

Navajo County Community College District Governing Board Meeting Minutes

September 19, 2023 – 10:00 a.m.
Little Colorado Campus, Learning Center 109
1400 E. Third St., Winslow, Arizona

Governing Board Member Present: Ms. Kristine Laughter; Mr. Elias Jouen; Mr. Frank Lucero; Mr. Everett Robinson; Mr. Derrick Leslie.

Governing Board Member Absent:

Others Present: President Chato Hazelbaker; Vice President for Learning and Student Services (VPLSS) Michael Solomonson; Vice President for Administrative Services (VPAS) Maderia Ellison; Associate Vice President – Human Resources (AVPHR) Christine Schaefer; Chief Information Officer (CIO) Michael Jacob; Director of Institutional Effectiveness Judy Yip-Reyes; Recording Secretary for the Board Paul Hempsey; David Huish; Rebecca Sweet; Erin Pugh; Katie Matott; Josh Rogers; Thomas Gilmer; Tabitha Stickel; Frank Orona; Michael Broyles; Lia Keenan; Russell Kupfer; Wei Ma; Melody Niesen; Ruth Zimmerman; Jeremy Raisor; Brian De La Cruz; Rebecca Hunt; Janalda Nash; Raeann Brittain; Colleen Marsh.

Agenda Item 1: Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Laughter called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Agenda Item 2: Adoption of Agenda

Mr. Robinson made a motion to adopt the agenda as presented. Mr. Leslie seconded the motion. The motion carried upon a roll-call vote with Mr. Jouen, Mr. Lucero, Mr. Robinson, Mr. Leslie, and Chair Laughter voting in favor. There were no votes against.

Agenda Item 3: Call for Public Comment

None.

Agenda Item 4: Discussion Items

4.A. Standing Presentations:

4.A.1. Financial Position

VPAS Ellison addressed the Board and presented the monthly Financial Position report for the period to July 31, 2023.

4.A.2. NPC Student Government Association (SGA)

No Report.

4.A.3. Faculty Association

No Report.



4.A.4. Classified & Administrative Staff Organization (CASO)

No Report.

4.A.5. Northland Pioneer College (NPC) Friends and Family

Betsy Wilson, Executive Director of Friends and Family, addressed the Board and reported on scholarships and upcoming events. Director Wilson then announced that Friends and Family won an Arizona Association of Lifelong Learning, Champion of the Year award for efforts on a non-food pantry through the College and Career Preparation department, and invited Dr. Tabitha Stickel to speak about the Adult Basic Education efforts at the college.

4.A.6. Human Resources

Written Report.

4.A.7. Construction Report

David Huish, Director of Construction, addressed the Board and provided a report on the construction projects at the college.

4.A.8 Arizona Association of Community College Trustees (AACCT)

Mr. Robinson provided a written report in the packet and highlighted some of the activities from the AACCT retreat in Flagstaff.

4.A.9 President's Report

President Hazelbaker addressed the Board and provided a report on topics including: Strategic Initiatives and Priority Actions; Anthology Implementation; Enrollment; appointment to the Interagency and Community Broadband Advisory Council; and Indigenous People's Day planned activities.

Chair Laughter noted a meeting she had with Keith Watkins from the Arizona Commerce Authority regarding a grant specific to the Kayenta area, reporting that the money could be used for capital outlays, broadband, and other sustainability efforts with \$9 million available.

4.B. Review Budget Calendar and Budget Assumptions

VPAS Ellison provided a first read of the budget calendar and assumptions for the creation of the Fiscal Year 2025 budget, noting the Board would see an action item at the October meeting.

Mr. Lucero asked for an update on the closure of the Cholla Power Plant and any remaining impacts to Property Taxes that would result from the continued removal of assets. VPAS Ellison responded that the college believed the plant would completely close in the 2025 timeframe and impact to property taxes would be known in February each year.

Mr. Jouen asked if larger changes were needed to the budget assumptions, after approved, would the Board be made aware of them. VPAS Ellison responded that if there was a significant impact to the college budget that required a change to the assumptions the Board would be made aware.



Chair Laughter asked for an explanation of the Equalization funding. VPAS Ellison noted how the state calculated this portion of the state appropriations and which counties benefited from the funding.

4.C. Gila Provisional Community College Update

President Hazelbaker provided a written report on activities related to the request from Gila Provisional Community College to partner with NPC on their accreditation efforts. The Board discussed the amount of time and effort NPC would be required to spend on the partnership if formed and the impact to the current Strategic Initiatives that were underway. Board members felt a partnership of this nature would significantly impact the college's ability to complete important actions resulting in a negative impact to students. President Hazelbaker offered to provide that message to Gila leadership.

4.D. Board Self-Evaluation Process

President Hazelbaker noted the start of the Board's self-evaluation and mentioned that Recording Secretary for the Board, Paul Hempsey, would send the evaluation via email and asked for submissions to be complete by Friday, October 27th, 2023. President Hazelbaker also suggested he contact Dr. Borofsky, Director of the Arizona Association of Community College Trustees, to once again facilitate discussion at the November meeting.

Agenda Item 5: Consent Agenda

A. August 15, 2023 Regular Board Meeting Minutes

Mr. Jouen made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Mr. Robinson seconded the motion. The motion carried upon a roll-call vote with Mr. Jouen, Mr. Lucero, Mr. Robinson, Mr. Leslie, and Chair Laughter voting in favor. There were no votes against.

Agenda Item 6: For Discussion and Possible Action

6.A. Old Business

None.

6.B. New Business

6.B.1. Request to approve FY24 Revised Budget

VPAS Ellison presented a revised budget for fiscal year 2024 noting the changes that had been made due to the approval of a state budget, and asked the Board for approval.

Mr. Lucero made a motion to approve the revised fiscal year 2024 budget as presented. Mr. Leslie seconded. The motion carried upon a roll-call vote with Mr. Jouen, Mr. Lucero, Mr. Robinson, Mr. Leslie and Chair Laughter voting in favor. There were no votes against.

6.B.2. Request to Approve Annual SMARTnet Renewal

CIO Jacob addressed the Board and reviewed the request to renew the contract with SMARTnet for support services for another year in the amount of \$89,341.08.

Mr. Lucero made a motion to approve the contract with SMARTnet in the amount of \$89,341.08 as presented. Mr. Leslie seconded. The motion carried upon a roll-call vote with Mr. Jouen,



Mr. Lucero, Mr. Robinson, Mr. Leslie and Chair Laughter voting in favor. There were no votes against.

6.B.3. Request to Increase Funding on Cellular One Agreement

CIO Jacob presented the request to increase funding for the already approved Cellular One Agreement which is required due to the move of the Center in Springerville to a new location. CIO Jacob noted the amount would increase by \$18,700.00 for a new total cost, over three years, of \$889,400.00.

Mr. Lucero asked if this is an expense that is billed to Apache County through the current Intergovernmental Agreement and President Hazelbaker responded that it is.

Mr. Robinson made a motion to approve the increase in funding for the Cellular One contract as presented. Mr. Leslie seconded. The motion carried upon a roll-call vote with Mr. Jouen, Mr. Lucero, Mr. Robinson, Mr. Leslie and Chair Laughter voting in favor. There were no votes against.

Agenda Item 7: DGB Agenda Items and Informational Needs for Future Meetings

Mr. Robinson asked for a report on the Center for Community College Success grant implementation.

Agenda Item 8: Board Report/Summary of Current and Upcoming Events

A list of upcoming events was provided in the agenda for Board Discussion.

Agenda Item 9: Announcement of Next Regular Meeting

Regular District Governing Board meeting on Tuesday, October 17, 2023 at 10 a.m. to be held at the White Mountain Campus in Show Low.

Agenda Item 10: Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:38 a.m. upon a motion by Mr. Robinson and a second by Mr. Jouen. The motion carried upon a roll-call vote with Mr. Jouen, Mr. Lucero, Mr. Robinson, Mr. Leslie, and Chair Laughter voting in favor. There were no votes against.

Respectfully submitted,



Paul Hempsey
Recording Secretary to the Board

