

Navajo County Community College District Governing Board Meeting Minutes

March 19, 2024 – 10:00 a.m.

Painted Desert Campus, Tiponi Community Center Board Room
2251 East Navajo Boulevard, Holbrook, AZ 86025

Governing Board Member Present: Ms. Kristine Laughter; Ms. Rosabel Sekayumptewa; 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; Director of Institutional Effectiveness Judy Yip-Reyes; Farah Bughio, Recording Secretary to the Board; Betsy Wilson; Justin White; Allison Landy; Josh Rogers; Colleen Marsh; Janalda Nash; Russell Kupfer; Norvita Charleston; Katie Matott; Deb Stuart; Robb Floco; Rebecca Hunt; Elizabeth McKey; Shandiin Deputee; Erin Pugh; LaTonya Motley; Amanda Sutter; Charles DiCarlo; Jeanette Hancock; Jeremy Raisor; Lia Keenan; Maria Jaquez; Melody Niesen; Michael Broyles; Natalie Kee; Pamela Dominguez; Ruth Zimmerman; Ryan Jones; Tabitha Stickel; Tamara Osborne; Wei Ma; Karen Baker

Agenda Item 1: Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

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

Agenda Item 2: Adoption of Agenda

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

Agenda Item 3: Call for Public Comment

Robb Floco addressed the Board and gave a presentation about creating an athletics program at Northland Pioneer College.

Agenda Item 4: Discussion Items

4.A.1. Human Resources

AVPHR Schaefer addressed the Board and expanded on the report provided in the packet.

No questions.



4.A.2. Financial Position

VPAS Ellison addressed the Board and expanded on the report provided in the packet.

No questions.

4.A.3. NPC Student Government Association (SGA)

No report.

4.A.4. NPC Faculty Association

LaTonya Motley, Faculty member, addressed the Board with a presentation on Artificial Intelligence in higher education.

Ms. Laughter asked how training would be rolled out to all corners of the District. Ms. Motley responded that she is still taking suggestions for training and implementation. Ms. Motley also stated that there will be an event taking place over the summer with regards to Artificial Intelligence and emerging technology that could potentially be opened to the community.

Ms. Motley requested further feedback from the Board. Ms. Laughter responded that there are organizations that are currently training individuals on Artificial Intelligence and that reaching out to members of the community that are familiar with this technology would be helpful.

4.A.5. Classified & Administrative Staff Organization (CASO)

No report.

4.A.6. Northland Pioneer College (NPC) Friends and Family

Betsy Wilson, Director of NPC Friends and Family, addressed the Board and presented the Arizona Gives Day (April 2nd) website, a place for donations to fund NPC scholarships.

Mr. Lucero asked if NPC Friends and Family qualified under the Arizona State Taxes one for one. Director Wilson responded that NPC Friends and Family did not qualify due to stringent criteria. Director Wilson further stated that all donations were tax deductible due to NPC Friends & Family's 501c status.

Ms. Laughter expressed her gratitude for NPC Friends and Family.

Ms. Sekayumtewa also expressed her gratitude and asked if Donors ask how their money is spent or whom it went too. Director Wilson responded that many of the Donors ask this question and that students who receive scholarships are required to write 'Thank You' letters. Director Wilson also stated that she responds to any inquiry from Donors as well as provides a bi-annual newsletter for Donors.

Ms. Sekayumtewa asked if Director Wilson ever holds fundraising or reception events for Donors. Director Wilson responded that due to the dispersed locations of Donors and students this is not possible.



Ms. Sekayumptewa shared a story of a student whose family had to make financial sacrifices for the student to attend college. Director Wilson responded that she encourages every one to inform students to apply for scholarships as there is enough funding to provide scholarships to those who apply.

Chair Robinson asked if it was better to donate to Arizona Gives Day in advance or on April 2. Director Wilson responded that in the past, NPC Friends and Family have competed for bonuses in early giving, however, it has not been as fruitful as the giving during the 24-hour event which will take place on Tuesday, April 2 this year.

4.A.7. Strategic Planning

Betsy Wilson, Director of NPC Friends and Family and as Chair of Leadership Council, addressed the Board and gave an update on Leadership Council's Strategic Planning.

No questions.

4.A.8 Construction Report

Justin White, Director of Facilities and Vehicles, addressed the Board and provided the report on construction projects at NPC.

President Hazelbaker added an update about minor construction projects that the Board may not be aware of due to the lack of need for Board approval.

4.A.9 Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) Implementation Update

No report.

4.A.10 Arizona Association of Community College Trustees (AACCT)

Chair Robinson announced the ACCT All Trustee's Meeting in Phoenix on April 24, 2024. Chair Robinson reminded the Board that if three or more Board Members would be attending a Notice of Board Activity would need to be issued.

4.B. Primary Property Tax Levy & Rates

VPAS Ellison addressed the Board and expanded on the report provided in the packet.

Mr. Lucero asked for clarification on the actual rate of increase being 4.4%. VPAS Ellison confirmed this was the actual rate of increase.

Chair Robinson asked if VPAS Ellison knew why the centrally assessed value increased so much this year. VPAS Ellison responded that she did not have the specifics as to why but did offer that the growth in state residents has an impact on utilities and other factors which are influential on the increase.

VPAS Ellison stated that this item would return during the April District Governing Board meeting as an action item.



4.C. 2024-2025 Introductory Budget Analysis

VPAS Ellison addressed the Board and expanded on the report provided in the packet.

Ms. Laughter asked if equalization aid was affected by having two counties (Navajo and Apache) in the district. VPAS Ellison responded that while this had an impact there were other factors as well. VPAS Ellison elaborated on some of those factors.

Mr. Lucero asked how Eastern Arizona College was able to receive so much tax money. VPAS Ellison responded that she was not privy to that information. Chair Robinson added that agriculture was assessed at a lower rate in Graham County where Eastern Arizona College is located.

President Hazelbaker asked VPAS Ellison if there was a historical component that contributed, including the year a College was established. VPAS Ellison responded that historical tax values do have an impact but its mostly about current assessed valued.

VPAS Ellison suggested inviting an individual from the Department of Revenue to a future meeting to address questions the Board may have.

4.D. Belonging Committee

Shandiin Deputee, Chair of the Belonging Subcommittee, and Dr. Tabitha Stickel, Associate Dean of College and Career Preparation, gave a presentation on the Belonging Subcommittee.

Ms. Laughter expressed her gratitude for the presentation and the establishment of the Belonging Subcommittee and shared that issues under the subcommittee's purview have been discussed at conferences at the National level.

Chair Robinson recessed for a break at 11:35am.

Chair Robinson reconvened at 11:46am.

Agenda Item 5: President's Summary of Current Events

President Hazelbaker addressed the Board and expanded upon the President's Summary of Current Events.

Ms. Sekayumptewa asked if the 30 students in the Behavioral Health program were NPC students. President Hazelbaker responded that they were NPC students spread across different campuses and that he could provide the numbers at each center if needed.

Agenda Item 6: Consent Agenda

- A. February 20, 2024 Board Meeting Minutes** (Farah Bughio)
- B. Program Modification** - Nursing Assistant Certificate of Proficiency. (Michael Broyles)
- C. Program Modification** - Administration of Justice Studies Program. (Michael Broyles)
- D. Program Modification** - Associate of Science. (Michael Broyles)



E. Board Policies 1402 through 1470

Chair Robinson requested that item E be removed from the consent agenda due to needed revisions.

Chair Robinson called for a motion to approve all items, except item E, on the Consent Agenda.

Mr. Lucero made a motion to approve items A-D. Ms. Laughter seconded the motion. The motion carried upon a roll-call vote with Mr. Lucero, Mr. Leslie, Ms. Laughter, Ms. Sekayumptewa and Chair Robinson voting in favor. There were no votes against.

Chair Robinson reviewed the needed revisions for Policies 1402 – 1470.

Mr. Lucero asked if it was necessary to have an individual's name on the document instead of just a Title. Chair Robinson confirmed that the name of the individual holding that position was required.

Mr. Lucero made a motion to approve Policies 1402-1470 as amended. Ms. Laughter seconded the motion. The motion carried upon a roll-call vote with Mr. Lucero, Mr. Leslie, Ms. Laughter, Ms. Sekayumptewa and Chair Robinson voting in favor. There were no votes against.

Agenda Item 7: For Discussion and Possible Action

7.A. Old Business

None.

7.B. New Business

7.B.1. Request to Accept 2024-25 Salary & Wage Recommendation

President Hazelbaker addressed the Board and expanded on the request to approve the Salary and Wage Recommendation.

Mr. Lucero asked if the changes will help individuals making less than \$50,000 a year. President Hazelbaker responded yes and briefly reviewed the employees that would be affected by this recommendation.

Mr. Lucero made a motion to approve the 2024-2025 Salary and Wage Recommendation as presented. Mr. Leslie seconded the motion. The motion carried upon a roll-call vote with Mr. Lucero, Mr. Leslie, Ms. Laughter, Ms. Sekayumptewa and Chair Robinson voting in favor. There were no votes against.

7.B.2. 2026-2027 Academic Calendar

Wei Ma, Dean of Instructional Innovation, addressed the Board and expanded on the request to approve the 2026-2027 Academic Calendar.



No questions.

*Ms. Laughter made a motion to approve the 2026-2027 Academic Calendar. Ms. Sekayumptewa seconded the motion. **The motion carried upon a roll-call vote with Mr. Lucero, Mr. Leslie, Ms. Laughter, Ms. Sekayumptewa and Chair Robinson voting in favor. There were no votes against.***

7.B.3. Request to Approve Purchase of Laptops

Deb Stuart, Director of Technical Services, addressed the Board and expanded on the request to purchase laptops.

Mr. Lucero asked if purchases of laptops was done on a cycle. Director Stuart responded that this was done in January of last year.

Mr. Lucero asked if this was another group of computers. Director Stuart responded, yes.

*Mr. Lucero made a motion to approve the purchase of laptops as presented. Ms. Laughter seconded the motion. **The motion carried upon a roll-call vote with Mr. Lucero, Mr. Leslie, Ms. Laughter, Ms. Sekayumptewa and Chair Robinson voting in favor. There were no votes against.***

7.B.4. Request to Approve 2024-2026 Course and General Fees

VPAS Ellison addressed the Board and expanded on the request to approve the 2024-2026 course fees and general fees.

Mr. Lucero asked if most of changes weren't very big. VPAS Ellison responded that was correct.

*Mr. Lucero made a motion to approve the Course and General Fees. Ms. Laughter seconded the motion. **The motion carried upon a roll-call vote with Mr. Lucero, Mr. Leslie, Ms. Laughter, Ms. Sekayumptewa and Chair Robinson voting in favor. There were no votes against.***

Agenda Item 8: DGB Agenda Items and Informational Needs for Future Meetings.

No report.

Ms. Sekayumptewa asked if the Strategic Planning work session was the time for discussion on things Ms. Sekayumptewa felt needed adjustment. President Hazelbaker responded that the work session would be a good time for that.

Agenda Item 9: Board Report/Summary of Current and Upcoming Events

Chair Robinson announced the community items in the next month.

Agenda Item 10: Announcement of Next Regular Meeting

April 16, 2024



Agenda Item 11: Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:24 p.m. upon a motion by Ms. Laughter and a second by Ms. Sekayumptewa. The motion carried upon a roll-call vote with Ms. Laughter, Ms. Sekayumptewa, Mr. Lucero, Mr. Leslie and Chair Robinson voting in favor. There were no votes against.

Respectfully submitted,



Farah Bughio
Recording Secretary to the Board

APPROVED

