

1 FLATHEAD VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
2 BOARD OF TRUSTEES
3 Regular Board Meeting
4 Monday, May 18 2020, 3:45 p.m.
5 Virtual Zoom Meeting
6

7 A regular meeting of the Flathead Valley Community College Board of Trustees convened at
8 3:45 p.m., Monday, May 18, 2020, via Zoom.
9

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

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

13
14 Peter Akey Kelly Stimpson Patrick Gulick
15 Callie Langohr Lyle Mitchell Mark Holston
16

17 Also present were President Jane Karas and Monica Settles, Clerk of the District.
18

19 **A. Approval of the 2020 Trustee Election Canvass for the Bigfork, Columbia Falls
20 and Whitefish High School Districts Two (2), Three-Year Terms**

21 The May 5, 2020, Trustee Election Canvass for the Bigfork, Columbia Falls and
22 Whitefish High School Districts, two (2), three-year terms was presented and reviewed for approval.
23 For the (2) three-year terms in Bigfork, Columbia Falls and Whitefish High School Districts,
24 incumbent Peter Akey received 3,448 votes; Eric Fulton received 1,509 votes and incumbent Kelly
25 Stimpson received 3,312 votes. With no further discussion or comment from the Board or the Clerk
26 of the District, Mark Holston moved that the Board of Trustees approve the 2020 election canvass
27 for the Bigfork, Columbia Falls and Whitefish High School Districts two (2) three-year terms as
28 submitted. Kelly Stimpson seconded the motion. Following a roll call from the Clerk of the District,
29 the motion carried unanimously with seven (7) "yes" votes.
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31 **B. Oath of Office**

32 The Clerk of the District administered the "Oath of Office" to Kelly Stimpson, Peter
33 Akey and Patrick Gulick.
34

35 **II. PUBLIC COMMENT-None**

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37 **III. CONSENT ITEMS - ACTION**

38 **A.** Approval of the minutes of the Board of Trustees meeting on April 27, 2020

39 **B.** Next regular Board of Trustees meeting – June 22, 2020
40

41 Trustee Pete Akey moved that the Board of Trustees approve ITEMS A, & B Under Section II,
42 Consent Agenda-Action. Trustee Kelly Stimpson seconded the motion. The motion carried
43 unanimously with seven (7) "yes" votes.
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45 **IV. COMMENTS**

46 **A. Students**

47 **1. Student Activities Report**

1 The Student Activities Report was submitted to the Board as a written report (Please see
2 Attachment I).

3
4 **B. Faculty**

5 **1. Faculty Activities Report**

6 The Faculty Activities report was submitted to the Board as a written report (see Attachment II).

7
8 **C. Executive Staff Activities Report**

9 The Board of Trustees thanked the Executive Staff for their informative reports.
10 Trustees and President Karas noted all the hard work faculty and staff do every day to continue to
11 make FVCC an amazing place for students.

12
13 **V. COLLEGE ISSUES**

14 **A. Student Success: Student Food Pantry**

15 Wendy Jeschke, Coordinator, Student Engagement, presented the Board with an
16 update on the Student Food Pantry. The Student Food Pantry is located in the Learning Resource
17 Center, Room 109. The pantry opened in January 2018 after Student Government did a study on
18 students and their related food insecurity. Student Government had found that 51% of the student
19 population at FVCC skipped meals and 57% indicated that they did not have the resources to
20 acquire food for themselves or their families. During the spring semester, the pantry received
21 1,085.9 pounds of food and distributed 979.50 pounds while serving 81 individuals. The food
22 pantry, in conjunction with Student Government, held pop up peanut butter and jelly stations
23 during the semester, made several food baskets over the holidays, helped individuals with SNAP
24 applications and provided some Speed Seal meals. The pantry received donations through
25 canned food drives and purchased food through funds donated via donation jars that are placed
26 throughout campus. From the opening of the pantry in January 2018, through January 2020, the
27 pantry had 279 total visits from students and their dependents. During the closure due to the
28 COVID-19 pandemic, the pantry was able to continue serving students through online requests
29 and scheduled appointments.

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31 **B. Board Meeting Schedule for Fiscal Year 2020**

32 The Board was presented with the Board meeting schedule for Fiscal Year 2021.
33 President Karas noted that should any dates need to be changed in the future adjustments can be
34 made and noticed as required. Trustee Kelly Stimpson moved that the Board approve the Board
35 meeting schedule for Fiscal Year 2021 as presented. Trustee Mark Holston seconded the motion.
36 With no further discussion, the motion carried unanimously with seven (7), “yes” votes.

37
38 **C. Enter Final Agreement for Debt Service Promissory Note Relating to College**
39 **Center**

40 Three proposals for the promissory note relating to the College Center were
41 received by the May 12, 2020 deadline. Following review of all proposals received, the Board is
42 being asked to authorize President Karas to enter into negotiations and final agreement with Trail
43 West Bank for the Promissory Note relating to the debt service required to complete construction
44 of the College Center project as set forth and authorized under Section 20-15-301, M.C.A.
45 Trustee Kelly Stimpson moved that the Board authorize President Karas to be the signatory on
46 behalf of the college and enter into negotiations and final agreement with Trail West Bank for the
47 Promissory Note related to the debt service required to complete construction of the College

1 Center project, pending legal review as deemed necessary. Trustee Mark Holston seconded the
2 motion. With no further discussion, the motion carried with six (6), “yes” votes, Trustee Peter
3 Akey abstained.

4 5 **D. Trustees Events Calendar**

6 President Karas reviewed the Trustees events calendar and noted that the next
7 Board of Regents meeting is scheduled for May 20 and has been changed to a virtual meeting.
8 The next regularly scheduled Board meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 22, and that it could
9 be possible that it will be another virtual meeting depending on the state’s guidelines to re-
10 opening. The college is looking at alternatives to this years’ Summer Fest that was originally
11 scheduled for July 9, as Flathead Lake Lodge has cancelled all of their events for the summer.
12

13 **E. President’s Update**

14 President Karas updated the Board on several items:

- 15 • FVCC graduated its 52nd class with a virtual commencement on Friday, May 17.
- 16 • The Accreditation Exit meeting was well attended despite being a virtual meeting.
17 The accreditation team was pleased with the participation of the entire campus
18 community. The college received five commendations and five recommendations
19 that will be reviewed once the peer evaluation report is received.
- 20 • The Encore campaign will begin again after a slight pause due to recent closures
21 and changes due to the Covid-19 pandemic.
- 22 • President Karas noted that a meeting was held on May 26, in Helena on continued
23 discussion of the Community College Funding Formula. Unfortunately, the
24 community colleges were not able to participate during this meeting, but will have
25 an opportunity to speak and be a part of the conversation at an upcoming meeting.
- 26 • President Karas has put together a task force to discuss and prepare for the
27 upcoming semesters in regards to the ever changing requirements of Covid-19.
28 The task force will look at the safest and best ways to continue to offer the highest
29 quality education to students.
30

31 **VI. REORGANIZATION OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

32 **A. Appoint Board Members to Positions of Board Chair, Board Vice-Chair and** 33 **Secretary to the Board**

34 Chairperson Lund called for the reorganization of the Board of Trustees and opened
35 the meeting to nominations for Chairperson of the Board. Trustee Kelly Stimpson moved that
36 the Board of Trustees appoint Shannon Lund as Chairperson of the Board. Trustee Mark Holston
37 seconded the motion. With no other nominations, the motion to appoint Shannon Lund as
38 Chairperson of the Board of Trustees carried with seven (7) “yes” votes.

39 Chairperson Lund called for nominations for the position of Vice-Chairperson of the
40 Board of Trustees. Trustee Kelly Stimpson moved that the Board of Trustees appoint Callie
41 Langohr as Vice-Chairperson of the Board. Trustee Peter Akey seconded the motion. With no
42 other nominations, the motion to appoint Callie Langohr for the position of Vice-Chairperson of
43 the Board carried with seven (7) “yes” votes.

44 Chairperson Lund called for nominations for the position of Secretary to the Board.
45 Trustee Kelly Stimpson moved that the Board of Trustees appoint Kelly Stimpson as Secretary to
46 the Board. Trustee Pete Akey seconded the motion. With no other nominations, the motion to
47 appoint Kelly Stimpson as Secretary to the Board of Trustees carried with seven (7) “yes” votes.

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B. Appoint a Clerk of the District

Trustee Kelly Stimpson moved that the Board of Trustees reappoint Monica Settles as Clerk of the District. Trustee Mark Holston seconded the motion. With no other appointees, the motion carried unanimously with seven (7) “yes” votes.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

With no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 4:31 p.m.

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Shannon Lund, Chairperson of the Board

Kelly Stimpson, Secretary to the Board

**Student Activities Report
May 2020**

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To wrap up the year, the Student Engagement Office continued to focus on transitioning to an online presence. Several virtual opportunities were provided. Paint Night with Bob Ross via Zoom was the biggest hit. Supplies and instruction were provided by the Student Wellness Team. Other events included wellness & yoga sessions, a Denim Day photo contest, and distributing Stress Less kits.

In lieu of the Student Leadership Awards celebration, a Tribute video is being created to recognize our outstanding student leaders. Several faculty and staff have submitted videos to make this a very meaningful tribute.

The Interclub Council and several clubs have continued to meet during spring semester. They are focusing on member recruitment and planning club events for Week of Welcome this fall.

Student Government has developed a successful Eagle Online course site. Through this site, they continue to offer trivia/quizzes to gather input from the student body. From input gathered, they have started to create an action plan to implement change. A Tribute video was created to provide helpful information and encourage students to stay connected. Spring elections concluded on May 8th and three new students were welcomed to Student Government.

Campus Rec offered multiple virtual events during COVID-19. Events offered included, a virtual 5k fun run/walk, a self-guided fishing derby, zoom bingo, e-sports leagues and a trick shot competition. The year has wrapped up with 343 individual participants.

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4 **Faculty Activity Report**
5 **May 2020**
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7 **Eliza Thomas - Assistant Professor - Education**

8 Five University of Montana/FVCC 2+2 students in elementary education will graduate this
9 spring. On their heels comes thirteen teacher candidates who are completing their level two
10 capstone projects this week. The graduates from the past have set a high bar and local
11 administrators are looking to these graduates as future employees. The EDEC program is
12 graduating four AAS degree students this spring. While we can't celebrate with them in person,
13 we celebrate them for their accomplishment!
14

15 Eliza Thomas is finishing her first year of doctoral work with a class in the History of Children's
16 Literature. This semester through virtual delivery, she's been able to share her learning with her
17 FVCC students taking EDU 231 Children's Literature for Elementary. This summer, Eliza will be
18 taking two more courses in her journey toward her terminal degree.
19

20 **Stephanie Paidas - Assistant Professor - Psychology**

21 Dr. Stephanie Paidas has continued to support psychology students and the Social Sciences
22 division through the struggles of remote instruction and online learning. Her skills as a licensed
23 psychotherapist have come in very handy during this time!
24

25 Dr. Paidas has also recently contributed her research skills to several ad hoc reviews of scientific
26 papers for peer-reviewed psychology journals.
27

28 **Christina Relyea - Associate Professor - Natural Resources**

29 The Natural Resources Department (C. Relyea, T. Eichner, and J. Fraley) has worked together
30 with the U. S. Forest Service, Glacier National Park, Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks, and other
31 entities to place a number of students in natural resources jobs for the summer. This is a great
32 opportunity for these students and reflects well on FVCC's program as well as the quality of our
33 students. The jobs include wildlife restoration, wildlife management, state parks management,
34 forestry, and fisheries field biology. Placing students in good jobs in their field of study is one
35 measure of how well an institution prepares and advocates for students.
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