

ISOTHERMAL

COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
JANUARY 30, 2024

The Board of Trustees of Isothermal Community College met on Tuesday, January 30, 2024, at 12:30 p.m. at Isothermal Community College's Rutherford Campus in Spindale, NC. The following trustees were present: Bill Miller, Chivous Bradley, Dave Hunt, Grady Franklin, Jackie Godlock, James Hutchins, John Condrey, Eddie Holland, Marche Pittman, Roger Jolly, Seema Daigle, Amy Jenkins, and David Scherping. The following personnel were present from the College: President Margaret Annunziata, Amy Penson, DeeDee Barnard, Greg Thomas, Leeann Cline-Burris, Mike Gavin, and Thad Harrill. Dean Shatley of Campbell Shatley, PLLC was in attendance.

Chairman James Hutchins called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone to the first meeting of 2024.

Ethics Statement

Mrs. Jackie Godlock asked Board members if they knew of any actual conflict of interest or the appearance of a conflict of interest which exists concerning any matter coming before the Board of Trustees. No conflicts were noted.

Chairman Hutchins announced that the SGA President, Mr. Francisco Chavez has been very active in attending meetings over the last year and due to new state legislation, that seat will be optional and must be approved by the Board of Trustees prior to July 01, 2024.

Agenda Confirmation

Chairman Hutchins presented the agenda with an addition of the appointment of an ad hoc committee to review the Board of Trustees Bylaws. After no objections, the agenda was approved by unanimous consent.

Consent Agenda

Chairman Hutchins presented the Consent Agenda containing meeting minutes from the regular meeting on December 12, 2023, gifts and donations, and the budget revisions. The consent agenda was approved by unanimous consent.

Trustee Items

Chairman Hutchins gave the Executive Committee report. He made a motion to approve subsections three and four of the Human Resources section in the policy manual. Dr. Annunziata reviewed the timeline and process of the policy review and revisions. In addition,

she discussed that policy templates were provided by Campbell & Shatley, LLC and that faculty and staff were given an opportunity to provide feedback. After discussion on the changes, Mr. John Condrey seconded the motion, and the policies were unanimously approved.

Chairman Hutchins made a motion to approve the Holiday Schedule for 2025. After discussion, the motion was approved by unanimous consent.

Mr. Chivous Bradley gave the Facilities Committee report. He announced that the Committee met on January 5, 2024, with Derek Hunter and Brad Lockwood and reviewed the Design Build construction process that Wayne Community College used in the construction of a new facility. Mr. Bradley discussed the partnership between the college with the architect and the contractor under the design build process and the benefits of the process. On behalf of the Facilities Committee, he made a motion to recommend the design build process for the Health and Sciences facility. Mr. Dean Shatley reviewed the differences between the design build process and the design bid build process. He announced that the major difference is that the design bid build process is decided based on the lowest bid. The design build process is decided based on qualifications and the pricing and schedule are established at the onset of the project in the contract. In addition, he reviewed how the contracts with the design build process are negotiated and that firms prior to submitting their bid of qualifications know some of the budgeting details. Mr. Dave Hunt informed the Board of Trustees that as a member of the Facilities Committee and being present for the presentation, he endorses the design build process. In addition, Mr. Hunt discussed the impact of getting students in the facility a couple years sooner than the length of time the design bid build process takes from start to occupancy. In addition, Mr. Hunt announced that Rutherford County and the town of Rutherfordton have plans for the Rutherford Learning Center which currently houses the nursing programs for the College. Mr. Dave Shering, also a member of the Facilities Committee, discussed his concern that with the design build process, the costs and budgets are not posted. Mr. Hutchins announced that with the vacancy in the Vice President position, the Committee has discussed hiring a consultant to oversee the project if a replacement is not in place prior to the start of the project. The design build process was unanimously approved.

Mr. Chivous Bradley made a motion to approve the bid recommendation from AME Engineering Consults of Pyatt Heating and A/C Company for the Student Center HVAC replacement/project 23002. Mr. Dave Hunt seconded the motion. Dr. Annunziata announced that the bid in the amount of \$1.5 million will be funded in part through federal funds that must be encumbered by the end of the fiscal year. She announced that the College only received one bid for the project, but that the College has worked with Pyatt Heating and A/C Company on other projects. The motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Bradley informed the Board of Trustees that the roofing replacements for the IT Building and the Performing Arts Center were completed with a final cost of \$9,000 under budget.

Mr. Dave Hunt announced no report from the Finance Committee. He has invited all the Board of Trustees members to attend an upcoming Finance Committee meeting.

Mr. Roger Jolly announced no report from the Personnel Committee.

Dr. Seema Daigle gave the Programs Committee report. She made a motion to approve the Computer Aided Drafting Technology program that allows for more technical resources and teaching aids within the program. Mr. Bill Miller seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Dr. Daigle informed the Board of Trustees that the Programs Committee reviewed the recommendations for terminating the following programs.

- Associate in fine arts in Music – A10700
- Business Administration – Office Management – A25120F
- Business Administration – General Business Specialty A25120G
- Business Administration – Hospitality Specialty – A25120H
- Business Administration – Small Business Management – A25120S
- Information Technology Game and Simulation – A25590G
- Manufacturing Technology – A50320
- Mechanical Drafting – A50340
- School – Age Education – A55440

Dr. Annunziata announced that most of the terminated programs are being offered through a track within the parent program. In addition, the mechanical drafting is being replaced with the new Computer aided Drafting Technology program. The Associate Degree in Fine Arts Music is recommended for termination due to low enrollment, but students may pursue an Associate in Arts degree with a music track. Dr. Annunziata discussed Isothermal establishing programming based on job placement and graduates being able to make an economically sustaining wage. She announced that the College will continue reviewing programming at the college.

Dr. Daigle made a motion to approve the terminations and Mr. Bill Miller seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Chairman Hutchins appointed the following Board Members to the Nominating Committee:

- Roger Jolly, Chair
- Jackie Godlock
- Eddie Holland
- Amy Jenkins
- Marche Pittman

Chairman Hutchins informed the Board of Trustees that with new legislation impacting the Board's Bylaws and membership, he is appointing an ad hoc committee to review and make recommendations. He appointed the following Board Members to the Board Bylaws Review Committee:

- John Condrey, Chair
- Grady Franklin
- Bill Miller

- Marche Pittman

President's Report

Dr. Annunziata gave the President's report and welcomed Mrs. Amy Penson as the interim Chief Financial Officer for the College until a replacement is employed for the Vice President of Administrative Services.

Dr. Annunziata reviewed the proposed funding model that the NC Community Colleges State Board and the NC Community College Presidents' Association are recommending to the General Assembly that aligns programming with economic development and job demand. Dr. Annunziata reviewed the impact of the proposed funding on Isothermal Community College. The Board of Trustees discussed how this model is more comparable to statewide job market data instead of the local or regional job market data. Dr. Annunziata discussed that Isothermal Community College will have a constant review of programming to align with local and regional job market demand or trends. The Board of Trustees discussed how the new funding model will impact the technical and transfer programs. In addition, the Board of Trustees discussed technical programming aligning with job market demand and the types of information available to the College on local and regional demand. Dr. Annunziata informed the Board that the College has advisory committees made up of community and business partners that assist the college in developing programming.

Dr. Annunziata presented the proposed amendment to the employment and hiring process for the president that is being considered by the North Carolina State Board of Community Colleges. The Board of Trustees discussed how the proposed code eliminates action from the local Board of Trustees and gives the State Board of Community College the final say in hiring or extending contracts of presidents. Dr. Annunziata announced that the Board may contact the NC Association of Community College Trustees to voice concerns regarding the proposal. In addition, Mr. Shatley announced that the State Board will have a public comments period when they consider new codes.

Dr. Annunziata announced that interviews are scheduled this week with four individuals for the Vice President of Operations position.

Dr. Annunziata announced that the College is hosting a fundraiser for the new Health and Sciences facility on March 02, 2024, and that the Board of Trustees received an invitation to the fundraising event that will highlight the new Health and Sciences facility and the impact on the community.

After reminding the Board of upcoming events, the meeting adjourned.



CHAIRMAN
MR. JAMES HUTCHINS



PARLIMENTARIAN/SECRETARY
MRS. JACKIE GODLOCK