

Yavapai College
District Governing Board
Workshop

Monday, November 14, 2022
9:00 a.m.

Rock House
Prescott Campus
1100 East Sheldon Street
Prescott, Arizona 86301

Members Present:

Ms. Deb McCasland, Board Chair
Mr. Ray Sigafos, Secretary
Mr. Paul Chevalier, Board Member
Mr. Mitch Padilla, Board Member
Mr. Chris Kuknyo, Board Member

Administration Present:

Dr. Lisa B. Rhine, President
Atty. Lynne Adams, Board Attorney
Ms. Yvonne Sandoval, Executive Assistant

MINUTES

1. General Functions: Procedural
 - a. Call to Order {Time: 1}
Chair McCasland called the Yavapai College District Governing Board Workshop to order at 9:00 a.m.
 - b. Adoption of Agenda – **DECISION** {Time: 1}
Secretary Sigafos moved, seconded by Member Padilla, to change the order of the agenda with item 3.a The Association of Community College Trustees Review to be moved after item 3.c. Motion carried unanimously (Ayes: McCasland, Sigafos, Chevalier, Padilla, and Kuknyo).
2. Board Business
 - a. Executive Session – Pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.03(A)(1), Review of President's Employment Agreement – Attorney Lynne Adams - **PROCEDURAL** {Time: 60}
 - b. Executive Session -- Pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.03(A)(3) & (4), Discussion or Consultation for Legal Advice with the Board's Attorney Regarding the President's Employment Contract and to consider its position and instruct its attorney regarding the President's Employment Contract – Attorney Lynne Adams - **PROCEDURAL**
Secretary Sigafos moved, seconded by Member Kuknyo, to go into Executive Session pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.03(A)(1), Review of President's Employment Agreement and A.R.S. §38-431.03(A)(3) & (4), Discussion or

Consultation for Legal Advice with the Board's Attorney Regarding the President's Employment Contract and to consider its position and instruct its attorney regarding the President's Employment Contract. Motion carried unanimously (Ayes: McCasland, Sigafos, Chevalier, Padilla, and Kuknyo).

The Board convened in Executive Session at 9:08 a.m.

- c. Reconvene in Public Session – Attorney Lynne Adams

The Board reconvened in public session at 9:50 a.m.

- d. Possible Action RE: President's Evaluation and Consideration of President's Contract as a result of Executive Session – Attorney Lynne Adams - **DECISION** {Time: 5}
Member Sigafos moved, seconded by Member Chevalier, to instruct the Board's attorney to negotiate a revision to the President's contract regarding termination payments as discussed in executive session, with the revised contract to be approved by the Governing Board at a future meeting.

Member Padilla requested an amendment to the pending motion. Member Sigafos agreed to the amendment, but Member Chevalier did not agree to the amendment.

The initial motion passed 3-2 (Ayes: Chevalier, Sigafos, Kuknyo; Nays: McCasland, Padilla).

Member Padilla moved, seconded by Chair McCasland, to specifically approve a modification only to paragraph 9 of the President's current contract to increase the amount to be paid to Dr. Rhine in the event her employment is terminated on the basis of poor performance only to payments equal to a) two years of her Base Salary or b) 50% of the amount of her Base Salary for the remainder of the Term of the Agreement, whichever amount is greater as of the effective date of termination. This motion replaced and clarified the previously passed motion. Motion passed 4-1 (Ayes: McCasland, Sigafos, Padilla, and Kuknyo; Nay: Chevalier).

Member Padilla moved, seconded by Secretary Sigafos, to approve and adopt the 2022-2023 President's Goals. Motion passed unanimously (Ayes: McCasland, Sigafos, Padilla, Kuknyo, Chevalier).

Short Recess – Workshop recessed at 10:13 a.m. and reconvened at 10:18 a.m.

3. Study Session

- a. Changing Higher Education Landscape - **INFORMATION, DISCUSSION, AND DECISION** – Dr. Lisa Rhine {Time: 120}
 - i. Scott Van Pelt Video

The Board viewed the presentation from Mr. Scott Van Pelt, the Future of Higher Education: A Time for Leadership.

Lunch – Workshop recessed at 11:38 a.m. and reconvened at 12:03 p.m.

ii. A New Infrastructure Presentation

Dr. Rhine provided a presentation on a new infrastructure for the College. She presented on The Great Upheaval book, the education competition in Arizona, and changing technology.

Board Member Kuknyo stated that the statistics provided in the video and from Dr. Rhine show that a change is needed. Chair McCasland stated that the College has an experienced person to guide the College.

Member Chevalier stated that increasing online courses would not work in all courses, but only in the right programs. Member Padilla agreed that online courses will not work in every course, but the College needs to move in a direction that will help the community. COVID-19 has changed everything including education, and the Board needs to trust that Dr. Rhine will move the College forward.

Secretary Sigafos asked what are we in business in? Are we not in six locations (campuses)? How do we adapt those campuses to these new changes? The College's libraries will need to change, and how will we do this and stay within financial requirements? Dr. Rhine stated that the College has made some changes in the priorities for capital expenditures, and the Learning Commons is one of those changes. We are learning the way business is changing for the College and how we need to be nimble do that business to better serve our student and the community.

Secretary Sigafos asked a question about the resolution's wording. He asked what 'infrastructure' meant in articles four and five of the proposed resolution. Dr. Rhine stated that the word 'infrastructure' is meant in a broader sense: Are the industry partnerships in place? Are we growing the non-credit and short-term courses? Are we moving to competency based learning?

Member Padilla asked who would create the program for the metaverse for the College. Dr. Rhine stated that it is the faculty for the specific program who would create the subject content. The learning commons would be the location where the experts would train the faculty on the metaversity.

Member Padilla asked about internet connectivity that would be needed for programs that will be taught in the metaversity. The county has locations where there is no internet/Wi-Fi connection. Chair McCasland suggested partnering with the city/town libraries to provide internet/Wi-Fi connections for students who live in those locations.

Member Chevalier stated that he sees the metaversity expanding the online courses but cautions the College that the metaversity will take us to a point but will not take over the hands-on courses. The College will need to combine the two methods.

- iii. Yavapai College District Governing Board Resolution Directing the President to Create the Necessary Infrastructure to Meet the Changing Needs of Students and Employees – Resolution 2022-10 (*Attached*)
Member Chevalier moved, seconded by Member Padilla, to approve the Yavapai College District Governing Board Resolution Directing the President to Create the Necessary Infrastructure to Meet the Changing Needs of Student and Employees – Resolution 2022-10. Motion carried unanimously (Ayes: McCasland, Sigafos, Chevalier, Padilla, and Kuknyo).

Short Recess – Workshop recessed at 1:07 p.m. and reconvened at 1:15 p.m.

- b. District Governing Board Policies Review - **INFORMATION, DISCUSSION, AND DECISION** – Dr. David Borofsky, Director of the Arizona Association of Community College Trustees {Time: 90}
Dr. Borofsky facilitated a discussion on the Board’s policies and a review of their self-assessment. He reviewed the following areas: A.R.S. Language Title 15, Chapter 12; pertinent Board Policies; Board Assessment comparison from September 2021 – May 2022; areas in which the Board can improve.

Member Chevalier indicated that he believes that his first duty and responsibility are to the people who elected him from District Three. He is responsible for ensuring that they are treated equitably by the College. He continued by saying that the Arizona Association of Community College Trustees (AACCT) Handbook does not address the individual responsibility to the district that a board member is elected from and that the Handbook should address this issue.

Member Chevalier made a statement about Board Policy 101 – College Priorities. He indicated that the policy does not include information from the Scott Van Pelt video and the presentation from Dr. Rhine. He would like the policy to discuss how the College will be delivering some of those new courses. He would also like the Board Policies to be expanded to include more details about the Governing Board’s duties and the President’s duties. Secretary Sigafos stated that policy included in the PowerPoint is not the complete Board Policy 101 – College Priorities and noted that Priority 1: Education has six additional points that are not listed. Those additional points mention the President’s responsibilities to meet the goals for student success.

Dr. Rhine noted that the institutional goals are reflected in the College’s strategic plan, which she brought to the Board, which were developed with the Board, and which were approved by the Board. The Board does have a say in and approval of the direction that all of the College’s the operations align to. Member Chevalier said that more goals need to be included.

Chair McCasland stated that many of the items that are being discussed by Member Chevalier are operational. The Board only has one employee, the President, and the Board has given the President the operational responsibility, as stated in Board Policy 101 – College Priorities. She stated that the Board hires and fires the President, evaluates the President, and approves the College budget.

Member Chevalier suggested that Board Policy 101 – College Priorities needs to be reviewed and edited this year.

Member Padilla commented on the creation of the College. Over time, the College works with the new population growth of the county, and the College tries to address those growths in population, but it does not mean the College should have to duplicate all programs and opportunities in all areas of the county. Member Padilla noted that Member Chevalier understands the Board's policies but just does not accept them.

Member Kuknyo commented on the production of *Hello Dolly*' and noted that everyone in the production was from Yavapai County. It was an excellent production.

Member Chevalier commented on Board Policy 305 – Board Governing Focus & Style. He stated that he is trying to do his best to provide a diversity of viewpoints, as indicated in subpart 2.

In the review of Board Policy 306 – Board Member Code of Conduct & Ethics, Member Chevalier provided his clarification on what he believes what it means by "abiding by the majority's decision." Although you must comply with the majority's decision, it does not mean you agree with the majority's decision, or that you don't say you disagree with it, or that you don't try to change it.

Chair McCasland stated that the Board has the vote on the decision and expressing one's own opinion against sound like undermining the President's authority of the College. The Board had a discussion regarding Board members' disagreements with Board decisions and this policy.

In the review of Board Policy 307 – Board Member Responsibilities and Obligations, Chair McCasland stated that is it clear that each Board member should bring up their views on issues, including the potential impact on their own districts, but the Board votes for the good of **all** the residents of the county. The President follows the Board's decision, and the Board supports the President's operational implementation.

Member Kuknyo commented that the Board needs to plan for the future for the county, and with the President leading the College, who sees what is going on with the future of education, the Board needs to get behind her. This Board should be a functioning board, work together and make concessions when needed, and be happy when the meetings are over.

Member Chevalier discussed his accountability to his district versus his accountability to the county as a whole. Member Kuknyo indicated that he believed that all Board members need to look out for the county as a whole, not just their own districts. Member Padilla asked for the President's response to Member Chevalier's previous comments about the brewery program, so that the record was clear and not just based on Member Chevalier's assertions. President Rhine responded and noted that there was a needs assessment for the program. Member Padilla noted that Member Chevalier continues to bring up past issues and does not really abide by the majority's decision.

In the review of Board Policy 401 – Delegation to and Accountability of President, Dr. Borofsky noted that the Board is doing a very good job, but that it can approve in its operations by letting the past and past decisions go. Chair McCasland stated that the College has a leader – the President – and she is doing a great job of running the College.

c. The Association of Community College Trustees Review – **INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION** – Board Chair Deb McCasland {Time: 30}

Chair McCasland reviewed with the Board the Association of Community College Trustees Conference. She discussed that the conference had very informed sessions.

Member Kuknyo commented on a session he attended about a lunch program that grew into a program that assisted parents with better paying jobs. He also discussed how some of these programs teach parents in eight-week to four-week classes. He stated that he attended the partnership with industry session.

Member Padilla encouraged all board members to attend the conference. The networking between boards from other community college is very beneficial. He attended a few sessions, and one of them was on foster care. He discussed how the kids, once they reach 18-years-old, are cut lose from foster care with only a few resources. A lot of the foster kids fall through the cracks and end up on the streets. The presenting community colleges were assisting these foster kids and mentoring them.

Chair McCasland, Dr. Rhine, and Mr. Jenkins presented at the conference.

Chair McCasland stated that she has learned from the sessions. She attended session on how boards work together.


Secretary Sigafos stated that the Board is becoming an informed Board because the members attend the conferences and classes. He also agreed that networking is very important, and he learned something about foster care. He recommended that the College contact Court Appointed Special Advocates for Children (C.A.S.A.) in Yavapai County. He also indicated that he had attended a legal presentation at the conference, which focused on setting up a pro bono legal advice clinic for students and faculty.

4. Adjournment of Board Workshop: Procedural - **DECISION** {Time: 1}

Member Kuknyo moved, seconded by Secretary Sigafos, to adjourn the Board Workshop. Motion carried unanimously. (Ayes: McCasland, Sigafos, Chevalier, Padilla, and Kuknyo).


Workshop adjourned at 2:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:


Yvonne Sandoval, Recording Secretary

1/31/2023
Date


Ms. Deb McCasland, Board Chair


Mr. Chris Kuknyo, Secretary

