

AADGB

ARIZONA ASSOCIATION OF DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARDS

Minutes, March 6, 2014

Maricopa Community Colleges District Conference Room

2411 W. 14th St., Tempe, AZ 85281

AADGB MEMBERS PRESENT: Doyle Burke (Chair, Maricopa District), Lloyd Hammonds (Vice Chair, Coconino District), Judy Selberg (Secretary-Treasurer, Mohave District), Brenda Even (Pima District), Dennis Nelson (Cochise District), Gladys Christiansen, Central District), Dale Fitzner, Yavapai, by phone), Maria Chavoya (Arizona Western) Lance Layton (Graham District, by phone) Nat White (Coconino District, Alternate)

AADGB MEMBERS ABSENT: Ginny Handorf (Navajo District)

GUESTS: Marcelino Varona (Santa Cruz District), Kristen Boilini, Jane Strain (Cochise District)

Doyle Burke called the meeting to order at 10:03 a. m. and verified a quorum.

APPROVE AGENDA: Gladys Christenson moved, Brenda Even seconded, a motion to approve the agenda. **Passed unanimously.**

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE: Kristen Boilini, who serves as a government relations person for the Arizona Community College Coordinating Council, provided an update on various bills. The Legislature is involved in a conflict regarding Common Core and on funding for the PARC examination. She indicated that the budget for community colleges did not show significant increases from last year, despite efforts to increase STEM funding for all ten districts. ABE funding, however, was still included in the budget.

ACCCC STATUS: Ms. Boilini reported that college presidents/CEO's were finalizing the job description for an ACCCC Director, and that the job would be posted in March or April, with hopes of appointing a Director in early summer. The position will likely be full time.

BUDGET: AADGB currently has over \$40,000 in the bank, and members began a discussion of uses of those funds. One suggestion was to pay expenses for a small traveling group to attend board meetings of other districts. Another suggestion was to produce a budget according to the mission of AADGB. Lloyd Hammonds moved, Judy Selberg seconded, a motion to appoint a budget committee to make budget recommendations at the May meeting. **Passed unanimously.** The committee will be chaired by Lloyd Hammonds and will include Maria Chavoya and Gladys Christiansen.

COMMUNICATIONS: Members looked at previous suggestions regarding communications, but discussion quickly led to the idea of forming a committee to bring suggestions to the group. Dale Fitzner moved, Judy Selberg seconded, a motion to form a communications committee.

Passed unanimously. Doyle Burke appointed Maria Chavoya to chair the committee and appointed Dennis Nelson and Dale Fitzner as members.

GISS: Members discussed a proposal generated by an ad hoc group of trustees in Washington, D. C. to hold a Governance Institute for Student Success for Arizona trustees. Members raised several questions about costs to districts, about the minimal number of trustees required to attend from a district, and about the required number of years for the institute. Doyle Burke volunteered to send Dr. Narcisa Polonio of ACCT a list of members' questions and to place the GISS discussion on the agenda for the next meeting.

AD HOC DISCUSSION ON COMMUNITY COLLEGE ISSUES: A group of trustees gathered in Washington, D. C. to discuss issues relating to Arizona community Colleges. Out of that conversation, one recommendation was to meet with presidents and CEO's to discuss items of trustee interest. At the AADGB meeting, members discussed the relationship of boards with ACCCC, wondering where trustees stood in relation to the new organization. It was suggested that the new ACCCC Director could provide a linkage to AADGB and presidents/CEO's and that the ACCCC Director could assist the AADGB. One suggestion was to hold joint meetings of AADGB and ACCCC to establish a more consistent relation among AADGB and presidents. Another suggestion was to hold a statewide workshop for trustees. One suggestion was to study the ACCCC organization chart to understand AADGB's position. Another suggestion was to host a social get-together between AADGB members and ACCCC presidents/CEO's.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE: Doyle Burke proposed to appoint a nominating committee for May elections of officers, but discussion issued regarding our by-laws. Chair Burke proposed that a study of by-laws was in order before appointing the committee and pledged to send information to members following the meeting.

COLLEGIATE SHARING:

SANTA CRUZ: Marcelino Varona reported that enrollment was up twenty-four percent in the spring, that the district had employed a financial advisor to plan for a Physics Building, and develop a strategic plan for growth. Santa Cruz County has a taxing structure similar to Coconino Community College District.

COCONINO: Lloyd Hammonds reported on significant budget cuts because of the failed budget override. The district will cut its Nursing Program in half and will eliminate programs in low-demand areas, the Small Business Development Center, and Corporate Training and Learning. The instructional site at Page will be reduced and offer fewer services. On the other hand, enrollment is strong.

CENTRAL ARIZONA: The District will vote to increase property taxes by two percent and raise tuition for \$5.00 next year. The district will not increase salaries, except for adjuncts.

YAVAPAI COLLEGE: Yavapai College will have the Oath of Office administered to its newly appointed board member, Albert Filardo, at its March meeting in Sedona. Former board member, Bob Oliphant, resigned in January to pursue other projects.

Student enrollment has maintained the same level over the past year but is not currently increasing in numbers.

MOHAVE: Mohave Community College Board Members held their Spring Workshop on Wednesday Feb. 26th in new Legacy Building Conference Room on the Bullhead Campus. Our agenda included the following topics:

- Single/One Stop Student Resources. We covered student background statistics, concerns (performing “least favorably” in helping students cope with non-academic responsibilities such as work and family; tri-city ranked as fifth poorest area in the nation and the average reasons for student incompleteness being job demands, emotional issues, low socioeconomic status, and student family issues). We talked about expanding resources to cater to issues outside of academic that affect performance and retention. We are looking at hiring a third-party company with trained professionals that can assist with life issues and that can offer a comprehensive reporting mechanism. We will focus on students who have abandoned programs when close to completion.
- Local preference procurement information: The lawsuits that aim to stop unconstitutional bid preference policies.
- Another issue under study is that of “non-competition” statute re local business and college programs. In other words, can our college offer programs that compete with private enterprises such as dance studios.
- Board members reviewed the various faculty evaluations and continuous employment timelines for resident and associate faculty.
- We are reviewing our revenue and expense sources as a preliminary budget consideration for the construction of new and improved buildings, specifically for the Kingman campus. We did a financial analysis of early bond payoffs.
- Strategic Plan updates (2013-16). We looked at metrics, goals and implementation activities. Retention is still the main topic of discussion and focus. Enhancing practices that promote high quality online course development is also a major focus. We are looking at implementing a formal instructor mentoring program.
- Board Self-Evaluation: This is an annual event, begun five years ago. We will complete the self-evaluation and then meet to discuss and compute scores. Each Board member completes the evaluation in the first person (“I”).

These workshops are important to us and all board members attend with few exceptions. We look forward to the next one in the fall. The agenda is compiled by board members and administrative staff to meet the needs of both board members and administration/staff.

MARICOPA COMMUNITY COLLEGES

The Maricopa Community Colleges currently has received considerable press regarding IT. Our system was breached, resulting in our having to spend several million dollars on IT security, legal representation, and support for employees and students. The Board has been asked to consider a \$5.00 per hour tuition increase and a tax increase to meet budget needs for 2014-5. In January, Dana Saar was elected Chair of the Board, and Randolph Lumm was elected Secretary. Alfredo Gutierrez, who formerly served as President of the Arizona Senate for several years, was named to fill the seat in District 5, formerly held by Ben Miranda, who died in late 2013. Mr. Gutierrez’ term ends December 31, 2014, but he is eligible for re-election to fill the last two years of the term. In the 2014 election, we currently expect two additional Board members to be elected at large, i. e. , representing the District countywide, as opposed to a supervisorial district. However, a lawsuit has been filed to negate the addition of at-large members. Our Corporate College recently developed a Memorandum of

Understanding with the city of Tempe, with plans to build a structure for corporate training adjacent to the Tempe Arts Center.

