:00 p.m., Tuesday, March 15 2016, RCC/Southern Oregon University (SOU), Higher Education Center (HEC) 101 S. Bartlett, conference room 127. Due notice was given.
2. **Determine Presence of Quorum** – A quorum of the Board was present including Pat Ashley, Ron Fox, Brett Johnson, Tim Johnson, Claudia Sullivan, Kevin Talbert and Dean Wendle
3. **Introduction of Guests and Public Comment** – Margaret Brewer, President, RCC Education Association; Andrea Henderson, Executive Director, Oregon Community College Association (OCCA); Michelle Jacobsen, RCC Associated Student Government (ASG) Riverside Campus (RVC) / Table Rock Campus (TRC); Jessica Kitchen, Co-Chair, RCC Faculty Senate; Zachary Malatesta, President, RCC ASG RVC/TRC; Tonia Moro, Board Member, Rogue Valley Transit District; Kalypso Rouso, RCC ASG; Morgan Smith, Student; DonnaJean Wendle, community member; Sarah Wofford, President, Classified Association; and RCC District employees including Peter Angstadt, Judy Basker, Navarro Chandler, Leslie Cox, Lisa Dunagan, Amy Durst, Kori Ebenhack-Bieber, Roger Friesen, Jodie Fulton, Kirk Gibson, Ron Goss, Katie Hamlyn, Ralph Henderson, Kevin Hoff, Hilary McDonald, Teresa Rivenes, Julie Rossi, Steve Schilling, Jodi Simons, Curtis Sommerfeld, Lori Sours, Genna Southworth, Lisa Stanton, Serena St. Clair, Carmen Sumner, Denise Swafford, Grant Walker, and Denise Nelson.

There was no public comment.

4. **Board Action Item / Presentation**

- A. Appointment of the President**

Dr. Kevin Talbert reviewed the selection process for RCC's sixth President. Last June, President Angstadt advised the Board of his intent to retire. The Board appointed a committee to issue a request for proposal (RFP) for a national search consultant. The Board reviewed multiple proposals and eventually selected Preston Pulliams, Gold Hill Associates.

In early fall, the Board solicited nominations for a Presidential Search Advisory Committee and the Board appointed 17 people including students, faculty, staff, community members and Board of Education members. Campus and community input was solicited on the qualities and characteristics people wanted in the next president.

Dr. Pulliams met with the Search Advisory Committee and developed a list of 14 desired qualities that were the basis for the national marketing of the position. The search was opened in November and eventually we secured 49 applications. The Search Advisory

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Committee read and prioritized the applications and met with the consultant in January to narrow the list to 8 semifinalists that were recommended to the Board.

One of the semifinalists withdrew for personal reasons and the Board conducted telephone interviews of the other seven. Four were eventually invited to be finalists. As part of our due diligence, the Board and our consultant conducted extensive background checks of both listed references and others who had knowledge of the candidates.

Each finalist was at RCC for two days during which they made presentations and answered questions at open forums on each of our three campuses. In addition, they met with RCC vice presidents and deans, foundation representatives, area superintendents, and the Southern Oregon University (SOU) President. They also attended a dinner with their spouse and the Board. The Board of Education conducted a final formal interview. Summaries of candidate's resumes were distributed at forums, and full curriculum vitae or resumes were posted on our website for all to see.

Throughout the process, the Board's goal was to conduct an open, transparent, and inclusive search. To that end, the Board solicited feedback from all who met the candidates and we estimate each candidate was seen by over 200 people in both campus and community settings.

Finally, the Board met in executive session to review and consider all comments and feedback received as well as reference information and each Board member's own interview experiences, and make a decision. This was not an easy decision as we had four strong finalists. Eventually, the Board reached a consensus, and the preferred candidate was contacted and said, "Yes." The next president will start on July 1, 2016.

Pat Ashley entered the name of Dr. Cathy Kemper-Pelle from Lee College, Texas, as RCC's new president thereby bringing this nomination before the Board. Ms. Ashley provided background regarding Dr. Kemper-Pelle. Lee College is located outside of Houston and serves metro, rural and prison settings. Lee College has a larger population in some areas than ours, and Dr. Kemper-Pelle is accustomed to multiple campuses. Lee College has been recognized by the Aspen Institute and the Association of Community College Trustees, and it was ranked #2 nationally by the Brookings Institute and #9 by SmartAsset in its rankings of the best community college of 2015. Dr. Kemper-Pelle comes to RCC with credentials from an extraordinary program at the University of Texas for training community college leaders.

Pat Ashley moved, seconded by Tim Johnson, the RCC Board of Education, pending contract approval, appoint Dr. Cathy Kemper-Pelle as RCC's 6th President.

Tim Johnson commented, in addition to her duties at Lee College, Cathy Kemper-Pelle was also the local Performing Arts Center Chair, and the Lee College prison program was an extremely difficult program to set-up and has proven to be very successful.

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A roll call vote was conducted:

Kevin Talbert, Yes
Pat Ashley, Yes
Dean Wendle, Yes
Claudia Sullivan, Yes
Brett Johnson, Yes
Ron Fox, Yes
Tim Johnson, Yes

The motion unanimously carried.

B. Update from Oregon Community College Association (OCCA)

Andrea Henderson, Executive Director, OCCA, reported the short session of the legislature was contentious. A large issue of the session was around increasing the minimum wage. There will be a fiscal impact on community colleges because of that change. In addition, OCCA continues to have a conversation regarding the implementation of the Oregon Promise. The application process for this closed March 3. Roughly one-third of the graduating class last year applied, approximately 19,000 students, but not all are eligible. Legislators are talking about the program and understand that access isn't enough. She commented it is good that legislators are talking about student success and completion, not just access. There is a lot of conversation with legislators on helping students complete, and to make sure community colleges are helping students in this way. During the session, a small amount, \$83,000, was funded for each college to help students make the transition from high school/GED into college.

The state budget for the 2017 legislative session has somewhat of a grim scenario with a projected deficit of \$1.0 to \$1.3 billion. There is discussion in Salem regarding a 3% budget decrease across the board, and how to prepare for the budget shortfall. At the same time, there is an initiative petition on the November ballot that would produce new revenue for the state. If approved, an increase in the corporate minimum tax for businesses (with annual Oregon sales exceeding \$25 million) could bring an additional \$5 billion in funding every two years. Note: The deficit mentioned does not include the PERS increase.

OCCA will be bringing a community college capital construction request for the next budget including projects for all 17 community colleges at \$8 million per college. Each college is asked to provide information regarding their top two projects for article 11G bonds and also submit deferred maintenance requests by the end of April. Part of OCCA's "ask" will include removing the cap.

The Safety and Security Act was not funded during the short legislative session. It came down to a technical issue, so this was put off until 2017. A Governor's Task Force was initiated regarding college safety, and there is an expectation the task force and community colleges will bring forward a specific ask.

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June 28-30, 2016, the second Oregon Governance Institute for Student Success (GISS) will be held in Bend. The GISS brings together community college Board members throughout the state with the leadership of our colleges, providing an opportunity to learn from fellow board members and administrators. Board members should contact Denise Nelson if interested in participating.

Dr. Talbert thanked Ms. Henderson for providing a report to the Board in person. He recognized the important work of the Oregon Community College Association and thanked the Association staff for their hard work.

5. College Reports

- A.** Student Government – Zachary Malatesta reported the Riverside and Table Rock Campus Associated Student Government (ASG) has been very strong this term. ASG has received new training to further skills including incident reports, Vote to Vote, and statewide issues. They have also initiated a great partnership with the RCC Music department resulting in two Music Day events. The first event had 20 people in attendance and included a performance by the head of the Music department, Bryan Jeffs, and also local/student musicians including a student rapper. The Music Club attended and used the event for recruitment. Michelle Jacobsen reported the second Music Day was even more successful with 35 people in attendance. 10 musicians participated including the same student rapper and Bryan Jeffs, who performed on the new RCC marimba. These events were such a success that Mr. Jeffs recommended holding the events three times a term, which ASG plans to do. This also helps build relationships between students and faculty.

Other Events

Pi Day

- Hosted a de-stress oriented event that would contribute to student’s vitality on campus
- Served about 90 students and staff members
- High quality, with vegan and gluten free options from a local bakery
- Zealously received by the student body
- Student Government members were “pied”

Upcoming Events

- Vote or Vote Campaign – Encouraging people to register to vote
- RCC Welcome Days and Preview Days – ASG is going to assist with these events by helping with set-up, tours, and providing information to students
- Week of Welcome – ASG starts each term with the very helpful Week of Welcome event
- Comic-con, April 30 – Cosponsors with the RCC library and public library

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- B.** Faculty Association – Margaret Brewer, President, RCC Education Association (EA) is working with Judy Basker, Executive Director, RCC Foundation, regarding the bond campaign and is also involved with the Better Oregon initiative.
- C.** Classified Association – Sarah Wofford, President, reported the Oregon School Employees Association (OSEA) donated \$15,000 to the Friends of Rogue Community College in support of the bond campaign. Ms. Wofford also reported Classified Employee appreciation week is March 11-17, 2016. She is grateful for the appreciation shown to RCC’s classified employees.
- D.** Faculty Senate – Jessica Kitchen, recently appointed co-chair, reported the Senate is looking to incorporate more faculty into the Faculty Senate (FS). FS members serve on a variety of subcommittees and she is serving on a committee focused around students. Senate members are interested in volunteering at the upcoming Comic-con event. Members will participate in the commencement event by ushering students. FS will soon begin the process for the annual faculty awards.

Tim Johnson commented the Board has greatly appreciated inclusion of the Faculty Senate meeting minutes in the Board’s monthly meeting packets.

- E.** Finance and Audit Committee – Claudia Sullivan and Pat Ashley participated in the committee meeting wherein the monthly financial statements were reviewed. Ms. Sullivan reported the 2015/16 Budget is still on track and the ending fund balance is \$4.3 million. At last month’s meeting, it was noted the College was happy with the services of Eide Bailly, LLC (auditor) thus a contract extension for audit services was recommended. In doing so, Eide Bailly indicated an increase of 6% for their services would apply, however, Lisa Stanton, Chief Financial Officer, negotiated the amount to 3%. On another note, the College reported an arbitrage victory. In brief, the Internal Revenue Service has given back to RCC, \$138,000 of the interest on the 2005 bond levy (this amount has been received).
- F.** President Search Advisory Committee – Dr. Talbert thanked everyone on campus involved with scheduling, taking people on tours and participating in meetings for the presidential search. It was a phenomenal job by everyone involved and proves how our campus works together. All comment cards were greatly appreciated and were read by the Board. Ron Fox thanked those who participated in open forums and he commented that the questions, and dialogue that followed, was very informative. He added it was incredible to see the passion for what you do. Board members thanked everyone for their time and participation.

6. President’s Report

- A.** Monthly Calendar and College Issues (see file) – President Angstadt reported the College willing be paying the last bond off in a little more than eight years. By frugal management, we were able to reduce the payment.
- B.** FTE Report – (see file)

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C. Grant Status Report – (see file)

7. Foundation and Vice President’s Reports

- A. Student Services – Kori Ebenhack-Bieber reported that at a previous meeting, Board member Tim Johnson asked for information regarding student loan debt. She distributed a report to Board members (see file) and noted that our student loan debt, calculated on a three-year cohort, is down significantly at 24 percent. The second page of the report reflects data on the reason students are accessing SALT models. She informed everyone that the delinquency rate is when someone is 30 days late on a loan payment. She added that, on the report, non-engaged students are students that will not respond to SALT and engaged students have contacted SALT services. The RCC student loan debt has decreased and continues to improve.
- B. Instructional Services – Kirk Gibson reported he continues to spend a lot of time on initiative management such as placement testing and developmental education redesign. He is also involved with reinforcement activities around science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) partnerships with K-12 and supporting transitioning students around the Promise model. He is spending time ensuring we have representation with K-12, regional partners and SOU discussions. The biggest work is looking at how the Southern Promise is being rolled out. He is also spending time in his division looking forward more than three to five years. A big challenge is connecting effectively with 500-700 part-time faculty and rolling out a redesign of the faculty orientation model. He is working closely with Human Resources on this. The orientation includes discussing what it means to be an effective Rogue employee. The first orientation conducted using the new model was last night and initial reviews were positive.
- C. College Services – Curtis Sommerfeld reported he has been working on the Strategic Energy Management Plan with the next step involving replacing outside lights with energy efficient LEDs. The return on investment time for this effort is estimated at only 1.5 years, so the savings for the College will be significant. He will look at how to expand this into other locations. Kevin Talbert commented he talked with two members of the Green Team, and they talked positively regarding this. He suggested it would be appropriate for the Green Team to provide a report regarding broader practices that are occurring on campus.

Mr. Sommerfeld reported the Head Start building on Redwood Campus is sagging in one corner due to problems with the stem walls built in 2005. Ron Fox suggested checking with Terra Firma, a local company that handles foundation problems.

The water issue in the Redwood Campus Wiseman building has been taken care of. At a previous Board meeting, the Board asked Curtis to check into any possible mold issues. This has been completed by testing in multiple locations and everything under the Wiseman and Student Services buildings reflect no mold problems, in fact, they tested cleaner than outside. The tutoring center, except for one area where ventilation will be improved, also tested better than outside. Tests will be conducted again in early summer.

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Regarding the tree root problem on Riverside Campus sidewalks, the City of Medford allowed us to appeal their decision and the outcome of the appeal was negative. The City of Medford asked the College to sign a release of liability if we want more time (which we did not do). Other businesses are conducting an ADA study, however, RCC is not participating in this.

Tim Johnson asked for confirmation that the emergency call posts and lights on Redwood Campus are inoperative. Mr. Sommerfeld confirmed. Mr. Johnson asked what people do for assistance without the call posts? In addition to calling 911 for an emergency, anyone can receive assistance, including escorts to cars, by calling security. Staff has met with a company that offers an equivalent to the emergency call posts, however, this will need further review and discussion. Mr. Sommerfeld noted the proposed funding at the state level to assist with community college safety was not approved. Tim also discussed the variance of lockdown locks on Riverside Campus doors. Some locks must be turned to the right to lockdown and others turned to the left. Mr. Sommerfeld explained he is aware this is not ideal and noted this is a concern shared by other community colleges. RCC provides training to employees in each facility and is also conducting lockdown drills. There is clear signage on each applicable door indicating which way to turn the locking mechanism.

D. Foundation – Judy Basker reported the Foundation will be holding a retiree luncheon on Thursday, March 24. She estimates approximately 40 people in attendance.

8. Board Action and/or Information Items

A. Approve Contract with Interact for Community Engagement Consulting Services

This item was withdrawn from the agenda.

B. Approve 2016/17 Tuition Schedule (Second Reading)

Pat Ashley moved, seconded by Claudia Sullivan, the RCC Board adopt Resolution No. B50-15/16, approving the recommended 2016/17 Tuition schedule as presented, effective summer term 2016.

The motion unanimously carried.

C. Approve 2016/17 Fee Schedule (Second Reading)

Tim Johnson moved, seconded by Claudia Sullivan, the RCC Board adopt Resolution No. B51-15/16 approving the 2016/17 Fee schedule as presented, including an increase in the College Services Fees of \$5 per tier, effective summer term 2016.

The motion unanimously carried.

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D. Approve 2016/17 Full-Time Faculty Renewal List

Dean Wendle moved, seconded by Pat Ashley, the RCC Board adopt Resolution No. HR55-15/16 approving the full-time faculty renewal list for 2016/17 as presented.

The motion unanimously carried.

E. Discussion/Possible Action RVTD Transit Ballot Measure

Dr. Talbert introduced Tonia Moro, Board member, Rogue Valley Transit District (RVTD). Ms. Moro requested time at this Board meeting in consideration of RVTD's ballot measure.

Ms. Moro explained that RVTD, just a couple of weeks ago, made a decision to ask the community to support public transportation infrastructure. As a result of losing their ballot measure in 2014, RVTD had to eliminate Saturday service. The current ballot measure is asking the community to pass a five-year levy for .13 cents per \$1,000 of property value. She reported that a large amount of funding from the RVTD ballot measure would be used for maintenance. It would also fund an increase in frequency on the Ashland to Medford route, increase frequency around the Rogue Valley Medical Center, add a route around the high school, and also add a route from downtown Medford to RCC's Table Rock Campus (TRC) in White City. There is a possibility this TRC route would be able to make one stop in Central Point per day. The plan is to provide about four trips per day to TRC. The Transit District has crafted a statement for the voter's pamphlet. They are requesting RCC, SOU, and 549C endorse the ballot measure. She indicated the deadline for the voter's pamphlet is early next week. RVTD is requesting public endorsement of the measure, and endorsement of the potential statement. They are also asking endorsers to help pay for the \$400 filing fee. RVTD has discussed the possibility of coordinating the campaigns to motivate the student vote. Ms. Moro attended the 549C Board meeting last night, and Al Densmore will be following up with Dr. Shumate, Superintendent, Medford School District, regarding their support of the RVTD measure.

Pat Ashley asked for specific details regarding the route to TRC. Ms. Moro replied the plan is for the bus to leave downtown Medford and go directly to TRC about four times per day. Pat Ashley asked for input from administration. Is this something they believe would truly benefit our students or not? Genna Southworth, Dean, School of Health and Public Service, responded she feels it would at least partially benefit our students since currently, the nearest transit stop is two miles away from the campus. She feels that bus transportation four times per day is challenging because there are three primary blocks of time a) morning and b) early afternoon when students are at TRC, and c) evening, when there is a significant amount of students at the campus. If students are transported to TRC in the day, but can't get home in the evening, it won't help them. Ms. Moro commented the larger community has a similar concern because in the community, a lot of people can't go to events past 7:30 p.m. since transportation is not offered. RVTD is looking forward to working on a lot of these issues in the future, and this measure is a preliminary response to the need.

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Ms. Moro reported RVTID is embarking on a new round of their ten-year planning process. They have been working hard on other aspects to obtain funding. Currently, federal funding is left on the table because they do not have the ability to raise the match. They are hopeful, during the 2017 legislative session, they will be able to make some expansions in our community.

Dean Wendle asked if RCC can be assured of the routes to TRC. Ms. Moro confirmed by saying, “yes.”

Tim Johnson asked for confirmation that the Board of Education is being asked for three things a) support the RVTID measure, b) to be named on the ballot argument, and c) assist with funding the filing of the argument statement. Ms. Moro confirmed by saying, “yes.” Dr. Talbert advised that normally, the Board would not take a position on legislative matters unless it is something that has a direct benefit to students, and this seems to fit.

Ron Fox mentioned it would have been best if the Board could have received RVTID measure information two or three months which would have provided those involved an opportunity to discuss this in advance. Ms. Moro stated this measure is for about five different enhancements in addition to a large amount of the funding going toward maintenance. She acknowledged this is just a start, and they recognize there is a huge need, but the transit district does believe this will benefit RCC Table Rock Campus students. RVTID is also considering options such as using vans to help move students to/from campus. They have tried to reach Amy’s Kitchen but have been unable to speak with anyone.

Dean Wendle asked to receive additional recommendations from staff. Steve Schilling, Dean, School of Science and Technology, has been in meetings with Amy’s Kitchen, and also Dr. Shumate of the Medford School District, wherein discussion occurred about the incredible need for transportation for people who do not have driver’s licenses. Mr. Schilling reported TRC staff support transit service for students.

Discussion occurred regarding the request for the Board of Education’s support of the RVTID measure and listing the RCC Board of Education on another ballot argument when RCC has a measure in the voter’s pamphlet.

Dr. Talbert called for a recess at 5:50 p.m. and reconvened the meeting into open session at 6:03 p.m.

Dr. Talbert asked to resume board discussion. Pat Ashley commented she does not feel comfortable signing the RCC Board onto the RVTID ballot measure as it may be perceived the two measures go together. She does feel, however, that members of the Board, individually, could write supportive statements for the RVTID measure. Dean Wendle clarified this would need to be done individually, under each Board member’s personal name. Tim Johnson and Ron Fox agreed with supporting this on an individual basis.

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Dr. Talbert summarized that several Board of Education members are willing to write letters to the editor and support the RVTD measure on an individual basis. There being no motion for the Board to take formal action at this time, Dr. Talbert thanked Ms. Moro for her presentation and discussing the RVTD measure with the Board.

F. ACCT’s 2016 Governance Leadership Institute

The Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT) 2016 Governance Leadership Institute will be held in Miami, Florida, April 28-30. Board members interested in attending should contact Denise Nelson no later than April 5, 2016.

9. Board Discussion Items - None

10. Approve Consent Agent

Tim Johnson moved, seconded by Dean Wendle, the Board approve the consent agenda as presented:

A. Meeting Minutes

- a. January 19, 2016 Board Meeting
- b. January 29, 2016 Board Meeting (Special Session)
- c. February 16, 2016 Board Meeting

B. Human Resources - None

C. Grants

- a. New Grant
 - 1. High Technology Center Grant from Meyer Memorial Trust Fund of the Oregon Community Foundation
- b. Continuation Grant
 - 1. 2015-17 Career Pathways grant from Office of Community Colleges and Workforce Development

D. Financials

- a. Monthly Financial Data Report – February 2016

The motion unanimously carried.

11. Board Committee/Advisory Reports

A. Jackson/Josephine County Advisory Committees – President Angstadt met with Jackson County members and primarily discussed ideas to get the word out about the bond measure. Josephine County members were unable to meet due to scheduling conflicts.

B. Executive Committee – Vice-Chair Ron Fox reported the committee met to review and discuss the March 15 Program and Board of Education meeting agendas.

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C. Facilities Committee – Dean Wendle reported the College still has some unmet security needs which administration is aware of. He commented it will be important to pay close attention to the facilities items expressed or implied on the proposition.

D. OCCA/OSBA – Tim Johnson reported he attended the OCCA Board meeting in Portland along with Kevin Talbert. At the meeting, the OCCA budget was discussed and will total \$917,000 this coming year. He believes Oregon’s community colleges receive good services for this amount of money and added that OCCA staff does a great job. He also reported that at the OCCA Board Forum, Mount Hood Community College announced that their ballot measure is asking for .31 cents per thousand.

12. **Executive Session** – None

13. **New Business** – None

14. **Old Business** – Dean Wendle reported the 2004 Jackson County bond campaign funding was used for the purchase of Table Rock Campus, and the College was able to use funds remaining from that bond for the RCC/SOU Higher Education Center.

15. **Roundtable**

- Brett Johnson commended the search committee, and everyone involved with the president search, for doing a great job.
- Claudia Sullivan commented that when attending community college conferences, an opportunity occurs to look at other community colleges, and comparatively, she believes RCC is doing a very good job.

President Angstadt provided a reminder that during the February Board meeting, the Board requested staff complete a survey of current tuition and fees at other Oregon community colleges for a comparison to RCC. This task was completed and Lisa Stanton distributed the compiled information to the Board in a document titled “In District/State Tuition and Fees” (see file).

16. **Adjournment** – Dr. Talbert adjourned the meeting at 6:14 p.m.

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