

**LINN-BENTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
FEBRUARY 18, 2009**

7 p.m. – Regular Board meeting, BENTON CENTER, ROOM 204

CALL TO ORDER – Chair Mason called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

Board members present: Brayton, Brodie, Horner, Mason, Running, Sass, and Wogaman

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA - None

CITIZEN COMMENTS - None

INTRODUCTIONS/PRESENTATIONS

A. Ms. Camille Preus - Oregon Community College and Workforce Development Commissioner Preus reported the co-chairs of the Joint Ways and Means committee have released the legislative budget rebalance. It will be acted on early next week, and has no additional reductions for community colleges. 1.1% of the current \$5M state support to community colleges is the reduction that we will take until the news gets worse, if it does, in May. The commission did lose \$1M but it had not been spent. She noted that we still anticipate 09-11 will not be good. Current state losses are \$750M to \$800M, and projections are showing next biennium will lose \$1.5 to \$2B in revenue. Co-chairs have used \$200M of the federal stabilization fund to prop up the rest of this biennium's budget. Neither the rainy day nor the education stabilization fund monies were used for education in Oregon. Ms. Preus projects that state support will be \$450M to \$475M for community colleges in the 2009-2011 biennium. She noted that Workforce is looking for \$36M from federal, but so are other state agencies. When asked by Mr. Brayton about the news that PCC's president had told his staff that they would not be affected at all by the state shortage, Ms. Preus noted that PCC recently sold a \$274M bond and their president may not feel able to acknowledge the state short-fall in the same way as the other 16 community colleges. Average enrollment growth across the state was up 10% for fall term; it was noted that LBCC is also up slightly from last winter to this winter, but down from fall of 2008. Across the state, lower division collegiate enrollment is at 44% of all categories and is inching up, mostly due to university "sticker shock"; professional/technical enrollment is headed down slightly. Pre-collegiate programs are roughly 17% of what we do. \$53M came to the community colleges from the state stimulus funds for deferred maintenance. Board members are urged to send notes of appreciation to the co-chairs of the Joint Ways and Means Committee. Ms. Preus expressed her belief that the testimony by community college students and staff before the Joint Ways and Means Committee helped to educate members of that committee and garnered us the funds in their budget while other state agencies were cut. Ms. Preus also noted that the legislators thought that community colleges had already taken a hit in the Governor's budget when education was supposedly being held harmless. Ms. Preus reported that some community colleges have pegged their tuition to COL or CPI, so that tuition increases are somewhat predictable.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES –

Correction on Page 2 – Four lines from the bottom of the first paragraph (within **College Reports - Enrollment**) change "given away" to "awarded". Dr. Brodie moved to approve the minutes as

corrected, and Mr. Sass seconded the motion. The vote on the motion to approve is recorded as follows: Yes – Brayton, Brodie, Horner, Mason, Running, Sass, and Wogaman. The motion passed by unanimous vote of those present.

OCCA REPORT AND LEGISLATIVE SUMMIT REPORT

Mr. Mason noted that he was surprised by the tight scheduling of the legislators and reported that all three of our legislators seem well aware of community college issues and very much pro-LBCC and pro-community college. Dr. Wogaman noted that while the news wasn't good at this meeting, it was clear that legislators had an appreciation for community colleges and for LBCC in particular. Dr. Thallemer reported that Senator Morse has introduced a bill to fix the problem of the Essential Budget Level (EBL) for community colleges. Dr. Cavin thanked Board members for their time at the legislature.

COLLEGE REPORTS

A. Bellwether Award

Dean of the Health Occupations and Workforce Education Division, Ms. Ann Malosh, showed all present the Bellwether Award, given to the winning community college in recognition of their innovation in workforce education. Ms. Malosh explained that the process for selection included doctoral students who research innovative programs and then contact those colleges to ask them to submit their programs, followed by a presentation by representatives from each of the top 10 nominated colleges. Ms. Malosh noted that this prize-winning program for distance delivery of Diagnostic Imaging has a great deal of support from many areas of LBCC....the design of the program is what won the award for us. The model that streams the program to rural Oregon, the Bellwether winning model, is also now being contemplated for Occupational Therapy Assistance (OTA) and other health programs. Dr. Cavin noted that we are getting a lot of congratulatory notes from Samaritan Health Services (CEO Dr. Mullins first and foremost.) Samaritan continues to support us so that we can offer the program state-wide. LBCC graduates about 23 to 24 students here and about 11 others around the state. We have a 99.5% pass rate and every graduate has a job. We are meeting the need without saturating the market. Ms. Malosh noted that the starting salary for a two year degree in Diagnostic Imaging is \$45 to \$50K.

OLD BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS

A. First Reading of Board Policy (Information)

1. Board Policy 6120 – Sick Leave

Dr. Thallemer noted that the essential change to this Board Policy would eliminate the acceptance of sick leave from other organizations and would allow the college to not take on the liability of sick leave not earned at LBCC.

B. RES. 01-09: Declaration of Emergency for State and Federal Stimulus to Facilitate Timely Procurement

Mr. Huckestein began by showing Board members the list of deferred maintenance projects given to the CCWD by LBCC for the use of state stimulus funds allocated for this purpose. These projects must be shovel-ready and able to begin by April 1st. The cost of doing the entire list is \$2.04M. We would receive about \$1.8M. We are in the process of specing projects. Resolutions 01-09 and 02-09 allow us to change the thresholds so that we can effectively skip the bidding process in order to act quickly to meet the guidelines for use of these funds. Resolution 01-09 would declare the emergency and put the temporary exception rules into place. Mr. Huckestein noted that there is a high level of interest in these projects and the competition may be fierce even without bids. He also noted that we must track who is working on the projects, where they live, and we must report that to OCCWD, who would report to DAS (Oregon Department of Administrative Services). If the cost estimates were from 6 months ago and costs will be lower, we can expand projects and still use these state funds.

Mr. Brayton moved to adopt Resolution 01-09, and Dr. Wogaman seconded the motion.

The vote on the motion to adopt is recorded as follows: Yes – Brayton, Brodie, Horner, Mason, Running, Sass, and Wogaman. The motion passed by unanimous vote of those present.

C. RES. 02-09: GRANT: Oregon Economic Stimulus “Go Oregon” plan

Mr. Brayton moved to adopt Resolution 02-09, and Dr. Brodie seconded the motion. The vote on the motion to adopt is recorded as follows: Yes – Brayton, Brodie, Horner, Mason, Running, Sass, and Wogaman. The motion passed by unanimous vote of those present.

D. 2009-10 Academic Calendar (Action)

Ms. Schaafsma presented the 2009-10 Academic Calendar for the Board’s approval stating that it is solely the academic calendar, showing only the beginning and end of terms. It includes an eight week summer term and 11 week fall, winter and spring terms aligning with Oregon State University. Board members asked how much work is done to make sure that our calendar coincides with K-12 academic calendars, especially spring break. Ms. Schaafsma responded that every effort is made to align the LBCC calendar with both OSU and the local K-12 schedules. Dr. Wogaman moved to approve the 2009-2010 Academic Calendar as presented, and Mr. Running seconded the motion. The vote on the motion to approve is recorded as follows: Yes – Brodie, Horner, Mason, Running, Sass, and Wogaman. The motion passed by unanimous vote of those present.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Fiscal Management
- B. Human Resources
 - 1. New Hires/Separations/Transfers
 - 2. Supplemental
- C. External Funding
- D. Bids and Services

- E. Proposed Grants/Programs
- F. Purchasing Quotes (Information Only)
 - 1. Boom Lift – Quotations
 - 2. Environmental Chamber – Quotations

Dr. Brodie moved to approve Consent Agenda Items A through F-2, and Mr. Running seconded the motion. The vote on the motion to approve is recorded as follows: Yes – Brayton, Brodie, Horner, Mason, Running, Sass, and Wogaman. The motion passed by unanimous vote of those present.

REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

A. CLASSIFIED

Ms. Drury gave the following report:

Red Ayers, IA for Welding, received a thank you letter from The Carousel Ring here in Albany for his help and expertise in fixing some mechanical mechanisms. Red's donation of his time and experience helped save the group from having to spend a lot of money to get the work done elsewhere.

B. ASSOCIATED STUDENT GOVERNMENT

Ms. Gzik gave the following report:

OCCSA will coordinate a state-wide lobbying day on March 5th, and they are hoping to have all 17 community colleges there. As part of that lobbying effort, a post card campaign called "1,000 cards" is being organized, with cards and letters directed to local legislators, delivered in first aid kits. Ms. Gzik reported that reps to classes were very well received this term. Michelle Slay at Albany campus asked students to set up tables in Takena. Online instructors are asking for online information for their classes. Spring Fling might be changed so that students are given more information about how to get through this recession and tough economic times.

C. FACULTY

Mr. Agnew introduced Joseph Bailey, president-elect of the Faculty Association. He then gave the following report:

Cyrel Gable, Family Resources and Education, recently became chair of the board of directors of Benton Hospice Services. This is a board she has been a member of for about 4 years, and her term as chair began in January. At LBCC she coordinates parenting classes out in the community with many different partners.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

A. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Cavin began her report by saying that in Nov. 2008, we found out we were going to lose \$450K; as of last night we heard that we were going to lose an additional \$2M this year. At 1:15 pm today we learned that the Co-chairs of the Joint Ways and Means Committee decided not to take any more money from us this year. Our best guess for state support next year is \$17.5M – it may be lower, we don't expect higher. Traditionally, when balancing our budget, a 2/3 share comes from cuts, 1/3 share comes from increased revenue. Dr. Cavin noted that we don't want to make staff

cuts; while we are looking at many other ways to cut, unfortunately, 80% of our cuts are related to staff. She also noted that the state of Oregon is giving more money to the students rather than giving money to the operations of the college. She also noted that administrators are trying to save as much money as we can this spring so that we have money for next year. Mr. Mason urged caution in counting on a set figure in state support. Dr. Cavin noted that we must be very prudent. We could be surprised in January of this year, but we cannot be surprised again if the state comes and takes our money again.

Ms. Gzik responded to the report by saying “it sucks but there has to be an increase in tuition”. We are going to make it through and it is true that students will have more grants and financial aid. She reported that she is still going to take classes at LBCC. She also noted that predicted tuition increases at Umpqua CC of \$22 per credit, and at Treasure Valley CC of \$10-12 per credit, means that LBCC’s possible \$7 per credit increase is okay with me.

Ms. Drury noted that staff cuts are hard for everyone and classified staff are all waiting for the shoe to drop. We are sticking together.

Mr. Agnew said that for faculty “anything we can do to help our community is our goal”. Students in my class are in their 40’s and 50’s and retraining. They are scared but know that LBCC is a place that will help them.

B. ACADEMIC AFFAIRS AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Elizabeth Lundy was introduced as the new Vice President of Instruction at Clackamas Community College. Mr. Mason called Elizabeth “one of the most competent people I’ve worked with in 35 years.” Dr. Cavin noted that LBCC is known for growing presidents for Oregon community colleges. She expects to see Elizabeth as a community college president in the very near future.

C. FINANCE AND OPERATIONS

Mr. Huckestein reported that the college almost has good news, because ending figures look good. Unfortunately we have reduced interest earnings, because interest on our investments is also going down. He reported that our best estimates of savings accrued will be 3% in personnel and 5% in M&S. We have spent 50.45% of budget this year (as compared to 54% at this time last year), but this is skewed by capital spending rather than showing less spending on our part. Mr. Huckestein reported that the college is spending Full Faith and Credit Obligation (FFCO) monies for the new Science building. \$4.9M of our ending fund balance is essentially an IOU from the state, which makes our ending fund balance about \$500K.

Mr. Huckestein believes that our first payment of the 09-11 biennium will be very low.

D. STUDENT SERVICES AND GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

Dr. Thallemer reported that OCCA thanked us for the many staff, students and Board members who testified before numerous committees regarding state support to community colleges in Oregon, as well as other issues such as foster children in college. Having those folks testify makes a big difference in the thinking of our legislators concerning state support.

Eight people are going through a process improvement survey of college processes in a number of different work areas throughout the college.

BOARD COMMENTS

- Mr. Brayton reported that 47 employees will be affected by the closing of Roth’s grocery store in Lebanon.

- Dr. Brodie expressed her good luck wishes to Elizabeth. Dr. Brodie noted that Senator Morse and Representatives Gelser and Olson were all at a recent League of Women Voter's event and all three publicly expressed support for community colleges. She also reported that she sent a thank you to Andy Olson for his guest editorial regarding LBCC losing state funding because of our conservative fiscal operations.
- Mr. Running reported that he enjoyed our time in Salem, especially the time with our three legislators. He appreciates how much they support community colleges, but they have no clue what is going to happen. The sub-prime mortgages have affected everyone around the world. Good luck to Elizabeth, it's been good to know you.
- Ms. Horner: "Good luck to you, Elizabeth...someday we will be calling you Madame President. Thank you to Rita and all the staff for all your thoughtful work."
- Mr. Sass: "I was at the OCCA legislative summit, all legislators were intent about their support. This is the first time that people in the grass seed industry are being laid off. We as a Board and as a college have not said enough lately about Rita's good work out in the community working for LBCC. Happily she has a good partner in that endeavor with Bill. Jim has helped us to be financially frugal." Other Board members voiced their agreement with that opinion.
- Dr. Wogaman voiced his opinion that the Board is united in its support of the college. Corvallis has lost three restaurants in the last three months and some industries are not as strong as they once were. He voiced his wishes of Good luck to Ms. Lundy and welcome to Mr. Bailey. LBCC is a great institution; it is not only delivering a good education but is supporting the area's economy.
- Mr. Mason noted that he is sorry to see Elizabeth leave. Gary Ruppert will do a fine job as Dean of Instruction. He is a pleasure to work with. I hope that the state and federal governments keep in mind what the state will need to come out of this and that the college Board and administration position the college for the future. Community colleges are a huge part of any economic recovery and help with the economy in so many ways. "I wish there was something we could do about the college's financial situation. I know that even in these difficult economic times, our staff is still working hard and doing a good job."

Dr. Cavin also reported that the Federal stimulus package was what allowed LBCC to receive money from the Joint Ways and Means committee today. So that stimulus package has saved jobs in Oregon.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Mason adjourned the meeting at 9:30 p.m.