

Navajo County Community College District Governing Board Meeting Minutes

January 21 – 10:00a.m.

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

Governing Board Member Present: Chair. Everett Robinson, Ms. Kristine Laughter; Mr. Frank Lucero; Mr. Derrick Leslie; Ms. Rosie Sekayumtewa

Governing Board Member Absent:

Others Present: President Von Lawson; VPLSS Michael Solomonson; CIO Michael Jacob; Betsy Wilson; Judy Yip-Reyes; Norvita Charleston; Tabitha Stickel; AVPHR Christine Schafer; Amanda Sutter; Colleen Marsh; Katie Matott; Josh Rogers; Justin White; Russell Kupfer; Allison Landy; Michael Broyles; Maria Jaquez; Paul Hempsey; Ruth Zimmerman; Talaina Fisher; Farah Bughio; Karen Zimmerman; Tamara Osborne; Wei Ma; Cynthia Blevins; Lia Keenan; Michael Colwell; Melissa Willis; Melody Niesen; Kate Buckhorn;

Agenda Item 1: Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

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

Agenda Item 2: Adoption of Agenda

Chair Robinson asked if there was a motion to adopt the agenda. Mr. Leslie made a motion to adopt the agenda. Ms. Sekayumtewa seconded the motion.

The motion carried upon a roll-call vote with Mr. Lucero, Mr. Leslie, Ms. Laughter, Ms. Sekayumtewa and Chair Robinson voting in favor. There were no votes against.

Agenda Item 3: Election of Board Officers and AACCTT Representatives

Chair Robinson asked if there was a nomination for Chair of the Board. Ms. Laughter nominated Mr. Robinson for Chair. Mr. Lucero seconded the motion. *The nomination carried upon a roll-call vote with Mr. Lucero, Mr. Leslie, Ms. Laughter, Ms. Sekayumtewa. Chair Robinson abstained. There were no votes against.*

Chair Robinson asked if there was a nomination for Secretary of the Board. Mr. Leslie nominated Ms. Laughter for Secretary. Ms. Sekayumtewa seconded the motion. *The nomination carried upon a roll-call vote with Mr. Leslie, Ms. Sekayumtewa and Chair Robinson voting in favor. Ms. Laughter abstained. Mr. Lucero voted against.*

Chair Robinson asked if there was a nomination for AACCT Representative. Ms. Laughter nominated Mr. Leslie for AACCT Representative. Ms. Sekayumtewa seconded the motion. *The*



nomination carried upon a roll-call vote with Mr. Lucero, Ms. Laughter, Ms. Sekayumptewa and Chair Robinson voting in favor. Mr. Leslie abstained. There were no votes against.

Chair Robinson asked if there was a nomination for an alternate AACCT Representative. Ms. Sekayumptewa nominated Ms. Laughter as an alternate. Chair Robinson seconded the motion. *The nomination carried upon a roll-call vote with Mr. Leslie, Ms. Sekayumptewa and Chair Robinson voting in favor. Ms. Laughter abstained. Mr. Lucero voted against.*

Agenda Item 4: Call for Public Comment

None.

Agenda Item 5: Discussion Items

5.A.1. Financial Position

Director Russell Kupfer expanded on the report provided in the packet.

No questions.

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

No report.

5.A.3. NPC Faculty Association

No report.

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

CASO President Melissa Willis gave an update on payment in arrears and an upcoming Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) discussion. Kate Buckhorn gave an overview of the Office of Accessibility and Inclusion (OAI).

Mr. Lucero stated that he disagrees with a straight COLA for all employees. Ms. Willis responded to his concern. Mr. Lucero added that employees at NPC make more money than anyone else in Navajo County. Mr. Lucero further stated that the additional 1% COLA was taken away from the Board for approval. Ms. Laughter asked why it was taken from the Board. Mr. Lucero stated that only Chair Robinson was consulted. Chair Robinson intervened and explained the sequence of events regarding a reconsideration of the COLA. Chair Robinson asked Ms. Willis to work with the Compensation Committee for this year's COLA. Ms. Laughter asked AVPHR Schaefer to be involved in those discussions. Both Ms. Willis and AVPHR Schaefer stated they would comply with these requests.

Ms. Laughter asked if there were physical postings of OAI at the campuses and centers and who the resources were for each location. Ms. Buckhorn responded with how resources are shared with students.

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



Betsy Wilson, Director of NPC Friends and Family gave an update on scholarships and NPC Friends and Family.

Ms. Sekayumptewa asked if it was a consideration that no students at Hopi applied for scholarships. Director Wilson responded that there is low enrollment at Hopi and students at this location aren't applying.

Ms. Laughter informed President Lawson of her experience with scholarships at Kayenta and asked President Lawson to create a workshop for essay writing for students. She further stated that campus managers don't appear to be informed on scholarship resources. Director Wilson responded with a suggestion to view the scholarship website where lots of resources are available.

5.A.6. Strategic Planning

Director Betsy Wilson gave an update to the 2025-2030 Strategic Plan.

No questions.

5.A.7. Human Resources

AVPHR Christine Schaefer elaborated on a report provided in the packet.

No questions.

5.A.8. Construction Report

Director Justin White gave the Board an update on construction projects.

Mr. Lucero asked when classes would start at the new PDC automotive center. Director White responded in August.

Mr. Lucero Asked how long construction would take on the Blunk Building. Director White responded 1.5 year.

Mr. Lucero asked if the cosmetology building would take two years for construction. Director White responded it would take less time.

Mr. Lucero asked if there was a plan for the space where the modular buildings currently are. Director White responded that there is not a plan yet.

Chair Robinson asked if the Goldwater walkway would be enclosed. Director White responded with the plan for construction.

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

Project Manager Colleen Marsh elaborated on the report provided in the packet.

No questions.



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

Derrick Leslie gave an update.

Agenda Item 6: All Arizona Academic Team

All-AZ Advisor, Michael Colwell, elaborated on a report provided in the packet.

Chair Robinson asked for an invitation. Michael Colwell gave Board members flyers for the event.

Agenda Item 7: Review Budget Information

Director Kupfer elaborated on information provided in the packet.

Mr. Leslie asked if the Compensation Committee has already met. Director Kupfer responded no.

Agenda Item 8: Tower Project Update

CIO Michael Jacob elaborated on a report in the packet.

Ms. Laughter expressed concern over internet outages on Tribal lands.

Agenda Item 9: Consent Agenda

- A. **November 15, 2024 Special Meeting Minutes** (Farah Bughio)
- B. **November 19, 2024 Board Meeting Minutes** (Farah Bughio)
- C. **November 25, 2024 Special Meeting Minutes** (Farah Bughio)
- D. **December 19, 2024 Special Meeting Minutes** (Farah Bughio)
- E. **Intergovernmental Agreement** between Navajo County Community College District and Northeastern Arizona Law Enforcement Training Academy for the White Mountain Apache Tribe.
- F. **Intergovernmental Agreement** between Navajo County Community College District and Northeastern Arizona Law Enforcement Training Academy for the City of St. Johns.
- G. **Program Modification** – Early Childhood Education (BAS-ECE). (Michael Broyles)
- H. **Program Modification** – Elementary Education (AAEE). (Michael Broyles).

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

Agenda Item 10: For Discussion and Possible Action



10.A. Old Business

10.B. New Business

10.B.1. Request to Accept Grant Funds for the Nurse Education Investment Pilot Program

Dean of Nursing, Ruth Zimmerman, requested that the Board accept grant funds.

No questions.

*Mr. Lucero made a motion to accept grant funds in the amount of \$666,320. Mr. Leslie seconded the motion. **The motion carried upon a roll-call vote with Mr. Lucero, Mr. Leslie, Ms. Sekayumptewa, Ms. Laughter and Chair Robinson voting in favor. There were no votes against.***

10.B.2. Request to Approve Changes to Policy 1048

VPLSS Michael Solomonson asked the Board to accept changes made to Policy 1048.

No questions.

*Mr. Leslie made a motion to accept changes made to Policy 1048 Ms. Laughter seconded the motion. **The motion carried upon a roll-call vote with Mr. Lucero, Mr. Leslie, Ms. Sekayumptewa, Ms. Laughter and Chair Robinson voting in favor. There were no votes against.***

10.B.3. Request to Approve Additional Fees for Goldwater Addition

Director Justin White requested the Board approve additional fees for the Goldwater addition.

No questions.

*Mr. Lucero made a motion to approve additional fees in the amount of \$28,650. Ms. Laughter seconded the motion. **The motion carried upon a roll-call vote with Mr. Lucero, Mr. Leslie, Ms. Sekayumptewa, Ms. Laughter and Chair Robinson voting in favor. There were no votes against.***

10.B.4. Request to Approve Job Order Contract for PDC Automotive Project

Director White requested the Board approve a Job Order Contract for construction.

Mr. Lucero asked if the fee would cover everything. Director White responded that there have been unforeseen costs on other projects.

Mr. Lucero asked if was possible that not all of this fee would be required. Director White responded yes.

Chair Robinson asked if lifts would be covered in this contract. Director White responded no, but that NAVIT would be covering equipment costs.



Chair Robinson asked about completion time. Director White elaborated on the timeline.

*Mr. Lucero made a motion to approve the JOC in the amount of \$1,397,884. Ms. Laughter seconded the motion. **The motion carried upon a roll-call vote with Mr. Lucero, Mr. Leslie, Ms. Sekayumptewa, Ms. Laughter and Chair Robinson voting in favor. There were no votes against.***

10.B.5. Request to Approve Additional Fees for PDC Automotive Project

Director Justin White requested the Board approve additional fees for the PDC Automotive Project.

No questions.

*Mr. Lucero made a motion to approve the additional fees in the amount of \$75,599. Ms. Laughter seconded the motion. **The motion carried upon a roll-call vote with Mr. Lucero, Mr. Leslie, Ms. Sekayumptewa, Ms. Laughter and Chair Robinson voting in favor. There were no votes against.***

10.B.6. Executive Session 1.

The Board voted to enter Executive Session at 11:40am.

*Ms. Laughter made a motion to enter into Executive Session 1. Ms. Sekayumptewa seconded the motion. **The motion carried upon a roll-call vote with Mr. Lucero, Mr. Leslie, Ms. Sekayumptewa, Ms. Laughter and Chair Robinson voting in favor. There were no votes against.***

10.B.7. Action from Executive Session 1.

There was action taken.

Agenda Item 11: DGB Agenda Items and Informational Needs for Future Meetings.

Mr. Leslie requested information on how signed Executive Orders affect NPC.

Chair Robinson requested information on the distinction between centers and campuses according to HLC.

Ms. Sekayumptewa requested a Board retreat, possibly for March.

Agenda Item 12: Board Report/Summary of Current and Upcoming Events

Agenda Item 13: Announcement of Next Regular Meeting

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Northland Pioneer College

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February 18, 2025

Agenda Item 14: Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:43 p.m. upon a motion by Mr. Lucero and a second by Ms. Laughter. The motion carried upon a roll-call vote with Ms. Sekayumptewa, Mr. Leslie, Mr. Lucero, Ms. Laughter and Chair Robinson voting in favor. There were no votes against.

Respectfully submitted,



Farah Bughio
Recording Secretary to the Board

Approved

