

1 FLATHEAD VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
2 BOARD OF TRUSTEES
3 Regular Board Meeting
4 Monday, January 24, 2022, 3:45 p.m.
5 Blake Hall 140
6

7 A regular meeting of the Flathead Valley Community College Board of Trustees convened at
8 3:45 p.m., Monday, January 24, 2022.
9

10 **I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

11 Chairperson Pete Akey called the meeting to order at 3:45 p.m. The following Board
12 members were in attendance:

| | | |
|-------------------|---------------|----------------|
| 13 Patrick Gulick | Mark Holston | Callie Langohr |
| 14 Shannon Lund | Lyle Mitchell | Kelly Stimpson |

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16 **II. PUBLIC COMMENT - None**
17

18 **III. CONSENT ITEMS - ACTION**

19 **A.** Approval of the minutes of the Regular Board of Trustees meeting on December 20,
20 2021.
21

22 **B.** Next regular Board of Trustees meeting is scheduled for February 28, 2022.
23

24 Trustee Kelly Stimpson moved that the Board of Trustees approve ITEMS A & B under Section
25 III, Consent Agenda - Action. Trustee Patrick Gulick seconded the motion. The motion carried
26 unanimously with seven (7) "yes" votes.
27

28 **IV. MONTHLY REPORTS**

29 **A. Students Activities Report**

30 The Student Activities Report was presented by Emmett Jeschke, Student
31 Government President, for the Board to review (see Attachment I).
32

33 **B. Faculty Activities Report**

34 The Faculty Activities Report was submitted to the Board and presented by Dr.
35 Julie Robertson, Associate Professor, Physical Therapy Assistant Program (see Attachment II).
36

37 **C. Executive Staff Activities Report**

38 The Board acknowledged the Executive Staff for their informative reports.
39

40 **V. COLLEGE ISSUES**

41 **A. Student Success: General Chemistry Course Update**

42 Dr. Jessica Ennist, Associate Chemistry Professor and Dr. David Long, Associate
43 Chemistry Professor presented the Board with an update on how they revised the General
44 Chemistry Course curriculum to make it research based. The Chemistry Department has had a
45 mentored research program with a faculty member, but it doesn't reach the whole student body
46 and they would like it to. They are developing a course-based water quality research

1 experience for the General Chemistry students that will start in the fall of 2022. It will be
2 based on the chemical analysis of the Stillwater River that is accessible on campus and some
3 water bodies that are tributaries to its water shaft. The students will work to find their own
4 conclusions to their group hypothesis. The data gathered from the specimens will be submitted
5 to the Department of Environmental Quality's database.
6

7 **B. Resolution 22-3, Trustee Resolution calling for an Election by Mail Ballot -**
8 **ACTION**

9 The Board was presented with Resolution 22-3, Trustee Resolution calling for an
10 Election by Mail Ballot for the two seats that will be opening in the Flathead/Glacier School
11 District. Shannon Lund and Mark Holston's three year terms will be open for election. The
12 Board of Trustees is required to approve a resolution calling for Trustee Election to be held in
13 conjunction with the regular school elections on Tuesday, May 3, 2022.
14

15 Trustee Kelly Stimpson moved that the Board of Trustees approve Resolution 22-3, Trustee
16 Resolution calling for an Election by Mail Ballot - Action. Trustee Mark Holston seconded the
17 motion. With no further discussion, the motion carried unanimously with seven (7) "yes" votes.
18

19 **C. Board Policy, Chapter IX – Planning and Research-Section 10: Planning**
20 **and Research – First Reading - ACTION**

21 President Karas presented the Chapter IX, Planning and Research policy, there
22 are no suggested revisions from the college.
23

24 Trustee Patrick Gulick moved that the Board of Trustees approve Board Policy Chapter IX –
25 Planning and Research: Section 10 – Action. Trustee Lyle Mitchell seconded the motion.
26 With no further discussion, the motion carried unanimously with seven (7) "yes" votes.
27

28 **D. Landscaping Bid - ACTION**

29 The college conducted the RFP process for landscaping including irrigation and
30 materials for the College Center. One bid for \$282,471.56 was received from Alpine Sprinklers
31 and Landscaping. President Karas recommended that the Board accept the bid.
32

33 Trustee Shannon Lund moved that the Board of Trustees approve accepting the landscaping bid
34 from Alpine Sprinklers and Landscaping. Trustee Kelly Stimpson seconded the motion.
35 Trustee Kelly Stimpson asked if the bid was within the projected budgeted amount? President
36 Karas confirmed that it was a little below budget. With no further discussion, the motion carried
37 unanimously with seven (7) "yes" votes.
38

39 **E. Finance and Audit Committee**

40 The Finance and Audit Committee met prior to the Board meeting. Beckie
41 Christiaens, Vice President/Chief Financial Officer, Finance and Administration reviewed the
42 2nd Quarter Budget Report ending December 31, 2021.
43

44 **F. Board of Trustees Events Calendar**

45 President Karas reviewed the Trustees events calendar. She and Pete Akey will
46 be attending the ACCT National Legislative Summit in Washington, DC February 6-9th. The

1 college will be closed on President’s Day, February 21st. The next Board of Trustees meeting
2 will be February 28th. The Board of Regents meeting will be in early March. President Karas
3 invited the Board to attend the Scholarship Reception on March 16th. Spring Break is March
4 21st – 25th, the college will be open. The Board of Trustees meeting will be on March 28th.

5
6 **G. President’s Update**

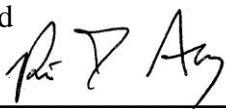
7 President Karas updated the Board on several items:

- 8 • In-Service – The all employee in-service was held virtually on January 12th.
9 Welcomed and updated everyone on many of the things happening at the college.
10 Allison Linville provided information about the new website that will be
11 launched at the end of the semester. The faculty had additional in-service topics
12 later in the day.
- 13 • ARPA Submission for College Center – Submitted a request through the state for
14 ARPA monies in the amount of \$5M to help support the College Center. There
15 may be some discussions and decision made in February by the Legislative
16 Committees.
- 17 • The Board of Regents Meeting – January 6th – The meeting was held virtually.
18 Revisions were made on the Community College Financial Affairs Budgeting for
19 Community Colleges Policy. The revisions update the policy to be consistent
20 with the funding formula that was approved during the 2021 Legislative Session.
- 21 • Good Jobs Challenge Grant – The college explored applying for a Good Jobs
22 Challenge Grant on our own working with the employers in northwest Montana.
23 Talked with some other people across the state and there are a number of grants
24 already in process, one of them is Accelerate Montana, the Good Jobs Montana
25 Project. This grant received \$6M from the Legislature last spring to work with
26 key public and private stake holders on creating jobs in Montana and providing
27 training. They are putting together another match grant request. Rather than
28 compete with them, we are going to collaborate and manage the northwest part of
29 the state. Trustee Kelly Stimpson asked if any additional personnel would be
30 needed for the grant? President Karas stated that, if required, it would be
31 covered by the grant.
- 32 • Spring Semester – Classes started last Tuesday, January 18th. The headcount is
33 pretty consistent with last year. Expect by next fall to see enrollment increases.
- 34 • College Center – Anticipating a completion date by late summer. A Gala
35 Planning Committee has met and is putting together a series of events to
36 welcome the public into the facility to see it. We are also working on an
37 agreement with The Glacier Symphony and Chorale as resident users of the
38 facility.

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40 **VI. ADJOURNMENT**

41 With no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 4:16 p.m.

42 sd

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45 Peter Akey, Chairperson of the Board

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Patrick Gulick, Secretary to the Board

Student Activities Report

February 2022

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5 Student activities are off to a great start this year and it is wonderful to see more engaged
6 students! The semester started with 4 days of Week of Welcome (WOW) activities. These
7 activities included a welcome breakfast, student lounge open house, Ask Me table, Club Day,
8 movie night, and ice-skating at Woodland Ice Center. Several other departments participated in
9 WOW including the Foundation Office, Financial Aid, TRIO, and Career Services.

10
11 Campus Rec opened the spring semester with a student lounge open house, movie night, and an
12 ice-skating event for Week of Welcome. Ice skating was the most popular with 25 students in
13 attendance. January also marked the restart of intramurals; the first basketball event of the
14 semester was held with 13 players. Campus Rec also hosted a Mario Kart Tournament, Grocery
15 Bingo night, and a Bob Ross Paint Along which had over 20 attendees. For January 2022,
16 Campus Rec had about 100 student participants.

17
18 The Food Pantry has received 16 visits and benefited 43 individuals.

19
20 The new Student Lounge in LRC 102 is a great space for students to rest and relax, study, and
21 enjoy a variety of games. Currently, 9 of the 13 clubs are hosting their meetings and events in
22 the lounge. A new screen and projector have been ordered to host movies on a regular basis.
23 During the first two weeks of the semester, student organizations are busy establishing regular
24 meetings and planning future events. There were 10 clubs that participated in Club Day during
25 Week of Welcome. Several of the student organizations were successful in recruiting new
26 members.

27
28 Active student organizations include: Student Government, Student Wellness Team,
29 Audionauts, Computer Club, Mask and Hammer, Phi Theta Kappa, Native American Student
30 Association, Intervarsity Christian Fellowship, Firearms Enthusiasts, Chess Club, Outdoor Club,
31 Genders and Sexualities Alliance, and a new Environmental Club.
32

Faculty Activity Report**February 2022****Heather Estrada, Ph.D., Associate Professor - Agriculture, Chair - FVCC Teaching and Learning Center**

Dr. Heather Estrada, Dr. Gerda Reeb, and Eliza Thomas from the Teaching and Learning Center Committee organized a workshop on February 17 titled “Using Eagle Online to Reach Everyone”. The workshop drew from Dr. Thomas Tobin’s faculty inservice presentation on Universal Design for Learning, and focused on the following topics: best practice organization of Eagle Online content, using Eagle Online templates, applying accessibility standards to content, and use of the TiLT (Transparency in Teaching and Learning) framework to communicate assignment expectations effectively. Presenters included Associate Professor Jim Goudy, and FVCC Instructional Designers Jodi Harms and Julie Wenz.

James LaPierre. A.A.S., Lab Coordinator - EMS

James LaPierre traveled to Miles City for the first two weeks of this semester to launch the first class at their satellite location. He taught the students daily with his new lead instructor, Sarah Lewin, who is also a Battalion Chief with Miles City Fire Department. The students were given their crash course in advanced airway management, IV and medication administration, and 12 lead EKG interpretation. James taught Ms. Lewin how to use Eagle Online and Brady MyLab technology.

This has been a long time coming, having received GEER (Governor’s Emergency Education Relief) grant funding in 2021. James coordinated the construction of a brand-new lab space, ordered all the supplies needed for the labs, and traveled to Miles City in 2021 to assemble and test the lab equipment, which has been extremely successful. FVCC is the first Paramedic Program in the state to have a satellite program under their accreditation, and they have managed to do this from 545 miles away.

Dan Leatzow, Ph.D., Senior Instructor - Advanced Manufacturing

Dr. Leatzow serves as a liaison to regional manufacturers in developing the skilled labor needed to sustain and grow manufacturing in NW Montana. With 25 years of experience, he provides instruction in solids modeling (Solidworks), CAM (MasterCAM) (computer automated manufacturing), and multi-axis CNC (computer numerical control). Dr. Leatzow was recently profiled on the camInstructor website. [Testimonials - Teachers edition \(camInstructor.com\)](https://www.camInstructor.com)

Mirabai McCarthy, Ph.D., Associate Professor - Biology

Dr.'s Mirabai McCarthy & Wendy Westbroek were awarded a \$56,840 grant from the National Institutes of Health (NIH), Montana INBRE program for the 2022-223 academic year to support an undergraduate research project entitled "Antibiotic Potential of Lichen, Fungi and Plants in NW Montana".

1 **Eliza Thomas, M.A., Associate Professor - Education**

2 On February 12th Eliza Thomas took time to share Numeracy Strategies and Routines for
3 Young Children with over 50 area early childhood educators. It was in partnership with the
4 Nurturing Center and was a way to give back to area educators as well as recruit potential AAS
5 degree seekers by showing what type of classes they would have the chance to attend within the
6 Early Childhood program. It was a fun day of learning about the numeracy progression for
7 young learners, playing games and doing activities to support that progression, and planning for
8 implementation back at their childcare facilities.
9

10 The Early Childhood Program Advisory Council met in mid January and discussed the AAS
11 EDEC Program as it is seen by the community at large, the directors of local programs, early
12 childhood organizations, and graduates of the program. The feedback was very positive. Work
13 will continue to focus on recruiting early childhood educators into the profession through
14 continued high school dual enrollment offerings, scheduling adjustments to support childcare
15 providers working in the field by desiring continued education, and partnering with entities to
16 address the childcare crisis in the valley and beyond. No major changes to the program were
17 recommended at this time.
18

19 **Manda Hudak, B.S., Chef Instructor and Program Director, The Culinary Institute of**
20 **Montana**

21 Chef Howard Karp made a recruiting trip to Drummond High School, Great Falls High School
22 and Helena High. He also visited the three Missoula High Schools. This is the first time the
23 culinary arts program visited Big Sky High School in Missoula. Chef Karp spoke to
24 approximately 130 students.
25

26 Chefs Manda Hudak and Dan Moe made recruiting trips to Butte High School, Billings Career
27 Center and Bozeman High School. They also visited Gallatin High School for the first time.
28 They spoke with approximately 150 students. All trips were well received with very positive
29 feedback from students and teachers alike.
30