

1 FLATHEAD VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
2 BOARD OF TRUSTEES
3 Regular Board Meeting
4 Monday, February 23, 2015, 3:45 p.m.
5 Board Room - Blake Hall/SCA Building
6

7 A regular meeting of the Flathead Valley Community College Board of Trustees convened at
8 3:45 p.m., Monday, February 23, 2015, in the Board Room of Blake Hall/SCA 140/144.
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10 **I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

11 Chairperson Robert Nystuen called the meeting to order at 3:45 p.m. The following Board
12 members were in attendance:
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14 John Phelps Mark Holston
15 Shannon Lund Callie Langohr
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17 Trustee Tom McElwain attended via conference phone. Also present were President Jane
18 Karas and Monica Settles, Clerk of the District. Trustee Tom Harding was absent with prior board
19 approval.
20

21 **II. CONSENT ITEMS - ACTION**

- 22 **A.** Approval of the minutes of the Board of Trustees meeting on January 26, 2015 and
23 the Special Board meeting on February 5, 2015.
24 **B.** Recommendation that the Board of Trustees accept the Monthly Human Resources
25 Report as submitted.
26 **C.** Next regular Board of Trustees meeting – March 23, 2015
27

28 Tom McElwain moved that the Board of Trustees approve ITEMS A, B, & C Under Section II,
29 Consent Agenda-Action. John Phelps seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously
30 with six (6) "yes" votes.
31

32 **III. COMMENTS**

33 **A. Students**

34 Kevin Hunt, Vice President of the Veterans Association, presented the Board with
35 the Student Activities Report (Attachment I).
36

37 **B. Faculty and Staff**

38 Dr. Gregg Davis, Associate Professor, Economics, submitted a written report to
39 the Board (Attachment II). Dr. Davis presented the report to the Board. The Board reviewed the
40 written report and had no further questions.
41

42 **C. Monthly Reports**

43 **1. Executive Staff Activities Report**

44 The Board of Trustees thanked the Executive Staff for their informative
45 reports. Trustees noted all the hard work all faculty and staff do every day to continue to make
46 FVCC an amazing place for students.
47

48 **D. Commissioner of Higher Education Report-**

49 John Cech, Deputy Commissioner of Two-Year Education, submitted a written

1 report to the Board (Attachment III) and it was reviewed with no questions. Deputy
2 Commissioner Cech highlighted several areas of the report during the meeting.

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4 **E. Public Comment**

5 None

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7 **IV. COLLEGE ISSUES**

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9 **A. Student Success: Disability Support Services**

10 Anna San Diego, Disability Support Services gave the Board an update on
11 the college's current disability support services. The Disability Support Services Office
12 coordinates reasonable academic accommodations for students with disabilities.

13 Accommodations can include American Sign Language interpreting, note takers, audio books,
14 alternative testing and assistive technology. In addition, students are able to access tutoring in
15 the Math and Writing labs. To access services and accommodations students need to contact the
16 Disabilities Support Services Office. It was noted that approximately 10% of students at FVCC
17 self report they have a disability. Trustee Holston asked how the college identifies the students
18 with disabilities. Anna stated that students must self identify or come forward as the college is
19 not allowed to ask students if they have a disability. Some of the students with disabilities are
20 also sometimes referred by an outside agency or a teacher.

21
22 **B. Sabbatical Report**

23 Dr. Janice Alexander, Professor, Chemistry, presented the Board with a
24 report on her recent sabbatical. Dr. Alexander recently spent six months in Australia. Dr.
25 Alexander returned from UT Sydney, a university, with undergraduate, graduate and doctorate
26 students. The University has approximately 38,000 students. Dr. Alexander was able to spend
27 her time at the university helping first-year chemistry students learn to use modern
28 instrumentation. In addition, Dr. Alexander helped work on acquiring, installing and teaching
29 students how to use a magnetic resonance spectroscopy machine. The machine helps students to
30 analyze the chemical makeup of a substance which allows students to quickly identify the
31 complete makeup of the substance they are testing. In addition to the introduction of modern
32 instruments for first-year students, Dr. Alexander also helped students transition from manually
33 acquiring and reading results from experiments to using hardware and software in a lab setting to
34 input and read data digitally. The third part of Dr. Alexander's sabbatical experience was to help
35 create a survey in conjunction with her counterparts at the university that would measure
36 students' attitudes in chemistry. They were able to take the results from the survey and look at
37 different teaching methods and testing for emotional satisfaction of the students, and how well
38 they were learning the material presented. The survey is one of the things that Dr. Alexander
39 would like to bring back and incorporate into her classes at FVCC. The use of modern
40 instrumentation in a chemistry student's first-year, and digital data is something that FVCC
41 students have already been doing for some time. Dr. Alexander and Mr. Tony Baker, the head of
42 the school in Sydney and Dr. Alexander's counterpart from Australia, will both be traveling to
43 Colorado to report the findings of their collaboration together at the 249th annual meeting of the
44 American Chemical Society.

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46 **C. Foundation Report**

47 Colleen Unterreiner, Executive Director, Institutional Advancement,
48 presented the Board with a Foundation Report. Colleen thanked everyone for another successful
49 year in the foundation. Colleen stated that the foundation continues to impact student success

1 through scholarships, with scholarships being the cornerstone of the Foundation’s fundraising
2 throughout the past year. In 2014, the Foundation was able to double the amount of funds for
3 scholarship, from the year 2008 to 2014 these funds grew from \$300,000 to \$600,000. This
4 growth equated to the awarding of 407 scholarships to students. In addition to giving out more
5 need based scholarships, the Foundation also continues to give money for enhancement grants to
6 help programs at FVCC. The funds from the enhancement grants were used to purchase such
7 items as Google glasses in the Surgery Tech Program. Colleen also noted that the Foundation is
8 currently in the fourth year of five in receiving its pledges and planned gifts for the Broussard
9 Center. As the Foundation continues to look toward the future, the Foundation plans to continue
10 to grow their revenue, re-energize its committees and will be seeking new Board members and
11 will continue to assess its strategic goals. The Foundation will also be looking at new efforts to
12 help grow capital project funding. Colleen thanked her staff for making the Foundation a
13 success and for all their hard work they provide everyday to help make a difference in the lives
14 of FVCC students.

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16 **D. Spring Enrollment Update**

17 Brad Eldredge, Executive Director, Institutional Research, Assessment
18 and Planning, presented the Board with a spring enrollment update. Brad stated that as of the 15th
19 day of enrollment the college is at 1,371 FTE, which is approximately down just under 5% from
20 the same time last year. Unduplicated headcount is up 20 or just under 1% over the same time
21 last year. Running Start has seen a considerable increase from 274 students to 417 students. It
22 was noted that enrollment in the non-traditional aged students has decreased approximately 12.7%
23 which Dr. Eldredge noted is consistent with an uptick in the current economy. Dr. Eldredge also
24 noted that some of the areas and programs that are seeing growth in enrollment include Industrial
25 Machining, Welding and Pre Health Sciences.

26
27 **E. ACCT National Legislative Summit Reports**

28 Trustees Robert Nystuen and Tom McElwain presented information on
29 their experiences at the recent Association of Community College Trustees National Legislative
30 Summit in Washington, D.C. The trustees stated that they were able to meet with Montana’s
31 State Senators and Representative and all were very receptive to visiting with the Trustees and
32 President Karas. Trustee Nystuen and McElwain both noted that they appreciate the opportunity
33 to represent Flathead Valley Community College at the event and stated the investment for any
34 Trustee to attend is a great benefit to the college and community.

35
36 **F. Trustees Events Calendar**

37 Trustees reviewed the Board of Trustees Events Calendar included in the
38 agenda. President Karas noted that the next Board meeting is scheduled for March 23. College-
39 for-a-Day will be held on campus on Tuesday, March 3 and the March Board of Regents meeting
40 will be held March 5-6, in Helena. In addition, President Karas noted that evaluators for the year
41 three accreditation visit will be on campus the week of April 27.

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43 **G. President’s Update**

44 President Karas updated the Board on several items:

- 45 • President Karas noted that the Honors Symposium Lecture Series, “The
46 Next America: How Millennials are Changing Everything” will begin
47 tonight with a presentation by Dr. Jean Twenge titled, “Generation Me and
48 the Rise of Individualism: Understanding Generational Differences.”
- 49 • The current legislative session is currently at the half way point. House

1 Bill 84, a bill introduced that will change our school elections laws has
2 been approved and forwarded to the Governor for signature. House Bill 2
3 will see additional discussion on March 9. Individuals from the college
4 will be in attendance as House Bill 2 discussion continues.

- 5 • There will be a representative on campus on Wednesday, February 25, to
6 gather information and hold some student forums in order to continue with
7 the student housing feasibility study the Board requested.
- 8 • College for a Day will be held on campus on Tuesday, March 3.
9 Hundreds of juniors from high schools across the county will be on
10 campus to participate in classes of their chosen area of interest and
11 informational sessions about college. This opportunity will give the
12 students an idea of what it is like to attend college.

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15 **V. REORGANIZATION OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

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17 **A. Appoint Secretary to the Board**

18 Chairperson Nystuen called for nominations for the Secretary to the Board
19 position. This position was recently held by former Trustee Ralene Sliter and now needs to be
20 filled. Chairperson opened the meeting to nominations for Secretary of the Board. Mark
21 Holston moved that the Board of Trustees elect Shannon Lund as Secretary to the Board. John
22 Phelps seconded the motion. With no other nominations the motion to elect Shannon Lund as
23 Secretary to the Board of Trustees carried with five (5) “yes” votes. Trustee Shannon Lund
24 abstained.

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26 **B. Election of Members to Board Committees**

27 Chairperson Nystuen indicated that the Board should also fill the seats on the committees that
28 were held by former Trustee Ralene Sliter. Following discussion, the Board Committees are as
29 follows:

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31 **PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

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33 **Mark Holston**
34 **Tom McElwain**
35 **Thomas Harding**

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31 **OUTREACH COMMITTEE**

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33 **Tom McElwain**
34 **Callie Langohr**
35 **Mark Holston**

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37 **FINANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE**

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39 **Shannon Lund**
40 **Bob Nystuen**
41 **Tom Harding**

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37 **FOUNDATION LIAISON**

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39 **Shannon Lund**

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43 **FACILITY OVERVIEW COMMITTEE**

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45 **Shannon Lund**
46 **Tom McElwain**
47 **John M. Phelps**

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VI ADJOURNMENT

With no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

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Robert Nystuen, Chairperson of the Board

Shannon Lund, Secretary of the Board