

1 FLATHEAD VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
2 BOARD OF TRUSTEES
3 Special Board Meeting
4 Monday, May 4, 2015, 3:30 p.m.
5 Board Room - Blake Hall/SCA Building
6

7 A special meeting of the Flathead Valley Community College Board of Trustees convened at
8 3:30 p.m., Monday, May 4, 2015, in Blake Hall/SCA.
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10 **I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

11 Chairperson Robert Nystuen called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. The following Board
12 members were in attendance:
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14 Mark Holston	Tom McElwain	Shannon Lund
15 John Phelps	Callie Langohr	Thomas Harding

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17 Also present were Jane A. Karas, president, and Monica Settles, Clerk of the District.
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19 **II. COLLEGE ISSUES**
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21 **A. Tuition and Fee Consideration for FY16**

22 At its April meeting, the Budget Committee recommended tuition rate increases
23 of \$3.00 per credit for all residency categories to a recommended tuition of, \$101.60 per credit
24 for in-district students; \$150.60 per credit for out-of-district students; and \$356.60 per credit for
25 out-of-state residents. In addition, the Budget Committee recommended that fees be increased
26 \$.60 per credit for all residency categories, to recommend mandatory fees of \$35.80 per credit
27 for all residency categories. After review of the Budget Committee's recommendation, President
28 Karas is recommending a tuition increase rate of \$4.00 per credit and a fee increase of \$.60 per
29 credit. With the recommendation of President Karas, tuition and fees for a fulltime in-district
30 student taking 15-18 credits would increase by \$64.40 per semester. President Karas noted that
31 the college has managed its finances in a fiscally conservative manner and has kept the tuition
32 increases below the rate of inflation for several years, but with the appropriation levels approved
33 by the legislature at lower levels than expected a tuition and fee increase is being recommended.

34 President Karas did indicate that the Board has chosen over the past few years to make annual
35 reviews of the tuition and smaller adjustments to avoid large adjustments all at once which helps
36 students avoid large spikes of a 5, 10 or 15 percent increase in any given year. Tom McElwain
37 moved that the Board of Trustees approve the recommended tuition increase of \$4.00 per credit
38 for all residency categories for a total of \$102.30 per credit for in-district students; \$151.60 per
39 credit for out-of-district students; and \$357.60 per credit for out-of-state residents, in addition to
40 a mandatory fee increase of \$.60 per credit for all residency categories for total mandatory fees
41 of \$35.80 per credit. John Phelps seconded the motion. Upon further discussion, Trustee
42 Holston noted that he didn't think any of the Trustees want to vote for a tuition increase, but
43 stated that the need is obvious and the cost is very small. President Kars stated that the increase
44 can be a challenge from many students, but FVCC offers multiple scholarships and payment
45 plans that will lessen the financial burden for many of those students. Trustee Mark Holston
46 called for the question. The motion carried unanimously with seven (7) "yes" votes.

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III. ADJOURNMENT

With no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

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Robert A. Nystuen, Chairperson of the Board

Shannon Lund, Secretary to the Board