

Regular Meeting
of the
Blackhawk Technical College District Board

February 21, 2018

Minutes

The regular meeting of the Blackhawk Technical College Board was held on Wednesday, February 21, 2018, at the BTC Administrative Center, 6004 S. County Road G, Janesville, in the Board Room. The following members were present: Eric Thornton, Chairperson; Barbara Tillman, Vice Chairperson; Laverne Hays, Secretary; Traci Davis; Tom Heeg; Mark Mayer; and Dr. Karen Schulte. Board members absent: Rick Richard, Treasurer; and Malik Surani. Staff present: Dr. Tracy Pierner; Dr. Zahi Atallah; Renea Ranguette; Tony Landowski; Brian Gohlke; Jackie Pins.

Chairperson Thornton called the meeting to order at 5:11 p.m.

Chairperson Thornton called for Public Comment. There was none.

Chairperson Thornton called for Special Reports.

BTC retiree Dolores Fisher was recognized for 12½ years of service to the College.

Student Representative to the Board Erika Kropp provided a report on student activities and events.

Chairperson Thornton called for Information/Discussion items.

The January financial statement and quarterly update were reviewed.

Dr. Pierner presented the President's monthly report. BTC received the Community Service Award from the Latino Service Providers Coalition at an awards luncheon. A follow-up meeting was held with Jedi Academy; a meta-major approach is being developed to provide opportunities for their students. AMTC was the host site for a Wisconsin Technical Education Association regional meeting; a focus was a national mechatronics grant opportunity. The Blackhawk Scholars initiative continues. A pilot is launching whereby students who are undecided in their career will be interviewed and hired as interns at companies; the interns will then rotate between career opportunities and companies in a 4-week program. A March 15 event is planned to officially launch the program in Rock County; invitations have been extended to companies and school districts to learn more about the initiative. A similar opportunity is being explored in Green County and a meeting already held with Brodhead High School/Kuhn/Stoughton Trailer/BTC/GCDC. Conversation has been held Brodhead High School regarding expansion of the Career & Tech Ed footprint at their facility through creation of a welding lab in the high school to provide a dual credit opportunity. Drs. Pierner and Atallah met with a UW-Stout representative regarding faculty development. Local and state meetings attended were reviewed. The BTC Foundation Board met in January; one item discussed was an MOU with the College for Foundation operations. The MOU will be brought forward for District Board approval in March. A meeting was held with UW-Whitewater Chancellor Kopper to discuss future opportunities; initial

conversation was held regarding the possibility of adding shuttle service to UW-Whitewater. The 2nd Annual Signing Day activity was held with approximately 100 students participating. Upcoming events include Gen. Marsha Anderson speaking on February 26 for a Black History Month event, Soul Food Luncheon on February 27, and a Women in Leadership event on March 8. BTC's new website will launch on February 27; a link will be sent to Board members to preview the development site prior to launch.

Chairperson Thornton called for the Consent Agenda.

It was moved by Ms. Tillman and seconded by Dr. Schulte to approve the consent agenda, which included the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on January 17, 2018; current bills from the month of January – Voucher #00244506 to and including #00244679 and direct deposit expense reimbursements in the total amount of \$643,036.32 (includes student related payments), a payroll total for the month of January of \$702,236.34, payroll tax wire transfers for the month of January of \$494,566.77, other wire transfers for the month of January of \$56,190.07, WRS wire transfers for the month of January of \$156,451.90, P-card disbursements for the month of January of \$162,232.01, a bond payment for the month of January of \$0, and a health insurance wire transfer for the month of January of \$271,325.32, for a grand total of \$2,486,038.73; 24 training contracts negotiated since the last meeting totaling \$53,006; approval of a salary modification of \$3,000 to Jessica Santillan to reflect the salary amount of \$56,663 which had been documented in her offer letter; confirmation of a limited-term instructional employment contract issued to Brad Wildes for the position of Electrical Apprenticeship Instructor at a salary of \$60,065, effective February 12, 2018; confirmation of an administrative employment contract issued to Jeffrey Mueller for the position of Systems Engineer at a salary of \$75,000, effective February 26, 2018; confirmation of an administrative employment contract issued to Susan Reik for the position of ERP Business Analyst at a salary of \$65,000, effective February 26, 2018; confirmation of an administrative employment contract issued to Jon Dieter for the position of ERP Applications & Integration Analyst at a salary of \$72,000, effective February 26, 2018; and affirmation of the termination of a limited-term instructional employment contract issued to Timothy Murphy, effective February 7, 2018.

Motion carried.

Chairperson Thornton called for Action Items.

It was moved by Mr. Mayer and seconded by Ms. Davis to approve revisions to Board Policy D-398 – Contracted Service for Instruction, Technical Assistance, Fiscal, and Management Services, as presented.

Motion carried.

Dr. Pierner requested consideration of international travel to China. The opportunity is possible as a result of Dr. Annie Wu's visit to the College last fall. She is responsible for creating international educational opportunities in cooperation with the Chinese government. Upon her return to China, she held discussions with a number of Chinese colleges. The proposed trip at the end of March would have an approximate cost of \$2,500; travel would be with School District of Janesville (SDJ) representatives. Discussion will be held regarding a potential Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on education cooperation between Shanghai Public Utility School, China, and BTC. Pros and

cons of partnerships with China were shared. Board members shared their perspectives regarding this proposed initiative. Comments supported the travel for the cost involved but added we would need to be sensitive of extra efforts that will be needed if an MOU moves forward. What would we let go of to put resources into the initiative? Talking points would also need to be developed in the future if moving forward. Dr. Pierner added that one of this year's established goals for the WTCS Presidents' Association is international and out-of-state student recruitment as Wisconsin does not have the population to support workforce needs within the state. This initiative would fit well with that statewide goal.

It was moved by Ms. Tillman and seconded Dr. Schulte to approve international travel for Dr. Pierner to accompany individuals from the School District of Janesville to China in March 2018.

Motion carried unanimously.

Chairperson Thornton called for Committee Reports.

The Finance Committee met earlier in the evening. A brief summary was provided on items discussed. Following discussion, Committee consensus was for Administration to move forward with giving 6-month notice regarding termination of the Beloit Center lease; alternate locations to provide instruction and services within Beloit are being sought.

Administration requested the award of a contract for professional services for design of the Central Campus Transportation Training Center facility. The Finance Committee presented its recommendation.

It was moved Ms. Davis and seconded by Mr. Heeg to award a contract for professional services for design of the Central Campus Transportation Training Center facility to Keller Design Architects, Kaukauna, Wisconsin.

Motion carried.

Administration requested approval to increase the Monroe Agriculture Training Center construction budget by \$71,000 due to increased costs associated with the project. The Finance Committee presented its recommendation.

It was moved by Mr. Mayer and seconded by Ms. Davis to approve an increase of \$71,000 to the Monroe Agriculture Training Center construction budget.

Motion carried.

Chairperson Thornton called for New Business.

The Spring 2018 enrollment report was reviewed.

The annual report on Tax Incremental Districts located within the Blackhawk Technical College District was reviewed.

A review of Board Policies D-440, D-540, D-554, and D-558 was conducted. Revisions were recommended for D-540 and D-554. An additional revision was requested to better reflect what the Administrative Regulation is and where it is located. Also requested was a descriptor on the website to explain the differing policy documents within the manual. Approval of the recommended revisions will be scheduled at the March meeting.

Chairperson Thornton called for Other Business.

A report on the winter meeting of the District Boards Association was provided and initial information shared on the Association's Spring meeting in Richland Center in April.

Chairperson Thornton called for Future Agenda Items. There were none.

It was moved by Mr. Heeg and seconded by Ms. Davis to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 p.m.


Laverne E. Hays
Secretary