

1 FLATHEAD VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
2 BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
3 Regular Board Meeting  
4 Monday, July 27, 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, July 27, 2015, in the Board Room of Blake Hall/SCA 140/144.  
9

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

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

13 Thomas Harding Mark Holston Tom McElwain  
14 Shannon Lund Callie Langohr  
15

16 Also present were President Jane Karas and Monica Settles, Clerk of the District. Trustee  
17 Phelps announced the recent resignation of Robert Nystuen as he was recently appointed by  
18 Governor Bullock to the State Board of Regents. The college will begin the process in the next few  
19 weeks to fill the vacant seat.  
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21 **II. CONSENT ITEMS - ACTION**

- 22 **A.** Approval of the minutes of the Board of Trustees meeting on June 22, 2015 and the  
23 Board of Trustees Retreat on June 18, 2015.  
24 **B.** Recommendation that the Board of Trustees accept the Monthly Human Resources  
25 Report as submitted.  
26 **C.** Classified Bargaining Agreement  
27 **D.** Next regular Board of Trustees meeting – September 28, 2015  
28

29 Thomas Harding moved that the Board of Trustees approve ITEMS A, B, C & D Under Section  
30 II, Consent Agenda-Action. Tom McElwain seconded the motion. The motion carried  
31 unanimously with six (6) "yes" votes.  
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33 **III. COMMENTS**

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35 **A. Monthly Reports**

36 **1. Executive Staff Activities Report**

37 The Board of Trustees thanked the Executive Staff for their informative  
38 reports. Trustees noted all the hard work faculty and staff do every day to continue to make  
39 FVCC an amazing place for students.  
40

41 **B. Commissioner of Higher Education Report-**

42 Erik Rose, Access and Compliance Program Manager, provided the Board with  
43 an update. The Commissioner's Office presented the Board with an overview of wage analysis  
44 report. The report showed the difference between wage earners during and post-college within  
45 several different categories. Mr. Rose noted that the information is a clear indication that two  
46 year programs have been outperforming four year programs and master degrees when it comes to  
47 post educational employment.  
48

49 **C. Public Comment**

1 Former Board Chair, Robert Nystuen, addressed the Board. Mr. Nystuen thanked  
2 the Board, President Karas, the college community, the voters and community for the many  
3 amazing years on the Board of Flathead Valley Community College. Mr. Nystuen stated that he  
4 would take all his knowledge and all he learned while serving on the Board the past thirteen  
5 years to represent Northwest Montana and two year education during his time on the Board of  
6 Regents.

#### 7 8 **IV. COLLEGE ISSUES**

##### 9 10 **A. Student Success: Math 115- Stat 216 Sequence**

11 Dan Paine, Associate Professor, Mathematics, presented the Board with an update  
12 on the Concurrent Enrollment Math 115-Stat 216 Sequence. Professor Paine noted that through  
13 the Dual Enrollment Math 115-Stat 216 Sequence that he taught at Bigfork High School has  
14 allowed students to earn college credits while still in high school. The course is taught by  
15 college approved high school teachers. The program has been a great success and the sequence  
16 is planned to be included in Glacier High School, Columbia Falls High School, Bigfork High  
17 School and Polson High School for the 2015-2016 school year. Professor Paine noted that  
18 students are able to earn free college credits and high school credit at the same time, and the  
19 program helps students score higher on math placement when entering college. The high schools  
20 are able to offer accelerated courses and market low cost, while FVCC experiences increased  
21 enrollment and direct marketing through word-of-mouth advertising. Some of the future goals of  
22 the Math 115-Stat 216 Sequence concurrent enrollment program are to continue to increase  
23 enrollment at current schools while expanding the program into more high schools than currently  
24 served. Due to the success of the program, additional opportunities for more concurrent  
25 enrollment programs include courses in chemistry, biology, accounting and gateway classes.

##### 26 27 **B. 2015 Community Conversations Update**

28 President Karas recently finished her 14<sup>th</sup> annual community conversation  
29 program. The conversations are held throughout Flathead and Lincoln counties. The  
30 conversations provide an opportunity for President Karas to share information about the college,  
31 but more importantly to give community members a chance to comment on what needs they may  
32 have that the college could address and if they have specific suggestions for improvement.  
33 President Karas noted that the college received positive feedback during the conversations. The  
34 community commented on several areas in which the college is doing well, such as, nursing, our  
35 partnerships with school districts and the new CDL and Nursing programs that will be brought to  
36 the Lincoln County Campus soon.

##### 37 38 **C. Housing Study Report**

39 Following discussion at a prior Board Retreat, the Board requested that a Student  
40 Housing Feasibility Study be conducted and shared during the July Board meeting. President  
41 Karas presented the completed study and indicated that the study did show students are interested  
42 in some type of student housing. Following discussion of the report, the Board requested that  
43 President Karas and staff continue to work on a thorough business plan with more information  
44 on all potential costs related to housing, potential types of housing, amount of housing that  
45 should be provided, the cost of building student housing, operation costs, associated services and  
46 pros and cons of student housing. Following an extensive review of the requested business plan,  
47 the Board will make a decision on the direction of student housing. The business plan will be  
48 presented to the Board during a future Board meeting.

1           **D. Finance and Audit Committee Report**

2           Trustee Thomas Harding reported that the Finance and Audit Committee met  
3 prior to the Board meeting in which the committee reviewed the Fiscal Year 2016 Proposed  
4 Budget. Following review and discussion of the budget, the Finance and Audit Committee  
5 recommends approval of the second reading.  
6

7           **E. Fiscal Year 2016 Proposed Budget (Second Reading)**

8           The budget plan for Fiscal Year 2016 (Second Reading) was developed and  
9 submitted to the Board for review and action. President Kars indicated that this is the second  
10 public reading of the budget. Following review of the second reading of the budget, Tom  
11 Harding moved that the Board of Trustees approve the Fiscal Year 2016 Proposed Budget of  
12 \$18,659,120, with a continuing education budget of \$770,000, including \$740,000 for the  
13 Kalispell campus and \$30,000 for the Lincoln County Campus in Libby. Mark Holston  
14 seconded the motion. With no further discussion, Tom McElwain called for the question. The  
15 motion carried unanimously with six (6) “yes” votes.  
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17           **F. Trustees Events Calendar**

18           Trustees reviewed the Board of Trustees Events Calendar included in the agenda.  
19 President Karas noted that the next Board meeting is scheduled for September 28. Fall semester  
20 classes will begin on Thursday, August, 27. An all employee in-service will be held prior to the  
21 start of fall classes on Monday, August 24.  
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23           **G. President’s Update**

24 President Karas updated the Board on several items:

- 25           • President Karas thanked all those who volunteered to help with the recent  
26 Rebecca Farm event.
- 27           • The recent Festival of Flavors Event, Claws for Celebration helped raise  
28 approximately \$15,000 for student scholarships.
- 29           • The Physical Therapy Assistant Program held its graduation this past week  
30 on July 24.
- 31           • The Governor’s Cup Thursday evening barbeque will be held at FVCC  
32 this Thursday, July 31.  
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34 **V. REORGANIZATION OF BOARD OF TRUSTEE**

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36           **A. Board Reorganization**

37           Vice Chairperson Phelps called for the reorganization of the board of Trustees due  
38 to the recent resignation of former Chair Robert Nystuen and opened the meeting to nominations  
39 for Chairperson of the Board. Tom McElwain moved that the Board of Trustees elect Shannon  
40 Lund as Chairperson of the Board. Mark Holston seconded the motion. With no other  
41 nominations, the motion to elect Shannon Lund as Chairperson of the Board of Trustees carried  
42 with five (5) “yes” votes. Trustee Shannon Lund abstained.

43           Due to Trustee Lund being elected as Board Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson  
44 Phelps called for nominations for the position of Secretary to the Board. Thomas Harding  
45 moved that the Board of Trustees elect Mark Holston as Secretary to the Board. Tom McElwain  
46 seconded the motion. With no other nominations, the motion to elect Mark Holston as Secretary  
47 to the Board of Trustees carried with five (5) “yes” votes. Trustee Mark Holston abstained.

48           The Board did not elect new members to Board Committees and chose to leave the Board  
49 Committees as they stand until a new Board member is appointed.

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**VI. ADJOURNMENT**

With no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 4:35 p.m.

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Shannon Lund, Chairperson of the Board

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Mark Holston, Secretary to the Board