

**COCONINO COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD**

**REGULAR MEETING**

**MARCH 22, 2023**



**COCONINO COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE  
DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD  
MARCH 22, 2023**

A Regular Meeting of the Coconino Community College District Governing Board was in person and via interactive video conferencing (Zoom). Board Chair, Dr. Nat White, called the meeting to order at 5:30pm.

PRESENT:           Nat White  
                      Patricia Garcia  
                      Eric Eikenberry (via Zoom)  
                      Patrick Hurley (via Zoom)  
                      Joseph R. Smith (via Zoom)

ABSENT:           None

Also Present: Dr. Eric Heiser (via Zoom), Ms. Kirsten Mead, Ms. Julie Baumgartner, Mr. Keith Becker, Ms. Sarah Benton, Mr. Ryan Bouwhuis, Ms. Colleen Carscallen, Mr. David Cassidy, Mr. Cole Catron, Dr. Adriana Flores-Church, Mr. Doug Friedman, Mr. Larry Hendricks, Ms. Jennifer Jameson, Ms. Kay Leum, Mr. Mark Maciha, Ms. Gio Macry, Ms. Sonni Marbury, Mr. Aaron Rizzeri Mr. Lance Roberts, Mr. Kurt Stull, , Ms. Dianna Sanchez, Dr. Kelly Trainor, Dr. Jami Van Ess , Mr. Bob Voytek, and Mr. Tony Williams.

Reports, summaries, background material, and other documents referred to in these minutes can be found in the March 22, 2023 documents file.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Mr. Patrick Hurley moved to approve the agenda, and Ms. Patricia Garcia seconded the motion. The agenda was approved as presented (Mr. Eikenberry, Ms. Garcia, Mr. Hurley, Mr. Smith, and Dr. White voting in favor).

**ADOPTION OF CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Minutes of a Work Session – February 15, 2023
- B. Minutes of a Regular Meeting – February 15, 2023
- C. Separations/New Hires
- D. Faculty Contracts

Discussion: Chair White asked the Board if they would like to move this item to the regular agenda, not a consent agenda in the future. Mr. Patrick Hurley, Mr. Joseph Smith, and Ms. Patricia Garcia requested to leave Faculty Contracts in the consent agenda, as this is an administrative item.

Mr. Patrick Hurley motioned to approve the Consent Agenda, and Ms. Patricia Garcia seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved (Mr. Eikenberry, Ms. Garcia, Mr. Hurley, Mr. Smith and Dr. White voting in favor).

**INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS**

Mr. Larry Hendricks introduced Mr. Maize Pratt, Mr. David Cassidy, and Mr. Cole Catron, all students at the College.

## **CALL TO THE PUBLIC**

Mr. Cole Catron, a Strengthening Indigenous Student Success (SISS) Peer Mentor, a tutor, and intern in the Business Office, told the Board of the gratitude he has for the opportunities provided to him by the College.

Mr. Bob Voytek, Director of Financial Aid and Veteran's Services at the College, received an email this week from Rusty Findlay, a retired Lieutenant General of the United States Airforce. C4 Vets organizer Mr. Ray Torres passed away on Veteran's Day 2022. The C4 Vets organization is dissolving, but their Board is contributing \$7500 to the College's C4 Vets students, with additional funding coming at a later date. Mr. Torres was instrumental in creating the College's Veteran's Center.

Mr. Voytek told the Board the he recently received the Robert Thompson Memorial Leadership Award for 2021-2022. This is a lifetime leadership award that is given by peers. Ms. Patricia Garcia thanked Mr. Voytek for his hard work and dedication to his job. The Board congratulated Mr. Voytek.

## **CCC EXCELLENCE**

### **A. All-Arizona Academic Team Members – Mr. Tony Williams**

Mr. Tony Williams spoke about the rigorous criteria for selection for academic team scholarship awards that are given each year by the Arizona Board of Regents to exceptional Arizona resident community college transfer students for outstanding academic performance and community service. Winners are selected from Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) applicants in the Fall and are recognized in the Spring. Winners receive scholarships for ten consecutive undergraduate resident semesters, or 60 hours, whichever the student meets first. Mr. Williams introduced Mr. Aaron Rizzieri, PTK advisor and College faculty member.

Mr. Aaron Rizzeri spoke about PTK, a national honor society for community college students the All Arizona Academic Team, and the attendant All Arizona Scholarship, administered by PTK. To receive the All Arizona Academic Team, one must exhibit both excellences of the mind in relation to academic work, excellences of character in relation to effective service. The awardees have exhibited moral virtues such as compassion, patience, and justice concerning community service, as well as intellectual virtues necessary to succeed in more traditional academic disciplines. Additional information can be found in the March 22, 2023 documents file.

- i. Maize Pratt
- ii. David Cassidy

Mr. Cassidy thanked the faculty and the people who work in financial aid and scholarships for helping him get where he is today and is grateful for the support and opportunities provided for students such as himself at the College.

### **B. All USA Academic Team Winner –Dr. Eric Heiser**

- i. David Cassidy

Mr. David Cassidy is one of 20 students nationwide that has been chosen for this honor and he will be traveling to Denver, Colorado, to attend the AACC Conference to be recognized at a breakfast honoring all of the winners. Dr. Eric Heiser will attend with him. This is a tremendous honor, and Dr. Heiser is excited to celebrate with Mr. Cassidy.

The Board expressed the great credit Mr. Pratt and Mr. Cassidy have brought to the College and how rewarding it is to see the kind of dedication and support of the College.

### **C. Facilities Team – Dr. Eric Heiser**

Dr. Heiser recognized the Facilities team for their excellent work dealing with the winter’s historic snow. The work the Facilities team does early in the morning or on days that the campuses are closed, working in some of the worst conditions Mother Nature can throw at us, were still able to have our campuses ready to go. Dr. Heiser thanked facilities and security for accommodating weekend labs and classes that could not be done at any other time and providing excellent service to our students.

Mr. Eric Eikenberry asked if the Facilities team needed additional tools to handle the weather. Dr. Heiser said that they were able to work well with the equipment they have, quickly repairing the trucks when they broke down.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

### **A. Emeritus Status for James Rhodes – Dr. Kelly Trainor**

Jim Rhodes began his teaching career at CCC as a part-time faculty member in 1992. He became a full-time faculty member in 1996 and served in many leadership roles, including Social and Behavioral Sciences (SBS) Area Coordinator and later as Department Chair.

Under Mr. Rhodes’ leadership, the SBS department created four Associate of Arts (AA) programs: Anthropology, Psychology, Sociology, and Social Work. Additionally, under Jim’s suggestion, a linked course was created whereby students were co-enrolled in Advanced Reading Improvement and Introduction to Psychology to improve student content comprehension in psychology. Jim was one of the first teachers of online classes at CCC. His contributions to course design, advising, assessment, and curriculum have strengthened the SBS department and the College.

Additionally, Jim was one of the three primary authors of a Title III Grant to support the creation of CCC’s online teaching program. Jim managed Activity Two of the grant, which provided the training and professional development that was critical to training faculty and support staff with regard to online instruction, which resulted in the creation of the Teaching and Learning Center (TLC). The TLC is now an integral part of faculty training and support.

Michele Metcalf, Lead Faculty for Social & Behavioral Sciences and a faculty colleague of Mr. Rhodes, nominated him for this honor. In addition to providing the narrative above, Michele stated the following in her nominating letter: “I have had the honor to work closely with Jim Rhodes for the last 26 years. Although Mr. Rhodes provides strong leadership, interactions with him reveal an effective balance between a professional demeanor and a genuine concern for others. As Chair, he requested input from his colleagues and listened attentively when receiving that input. With all of my communications with Jim, I have found him fair, equitable, and responsive to the needs expressed. In conclusion, Jim Rhodes has faithfully served students, colleagues, and the College.”

Jim retired from CCC in December 2022.

Mr. Patrick Hurley motioned to approve Emeritus Status for Mr. James Rhodes, and Ms. Patricia Garcia seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved (Mr. Eikenberry, Ms. Garcia, Mr. Hurley, Mr. Smith, and Dr. White voting in favor).

**B. IGA – Spouses of Military Veterans Tuition Scholarship with the Arizona Board of Regents – Dr. Jami Van Ess**

In 2022, the Arizona State Legislature established the Spouse of Military Veterans Tuition Scholarship and appropriated \$10 million to the Arizona Board of Regents (ABOR) who has oversight of the program with CCC serving as an eligible postsecondary institution. The scholarship is a last-dollar scholarship intended to cover all tuition and fees. Recipients must be the spouse of an honorably discharged veteran of the armed forces of the United States and classified as an in-state student.

Details:

1. Limited to not more than four academic years or eight semesters.
2. Used only for a certificate, an associate degree or a baccalaureate degree.
3. Used only to pay tuition and mandatory fees at a university under the jurisdiction of the Arizona board of regents or at a community college as defined in section 15-1401.
4. Tuition scholarships awarded on a first-come, first-served basis.
5. The IGA would remain in effect until June 30, 2027. It has been reviewed and signed by Legal as approved to form.

The Board inquired as to how a student is selected. Dr. Van Ess explained that the College helps identify the students, and ABOR funds the scholarship.

Mr. Eric Eikenberry motioned to approve the Spouses of Military Veterans Tuition Scholarship with the Arizona Board of Regents, and Ms. Patricia Garcia seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved (Mr. Eikenberry, Ms. Garcia, Mr. Hurley, Mr. Smith, and Dr. White voting in favor).

**INFORMATION AND REPORTS**

**Board Reports**

AACCT – Mr. Joseph Smith reminded the Board of the AACCT Trustee Meeting on April 19-20, 2023.

ACCT – Ms. Patricia Garcia reminded the Board of the ACCT National Congress in October and is hopeful to have Trustees present to the attendees. The topic deadline is May 15, 2023. Dr. Eric Heiser and Chair White will bring topic ideas to the April work session.

Alliance – nothing to report

Foundation Board – Mr. Eric Eikenberry asked Ms. Dianna Sanchez to inform the board about upcoming events. Ms. Sanchez invited the Board to purchase tickets for:

Page Golf Tournament: April 1, 2023

Palette to Palate: April 28, 2023

Flagstaff Marathon: November 4, 2023

**Student Services** – Mr. Tony Williams and Mr. Brian Francis

Mr. Tony Williams introduced Mr. Brian Francis to discuss the success of the Strengthening Indigenous Student Success (SISS) center. See the March 22, 2023 documents file for more information.

Successes of SISS include:

- Tutoring services have provided over 250 hours of tutoring since Summer of 2022
- Peer mentors have presented over 20 workshops
- Students have borrowed more than 80 books through the book lending program
- Students have borrowed 12 laptops for the Spring 2023 semester
- 20 calculators have been loaned to students for the academic year
- The Summer Bridge program enrolled 40 students in its first summer, with an 82% completion rate; 38% of those students enrolled full time at CCC, and 32% enrolled part-time
- Surveys and focus groups have provided insight into student success

The Board discussed:

- How does the College find tutors and peer mentors? Mr. Francis found tutors who were already working for the College. The Peer Mentors are students at the College. The goal is to have the Summer Bridge students become Peer Mentors.
- What happens when the grant ends in five years? Mr. Francis is already working on opportunities for writing a grant for the second five years.
- Students coming in from high school need to be taught what it means to go to College. The first-year experience is important for establishing expectations. For intro-level classes, it's important to have instructors with high school experience so they can help the students.
- How the grant is being spent

The Board thanked Mr. Francis and his staff for their hard work on this program and its success and would like to support the program's continuation after the grant ends.

**President's Report – Dr. Eric Heiser**

Dr. Eric Heiser has been working with Dr. Jami Van Ess on the property tax reset in conjunction with the Coconino County Assessor's Office. There is a difference of opinion between the Assessor's Office and the College's legal counsel on when and how much the College can collect the tax reset. The College is statutorily required to submit its budget by June 6, 2023; therefore, there may need special Board meetings in May and June to finalize the budget. The College's concerns are being brought to the Property Tax Oversight Commission, which will hear our case regarding the taxes on new construction and incrementally increasing our tax collection.

The Expenditure Limit is being discussed at an AC4 meeting tomorrow, which may affect the College in the future.

Dr. Heiser has heard from community members that they are very happy to hear about new programming and the level at which the College engages with them. The College has a great reputation and it has made it easier to have people to want to speak with him.

**AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS**

- The Board would like to have Brian Francis speak to the board about how they can help with budgeting to continue the grant after the five years expires

- The ACCT National Congress is in October, and Ms. Patricia Garcia is hopeful to have Trustees present to attendees. Dr. Eric Heiser and Chair White will bring topic ideas to the work session.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The next District Governing Board meeting will be April 12, 2023.

The next Foundation Board meeting will be March 28, 2023.

**MEETING EVALUATION**

ADJOURNMENT: Mr. Eric Eikenberry motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:25 pm. Ms. Patricia Garcia seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved (Mr. Eikenberry, Ms. Garcia, Mr. Hurley, Mr. Smith, and Dr. White voting in favor).

**MINUTES PREPARED BY:**

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Ms. Kirsten Mead  
Board Recorder

**ATTEST and APPROVED:**

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Mr. Joseph R. Smith  
Vice Chair/Secretary of the Board

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Dr. Nat White  
Board Chair