

MINUTES

BOARD OF TRUSTEES FEATHER RIVER COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

President Elliott called the regular meeting of the Feather River Community College District Board of Trustees to order at 3:07 p.m. on Thursday, March 17, 2011 at Feather River College, Science Room 104, 570 Golden Eagle Avenue, Quincy, California.

Trustees present: Elliott, Sheehan, West, Student Trustee Oliphant

Trustees absent: Schramel, Shamberger

President Elliott announced that the Board of Trustees had met in Closed Session and that no action had been taken.

The regular and consent agendas for the March 17, 2011 meeting at Feather River College, Science Room 104, 570 Golden Eagle Avenue, Quincy, California were approved as presented, (West/Sheehan) unanimous.

The minutes of the Regular Meeting held on February 17, 2011 and the minutes from the Special Meeting held on March 4, 2011 were approved as presented, (Sheehan/West) unanimous.

A. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

Mike Welser, Faculty Union President and Business Instructor, read a letter authored by Judith Andrews, Administrative Office Management (AOM) Instructor, detailing the benefits of the AOM program. The letter also requested that the Board of Trustees consider the ramifications to students if the institution did not have a full-time faculty AOM instructor. Mr. Welser also distributed copies of handouts that addressed the four C's imperative to student learning including critical thinking, creativity, collaboration and communication, and he additionally provided a handout that outlined the values of AFT/CFT #4615's permanent faculty members and their options and ideas for balancing the budget.

Brendan Norris, representing the Alliance for Workforce Development, stated that his office had become aware of the potential for workforce reductions at the College and that he wanted the Board of Trustees and others to be aware of the assistance and services that could be provided to employees should it become necessary. President Elliott and Trustee Sheehan both reiterated that it is the hope of the Board that no layoffs would become necessary and that letters regarding the potential for workforce reductions were preliminary in nature and processed by the District as a matter of legal requirement.

B. CONSENT AGENDA

Ron Taylor, Superintendent/President, noted that with regards to Consent Agenda Item B1b, Ratification of Personnel Actions, there were two backup documentation sheets attached with board packets and that it was the second sheet that was the operative and correctly proposed action item. There being no objection or further discussion, Ratification of Personnel Requisitions, Personnel Actions, Payroll and Commercial Warrants, Budget Transfers, Budget Augmentations/Reductions, and the Ratification of Agreement between MTVN for Provision of mtvU Television Services were approved as presented, (Sheehan/West) unanimous.

C. REGULAR AGENDA

*** 1. Motion Items**

- a) Jim Scoubes, Chief Financial Officer, requested Ratification of Quarterly Financial Status Report. CCFS-311Q for the quarter ending December 31, 2010 (Q2). He explained that the information is reported to the State of California and is related only to the Unrestricted General Fund and that the data is based on a point in time as of the quarter ending December 31, 2010. He additionally stated that there were no significant financial changes to address. After brief discussion and there being no objection, the request for Ratification of Quarterly Financial Status Report CCFS-311Q (Q2) was approved as presented, (West/Oliphant) unanimous.

*** 2. Roll Call Items**

None

3. Special Items/Reports

- a) No Report. Backup documentation to the Presentation of the District's Monthly Financial Status Report was unavailable and the agenda item was tabled.
- b) Ron Taylor provided a brief report for informational purposes on Board Policies BP 2210, Officers, BP 2220, Committees of the Board, and BP 2305 Annual Organizational Meeting for review by the Board of Trustees. There was additional discussion regarding the Board's role in accreditation and Trustee Sheehan asked whether or not there should be more formal recognition of this issue once Board members become members of committees for the different Standards. Dr. Taylor responded that this type of membership would be recognized in the College governance structure and would not be covered under BP 2220, Committees of the Board. President Elliott also requested that Dr. Taylor bring forward for review the policy on public comment to confirm that it is consistent with current practices.

- c) Ron Taylor provided a presentation to those present on regulations and data pertaining to faculty. He stated that at last month's Board meeting there was a report from the faculty on faculty salary levels and the number of full-time faculty, etc. and that he felt it was appropriate to provide the Board context for any decisions that might be made related to these items. He stated that Jamie Cannon, Director of Human Resources, and Jim Scoubes would be providing clarification on the regulations that were alluded to during last month's report and in addition historical points on the topics would be provided to document this information. Ms. Cannon provided a brief presentation on the 75/25 full-time faculty obligation number (FON) noting its background, quick facts, and the College's average since 1988. Jim Scoubes provided a report on Education Code §84362, commonly known as the 50 Percent Law noting that the code requires that a minimum of 50 percent of the District's Current Expense of Education (CEE) be expended during each fiscal year for salaries of classroom instructors. A handout was provided to those present that covered information on the 50 percent law and diagrammed the Feather River College percentage from 2004-05 through 2009-10 which was noted to be above the minimum. President Elliott requested information on who reviews and validates the data on the 50 percent law and Mr. Scoubes responded that the information is certified as being accurate by Dr. Taylor and the Chief Financial Officer and that the financial records are then reviewed and substantiated by Perry-Smith LLP Accountants during the District's annual audit. There was further discussion regarding the issue including an explanation from Mr. Scoubes regarding the percentage point decline over the last five years. In closing comments, Dr. Taylor noted that he believed that the administration and the faculty share an interest in increasing the numbers of full-time faculty positions and staying above the 50 percent law and he added that the number of full-time faculty positions is one measure of the law and the other and more consistent measure would be full-time equivalent faculty load for purposes of looking at the ratio between full-time or part-time faculty in general and the number of students in classrooms.

4. Communications, Presentations, and Reports

a) Board of Trustees

Trustee Sheehan reported that the federal budget does include funding for the Secure Rural Schools Program at a slightly reduced level with discontinuance proposed within five years. He added that whether or not this funding will survive the budget negotiation process remains to be seen.

Student Trustee Oliphant stated that on behalf of ASFRC she wanted to report that ASFRC continues to support students with monthly inexpensive meals and she extended the invitation to faculty, staff, and administrators to join the students if their schedules allowed. She also reported that in response to the March 4th Special Board Meeting and a meeting earlier that

day with Dr. Taylor, ASFRC is looking to plan an educational forum in April after spring break that will address what is happening with the budget and how it is affecting students at the College.

President Elliott reported that trustees are receiving numerous letters from college trustees in response to the upcoming California Community College Trustee board of the Community College League election and he requested that Dr. Taylor bring back a recommended list of candidates in April that reflect small college representation.

b) Associated Students

No Report

c) Academic Senate

Tom Davis, Academic Senate President, stated that he appreciated the presentation given by Dr. Taylor on information regarding faculty and that he has little doubt that the District is legal with regards to what the District is doing. He added that what he would address is that between 2001 and 2010 the institution has experienced a 50 percent increase in student FTES and that his own data might differ somewhat with what was reported in the presentation to be 27 full-time faculty as of last year. He added that he would agree that there has been a large increase in coaches as this was part of the Strategic Plan to increase enrollment through athletics. Mr. Davis also stated that what he does believe is that the College is declining quality-wise in academic areas because there are fewer full-time faculty teaching the programs that need to be taught at the school. He also reported that the Academic Senate will have its second meeting of the month on Monday, March 21st and they will be discussing the topic of equivalencies to the minimum qualifications for faculty who teach at the school. Trustee Sheehan noted that he concurred with Mr. Davis on the issue of full-time faculty in that it seems that over the years the ratio of full-time faculty has changed and he noted that this is a difficult area and one that the District needs to continue to work on and improve.

d) Classified Senate

Connie Litz, Classified Senate President, reported that the Classified Senate met on Tuesday, March 15th and that the emotions, concerns, and frustrations among the classified staff are high. She also stated that although classified staff have been assured that salary and staff reductions will be equitable across-the-board, the small pool of faculty that are up for potential layoff seems to indicate that the burden of reductions will be on the classified staff and this is of great concern to the unit. Ms. Litz also stated that it appears the processes for living within a reduced budget could have been implemented sooner as it has been known for the past year or two that there was going to be a budget crisis. She added that a plan could have been developed and put in place to guide the institution through the difficult budget times ahead. Ms. Litz encouraged the Board of Trustees to meet with the Classified Senate before reductions are decided on so that they will have a better understanding on how it operates and how the reductions will impact

the services provided by the classified staff. In closing report comments, Ms. Litz added that as reductions come to the Board for approval over the next few months, members of the Classified Senate would ask that decisions be made based on data and information of the full impact of the reductions and that the Board's decisions be equitable across the board and allow the classified staff to carry out the mission of the College with the least negative impact. President Elliott stated that equitable reductions are a key point in the process and several options to achieve this will be discussed before moving forward.

e) Instruction

Michael Bagley, Chief Instructional Officer, stated that he appreciated the presentation regarding faculty data and regulations because it's important that everyone be aware of the challenges that Feather River College and all districts are facing with regards to the 50 percent rule and faculty obligation number. Dr. Bagley also stated that he felt that a larger dialog needs to take place on what a sustainable FRC is and that he is aware that Eva Rocke, Sustainability Coordinator, and other are working to address these issues. Dr. Bagley provided an example of the type of concern that currently exists within the faculty arena by stating faculty in the coaching area are worried about program elimination and what would happen if their programs were eliminated. He added that Brian Murphy, Institutional Coordinator recently completed a student athlete profile that reflects one full-time student athlete is generally the equivalent of more than two full-time equivalent regular students when other factors are included. Dr. Bagley also reviewed the latest issue of the Accreditation Update noting that the Phase II of the process is going strong and the first rough draft of the self-study is being reviewed and many individuals are assisting in the location of evidence, verification, and proof for backup documentation to the study.

f) Student Services

Lisa Kelly, Interim Associate Dean of Student Services, reported that six Feather River College students actively engaged themselves in what's happening in Sacramento by attending the "March in March" student protest regarding the increase in student fees, etc. She also reported that ASFRC has allocated funds for an LED sign that will provide information to the rest of the student body on important updates, events and activities happening on campus. Dr. Kelly also reported that the Diversity Committee is sponsoring a film titled "Temple Grandin" on Wednesday, March 30, 2011 at the equine center in recognition of Women's History Month. She additionally reported that she co-chairs the Sexual Assault Awareness Committee with Eva Rocke and that Ms. Rocke recently acquired a small grant to address sexual assault awareness during the month of April. She also informed the Board that AP 5500, Student Conduct, is moving through Cabinet and into the shared governance process for review and eventual approval.

Dr. Bagley noted that he wished to include in his report that retention is another inexpensive way to increase FTES and that Student Outreach and Retention (SOAR) activities have been happening throughout the year

increasing retention by six percent according to data developed by Brian Murphy.

g) Superintendent/President

Dr. Taylor reported that the Feather River College Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE) team won the western regional competition on Monday, March 14th while competing against students from universities in MBA programs and that they look to do as well or better in future competitions. He also reported that the softball and baseball teams are going well with softball standings at 11 wins and 3 losses (information provided by Tess Oliphant) and baseball currently undefeated and ranked tenth in the nation for community colleges. Dr. Taylor also mentioned that FRC's initiative on sustainability won a PhotoVoice award that included a small grant that recognized the initiative's impact in the community. He added that Eva Rocke would likely provide additional information on the award in the near future. Dr. Taylor additionally reported that the Strategic Planning Committee had recently met and discussed developing a timeline process and a strategy for moving forward on strategic reductions and he noted that members of the Strategic Enrollment Management Committee will also play some sort of role in the process.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:38 p.m.

RT/ch