

**NORTHWEST ARKANSAS COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING  
Monday, October 13, 2008**

**MINUTES**

Chairman Coleman Peterson called the regularly scheduled Board of Trustees of Northwest Arkansas Community College meeting to order on Monday, October 13, 2008, at 4:36 p.m. in Pinnacle Ballroom IV at the Embassy Suites in Rogers, AR.

**Members Present:** Coleman Peterson (Chair), Dr. Les Carnine (Vice-Chair), Robert Teague (Secretary), Joan Clifford, Johnny Haney, Mark Lundy, Joe Spivey, and Alex Vasquez

**Also in Attendance:** Dr. Becky Paneitz and Student Trustee Kelly Henderson

**RECOGNITIONS, AWARDS, AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:**

John Snyder was introduced by Dr. Diana Johnson as the Golden Eagle Award Winner. John was a dislocated worker who came back to school as a non-traditional student. He is a member of Phi Beta Kappa and expressed his appreciation to the faculty and staff at NWACC. He said that he was receiving a top notch education and appreciated the small classes and small campus size. He recently suffered a heart attack and was back to school in just a couple of weeks. Kelly Henderson emphasized that those who know John really look up to him. Mr. Peterson stated that the college should write a book on our Golden Eagle winners and their amazing stories.

Rachel Weber was also introduced by Dr. Johnson as a Coca-Cola Scholarship recipient. Ms. Weber told the Board that this scholarship allows her to be a full time student.

Dr. Rodney Showalter, new Vice President of Finance and Administration, was introduced by Dr. Paneitz. She noted that Dr. Showalter has significant experience with ADHE. Dr. Showalter told the Board that he was delighted to be here and looks forward to becoming part of the NWACC community.

Dr. Paneitz also introduced Tracy Smith as the new Administrative Assistant in the President's Office. Ms. Smith told the Board that she went to a community college and was happy to be here.

Kelly Henderson updated the Board on the Ozark Transit route offered to students. Students have been questioned about their thoughts on the free route and information has been submitted to Ricky Tompkins. She noted that she is interested to see what the findings conclude. Mr. Peterson asked Ms. Henderson what the student's general reaction has been to the Ozark Transit route. She answered that students have showed interest in NWACC having advertising space on the bus.

Ms. Henderson also told the Board that Phi Theta Kappa was sponsoring a coat drive on October 25<sup>th</sup> and the college would be hosting a Community Fall Festival on October 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Dr. John Tuthill presented the Diversity Report to the Board. He said that the minority population rose to 25.5% between spring 2007 and 2008. He noted that the college retains Hispanic and Pacific

Islanders more than the white Caucasian population. He went on to say that the Step-by-Step program at the college was specifically set up for non-English speaking students.

Regarding employment, Dr. Tuthill told the Board that 11.5% of those employed by the college were minority. It was noted that the college had implemented a diversity committee for hiring new employees. He told the Board that the biggest impediment that he sees is that the college can't pay for relocation or travel for interview which forces local searches.

Mr. Spivey asked Dr. Tuthill how NWACC compares on a national average regarding diversity and Dr. Tuthill answered that he had not seen numbers to compare. Mr. Spivey also asked if low African American retention rates could be due to students going to the University of Arkansas. Dr. Tuthill responded that the low number seems to be average and it was probably not due to the University. Ms. Henderson said that maybe programs can be put together for the African American population like what is currently being done for the Hispanic population.

Mr. Vasquez asked if the multicultural center would have information for Hispanics and Hmong. Dr. Johnson answered that yes, over the past year they have. Mr. Haney asked how more money may be made available for these groups and Dr. Johnson said their main funding source is through grants. Dr. Paneitz noted that the college has a good chance at getting the Title III grants this year which may help.

Mr. Peterson told Dr. Tuthill that the report was excellent. He asked that the numbers for the employees get broken down like they are for the students. He would also like to know what jobs the minorities have.

#### **MINUTES:**

Mrs. Clifford moved and Mr. Lundy seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the Board Meeting on September 8, 2008. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **EXECUTIVE LIMITATIONS MONITORING REPORT(S)**

##### **EL-201 Financial Conditions**

Dr. Showalter told the Board that the college is meeting its 6% reserve. The accounts receivable are higher with a \$27,000 rise between the 2006-2007 and 2007-2008 school years. The staff is working to try and collect payment. Dr. Paneitz told the Board that at the upcoming ADHE meeting she expected the reserve balance will be an issue they look into.

##### **APPROVAL OF EL-201**

Mr. Teague moved and Mr. Spivey seconded the motion to approve the EL-201. The motion passed unanimously.

##### **EL-203 Communication and Support to the Board**

Dr. Paneitz told the Board that she tries hard to make sure that the Board knows what is going on at NWACC. She mentioned that Dr. Susan Holmes works on the monitoring calendar. Also, the Board was recently placed on the list to receive the daily announcements via e-mail.

##### **APPROVAL OF EL-203**

Mr. Spivey moved and Mrs. Clifford seconded the motion to approve the EL-203. The motion passed unanimously.

**LAND USE AND FACILITIES COMMITTEE**

Dr. Carnine said that the roof of Burns Hall is finished and the other construction was substantially completed and looks great. He said that they were looking to finish the cost estimations for the new Shewmaker building. He also said that St. Mary's was moving along and Dr. Steve Gates will update further when more information is available. He said they were also looking forward to the Highland Oncology building and what can be done and that the I-540 tunnel is going into bid.

Mr. Vazquez told Dr. Carnine that he thinks the college should consider its own artist for the remodeled and new space. Dr. Paneitz answered that the President's Advisory Council on Art (PACA) has been formed and will be meeting soon to select art. Dr. Carnine told the Board that they could tour the renovated space after the being on November.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT:**

Dr. Paneitz explained to the Board that the major measurable for year one and two were on the "measurable" handout they received. She told them that the benchmarks were still being determined. She told the Board that next month they would be receiving a report from the Learner Community and they will be able to see a little more clearly what the new measurables will look like. Mr. Haney said that for the first measurable he wonders if "in all age groups" should be noted. Mr. Peterson responded that he wanted to acknowledge those in Bella Vista and in Workforce Training. Dr. Carnine said that Dr. Paneitz had mentioned legislative issues and that he thinks that data collection will be a big issue.

**CHAIR'S REPORT:**

Mr. Peterson appointed Mr. Haney, Mr. Spivey, and Mr. Teague to the advocacy committee and Mr. Clifford, Mr. Lundy, and himself to the nominating committee. He told the Board that he was holding Mr. Lundy and Mr. Vasquez for help with the marketing of the college.

The meeting adjourned at 5:57p.m.

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*Mr. Coleman Peterson, Chair*

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*Mr. Robert Teague, Secretary*