

Whatcom

COMMUNITY COLLEGE

MINUTES

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

Virtual Meeting via Zoom

Wednesday, September 23, 2020

2:00 p.m.

- **CALL TO ORDER** Chair Rebecca Johnson officially called the Board of Trustees meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. Present in addition to the chair were trustees Wendy Bohlke, Steve Adelstein, John Pedlow, and Teresa Taylor, constituting a quorum. Others present included President Hiyane-Brown; Nate Langstraat, Vice President for Administrative Services; Ed Harri, Vice President for Instruction; Luca Lewis, Vice President for Student Services; Eva Schulte, Executive Director for Institutional Advancement; Janis Velasquez Farmer, Interim College Equity Officer; Kerena Higgins, Assistant Attorney General; and Rafeeka Kloke, Special Assistant to the President.

ACTION TO ACCEPT AGENDA

- Trustee Adelstein moved to accept the agenda. It was seconded by Trustee Bohlke and the **motion was approved.**
- Chair Johnson announced that there is a designated time for public comment on the agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA

- **Consent Agenda**
 - a. Minutes of the June 10, 2020 Board of Trustees Meeting and August 12, 2020 Board of Trustees Special Meeting (Attachment A)
 - b. Proposed winter and spring quarter graduates (Attachment B)

Chair Johnson stated: "If there are no objections, these will be adopted." As there were no objections, **these items were adopted.**

- **NSF National Cybersecurity proposal – Corrinne Sande, Director, Computer Sciences and Information Systems\CyberWatch West**

Sande shared a PowerPoint presentation with an overview of cybersecurity initiatives at Whatcom and the grant proposal for an NSF ATE National Cybersecurity Education Center.

The board expressed unanimous support for the grant proposal for an NSF ATE National Cybersecurity Education Center.

➔ **President's Report**

- President Kathi shared that Janis Velasquez Farmer accepted a position with the Bellingham School District. She expressed appreciation for Farmer's contribution to the College and our students. Her leadership and presence will be missed.
- Terri Thayer, Director for Community Standards and Residence Life had accepted the Interim College Equity Officer position. She will continue to spend 25% of her time in her current role and 75% of her time in the new role.

ACTION ITEM

➔ **Proposed 2020-21 WCC Operating Budget – Nate Langstraat, Vice President for Administrative Services (first reading, possible action)**

Nate Langstraat, VP for Administrative Services, shared a PowerPoint presentation with an overview of the proposed 2020-21 WCC operating Budget.

Trustee Pedlow moved to Extend Board Resolution 2020-01 through October 31, 2020, which was adopted on May 13, 2020 to authorize the continuation of the 2019-20 operating budget at a reduced expenditure level in anticipation of state funding reductions. It was seconded by Trustee Bohlke and the motion was approved unanimously.

BREAK

- ➔ The meeting was adjourned for a five-minute break at 3:00 p.m.
- ➔ The meeting reconvened into open session at 3:05 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

- ➔ At 3:05 p.m. the meeting was adjourned for a closed Executive Session of the Board for approximately forty-five minutes to review the performance of a public employee..., and as provided in RCW 42.30.140 (4)(a), to discuss collective bargaining...and ...to discuss with legal

counsel representing the agency matters relating to Litigation or legal risks of a proposed action or current practice that the agency has identified when public discussion of the litigation.

Chair Johnson announced that action was not anticipated. Guests included President Kathi Hiyane-Brown, Vice President Nate Langstraat, Vice President Ed Harri and Assistant Attorney General Kerena Higgins.

The Executive Session adjourned at 3:50 p.m. and the Board reconvened into open session at 3:50 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Chair Johnson called for public comment.
- Suneeta Eisenburg thanked the Board for the opportunity to ask a question. She referenced the minutes from previous meeting in which the public comment period was moved prior to Executive Session and asked if that will occur again in the future. Chair Johnson stated that the Board intends to keep public comment after executive session for future meetings.
- Nate Langstraat shared that he would likely to thank Janis Farmer for her good work and congratulations to Terri Thayer in her new role.

ADJOURNMENT

- There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:55 p.m.



10/14/2020

Chair of the Board

Date



10/14/2020

President and Secretary of the Board

Date

