



Gillette Community College District
Regular Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, February 23, 2022, 11:30 a.m.
Gillette College Tech Center, Pronghorn Board Room

Trustees Present

Robert Palmer, Chair
Olin Oedekoven, Vice Chair
Alison Gee, Treasurer
Tracy Wasserburger, Secretary
Josh McGrath
Nello Williams
Frank Stevens

Trustees Absent

Administration Present

Janell Oberlander, Interim President
Heidi Gross, Executive Director of Gillette College Foundation
Louise Posten, Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs
Susan Serge, Director of Student Affairs

Others Present

Brian Worthen, Advisory Board Chair
Dave Horning, Legal Counsel
Ashley Corkins, Administrative Coordinator of Health Sciences
Jake Goodrick, Reporter, Gillette News Record
Elly Henning
John Kodet, Faculty
Mary Allison, Faculty
Teresa Stauffer, Faculty
Beau Corkins, Faculty
Matt Craig, Faculty
Brady Godwin, Faculty
Kelly Derryberry, Faculty
Lisa Arhart, Faculty
Dana Cochran, Faculty

Gillette Community College District
300 W Sinclair Drive
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Derrick Kimble, Student
Hannah Smithson, Student

Recorder
Jenna Waldner

Call to Order Regular Meeting of the Gillette Community College District Board of Trustees

Chair Palmer called the Regular Meeting to order at 11:30 a.m. There was a quorum. Trustee Stevens led the pledge.

- a. **Additions/Deletions to Agenda**
There were no additions or deletions to the agenda. Chair Palmer requested a motion to approve the agenda. Trustee Williams moved, and Vice Chair Oedekoven seconded. The motion carried.
- b. **Approval of Consent Agenda**
Chair Palmer requested a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Trustee Wasserburger moved, and Trustee Gee seconded. The motion carried.

For the Good of the District – Introduction of Employee and Student of the Year Recipients – Louise Posten

Chair Palmer and Vice Chair Oedekoven took a moment to recognize Dr. Janell Oberlander for finishing her dissertation earlier this week. Vice Chair Oedekoven shared that her focus was on women in leadership, in specific higher education, and that he encourages everyone to read it when it's finalized. The board congratulated her. Interim President Oberlander stated she is pleased to conclude this chapter and that it has been a wonderful opportunity.

Louise Posten introduced the Employee and Student of the Year recipients one at a time, and each shared what they loved about their job and Gillette College. Recipients included:

Hannah Smithson (Student Award)
Ashley Corkins (Classified Staff Award)
Susan Serge (Administrative Staff Award)
Dr. John Kodet (Faculty Award)
Mary Allison (Adjunct Award)

Hannah Smithson shared that she graduates in May and plans to eventually go back to her home ranch. For the time being, she will look at job opportunities here in Gillette. Ashley Corkins stated her favorite thing about Gillette College has been the students. Susan Serge shared how much she loves her job, the faculty, and students. She believes Gillette College is an amazing institution. Dr. John Kodet stated his favorite thing about his job is when students catch on to a topic that they were previously struggling with. He added that seeing students succeed is very fulfilling. Mary Allison shared that she loves being able to work with students and the culture of Gillette College. She appreciates that everyone is willing to help and listen to one another, and that it has been exciting to see how much Gillette College has grown through the years.

Chair Palmer thanked Louise and congratulated the award recipients on behalf of GCCD.

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Organizational Reports

1. Interim President's Report – Janeil Oberlander

Interim President Oberlander shared the following updates:

- a. GCCD has two new team members that will be joining us in March. Elly Henning will be the Executive Administrative Assistant and will start March 1st. Anne Larsen will be the CFO and Vice President of Administrative Services and will start March 14th. The Vice President of Academic and Student Affairs position has not yet been filled – Interim President Oberlander will work on a plan for this position and share an update at the March board meeting. Interim President Oberlander also shared the hiring process she went through for these positions. The Executive Administrative Assistant position was posted locally, and Mr. Kim and Gail Lofing assisted in the interview process. The CFO position was posted nationally, and there was a committee of members who assisted in looking at applications and participating in interviews. This group included Dr. Walt Nolte, Mr. Larry Buchholtz, Brian Worthen, Tomi Bell, and the CFO from Casper College.
- b. Interim President Oberlander attended the legislative session in Cheyenne last week. Things are moving along nicely.
- c. They are paying attention to the Wyoming Innovation partnerships with the University of Wyoming. Travis Grubb, Dean of Career and Technical education at Gillette College, is serving on three committees within this partnership and will continue to send updates.
- d. Interim President Oberlander, alongside the GCCD Board of Trustees and Susan Serge, are excited to take student senate down to Cheyenne this Thursday and Friday to learn more about leadership and watch the legislative session.

2. Gillette College Foundation Executive Director Report – Heidi Gross

Heidi Gross gave the following updates:

- a. The Gillette College Foundation is working hard on their upcoming Casino Night Fundraiser on April 9th. They have 17 tables left out of 55. She shared that they would like each GCCD Trustee to donate a silent auction item valued around \$75.00. They would like these items to reflect the personality of each individual.
- b. Yesterday the Foundation was notified that Eide Bailey can no longer perform the audits. This is a good opportunity for both the Foundation and GCCD to look at other companies, preferably local, to do so. Heidi will meet with the Foundation finance committee next week and will work on this.
- c. The Foundation Board reviewed their strategic plan at the last board meeting and will continue to review it quarterly. They have also developed an Alumni Association including several staff members. She has gotten good feedback thus far and will also send out an Alumni Survey to past students within a 150-mile radius. These surveys are geared at what alumni would like to see from Gillette College, and what events they would like to attend.
- d. The Foundation is planning on a picnic around August 17th for alumni, staff, and community to attend that would coincide with the GCCD vote passing last year.

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3. Gillette College Advisory Board Update – Chair Worthen

Brian Worthen gave the following updates:

- a. The Advisory Board has not been fielding many questions from the community. It appears they are very understanding of this process and the time it will take.
- b. Our community needs employees, and they have noted the importance of Gillette College as a bridge to produce workers in our industries.
- c. The Advisory Board has an additional member, which will be discussed later during this meeting.

Trustee Gee asked if the Advisory Board could hold a workshop to bring forward ideas to the Trustees and have a space to have these types of conversations. Interim President Oberlander added that once GCCD gets a Vice President of Academic and Student Affairs, this person may act as a connection and help facilitate these discussions. Brian added he will bring this idea to the Advisory Board.

4. Student Senate Update – Derrick Kimble

Derrick Kimble gave the following updates:

- a. In Fall of 2021: Student Senate volunteered 300 hours of community service; collected 812 non-perishable food items during their food drive; helped 6 families living at a local homeless shelter receive gifts for Christmas through Student Senate contributions; purchased 10 wreaths through Wreaths Across America; helped 16 students receive mini-grants through Miracle on Sinclair Street; donated \$350.00 to the student emergency fund; donated about 50 coats during the coat drive; started 2 new clubs in the making (art club and gaming club); reinstated the machine tool club; addressed student needs and ideas regarding course offerings, safety, and student morale; and participated in various campus events including the Pumpkin Walk, Trunk-or-Treat, and Diesel Club participated in the local parade of lights.
- b. In Spring of 2022: Student Senate rechartered 8 clubs; added a temporary Bylaws and Constitution committee; and will visit Cheyenne on February 24th to tour the state capital and watch the legislative process on the 25th.

Old Business

1. Technology Audit and Plan – Interim President Oberlander

Interim President Oberlander shared that they are working on the two technology proposals, one from Ferrilli, and another from Dynamic Campus. She and the committee, including Trustee Wasserburger, Renee Collins, and Ryan Allen, will continue to review these proposals. These conversations have been robust, and she hopes to bring forward an update in the March meeting.

2. HLC Annual Conference Reminder – April 1-5

Interim President Oberlander reminded the Trustees about the HLC Annual Conference on April 1-5. Registration is currently open, and there is a virtual option as well. Chair Palmer encouraged board members to attend, as well as college employees.

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New Business

1. Recommendation and Ratification of the new Gillette College Advisory Board member – Chair Worthen

Brian Worthen stated he is excited to recommend Mr. Sam Barkey to the Gillette College Advisory Board and requested GCCD Trustees to ratify the addition. Chair Palmer requested a motion to ratify the new Gillette College Advisory Board member. Trustee Gee moved, and Vice Chair Oedekoven seconded. The motion carried.

Committee Reports

1. GCCD Branding – Trustee McGrath

Trustee McGrath shared that he, Trustee Stevens, and Trustee Wasserburger met with Megan Baumeister from Tilt Shift Brands and went through the branding proposal. Mark Anderson was brought on board, alongside a Branding Committee of several staff members. Trustee McGrath hopes to bring something forward for the March meeting. Interim President Oberlander added that they will do a similar process with the branding as with the GCCD Mission, Vision, and Values by getting faculty, staff, and community input throughout the process.

2. Negotiation Update – Chair Palmer

Chair Palmer stated the MOU and Exhibits are still being worked on with the negotiator and negotiation team. They will meet next week to further the process. Exhibit B, C and D will be discussed, and they hope to present some definitive plans at the March board meeting. There is a lot of work to be done, and they are moving ahead with prudence. Chair Palmer added that he appreciates all the work done so far. Trustee Gee added that there are many moving pieces including staffing, facilities, contracts, benefits, etc. Once the CFO is onboarded, they hope to provide some resources to assist with compiling the budget for the next fiscal year.

Vice Chair Oedekoven shared resources with each Trustee from the recent ACCT Conference in San Diego, California.

Vice Chair Oedekoven asked about the GCCD Board of Trustee's role in the upcoming Gillette College Commencement. Chair Palmer stated this will be discussed in the negotiation meeting next week. Trustee Gee added that they do have a verbal agreement that they will have a strong presence at commencement. Interim President Oberlander added that Susan Serge, Director of Student Affairs, takes the lead on commencement planning and does a phenomenal job. Chair Palmer requested she gives an update on planning at the April board meeting.

Public Comments

None.

Upcoming Events/Activities

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February 24 – WACCT Board Meeting, 4:00 pm, LCCC

February 25 – WACCT Legislative Breakfast, 6:30 am, Wyoming State Capitol

February 25 – WCCC Meeting, LCCC

March 16 – Next Regular GCCD BOT meeting

April 9 – Gillette College Foundation Casino Night

May 13 – Gillette College Commencement

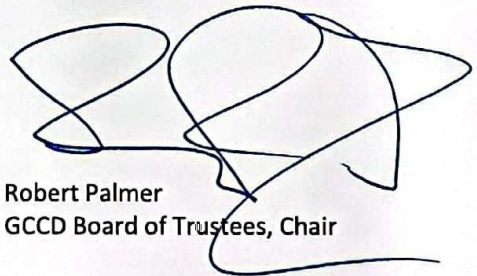
Adjourn

Chair Palmer adjourned the meeting at 12:41 p.m.

Submitted by:



Tracy Wasserburger
GCCD Board of Trustees, Secretary



Robert Palmer
GCCD Board of Trustees, Chair

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