



DRAFT Minutes



Edison State College
District Board of Trustees Special Meeting
Lee Campus – Building I, Room 223
February 7, 2012
1:00 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM: 1

The District Board of Trustees of Edison State College met in special session in Lee County, Florida, on February 7, 2012 at 1:00 p.m. with the meeting called to order by Ann Berlam, Chair.

Present: Ann Berlam, Chair
Marjorie Starnes-Bilotti, Vice Chair
Dr. Randall Parrish, Jr.
Julia Perry
Pamella Seay
Christopher Vernon
Sankey E. "Eddie" Webb, III
J. Dudley Goodlette, J.D., Interim District President
June Hollingshead, Recorder

Absent: Brian Chapman, Jr. – In Tallahassee

Others: Dr. Tom Furlong, SACS Consultant
Mr. John Hicks, Academic Search, Inc.

Pledge to Flag

Introduction of Guests and Public Comment – None

Information Reports:

1. *SACS Update Report* – (Dr. Erin Harrel)

Dr. Harrel and President Goodlette visited SACS on February 3, 2012 and reviewed SACS findings with Dr. Barry Goldstein, and how the College is addressing them. They met with Belle Wheelan, SACS President, who recognized Edison's efforts to reclaim its outstanding reputation. Dr. Harrel introduced Dr. Tom Furlong, Edison's SACS consultant, who was visiting today. Mr. Vernon requested an itemized summary of SACS progress to date at the next Board meeting. Kristen Zimmerman was named Project Manager to coordinate SACS efforts and documentation. Dr. Harrel said the College received state Department of Education approval today for its 5 baccalaureate programs in Education. Six programs are now state approved, meaning Education students will graduate with a teacher's certificate.

2. *Tallahassee Update Report* – (Mrs. Ann Berlam)

Mrs. Berlam reported on the AFC Trustees Legislative Conference in Tallahassee with Board members Chris Vernon and Pamella Seay, President Goodlette, and Bob Jones. They met Matthew Holliday, Edison's Director of Governmental Relations.

SGA students were also in Tallahassee visiting legislators, and were delighted to see President Goodlette and the Board Members. Chick Dassance reviewed the AFC's *Trustee Orientation Manual*, including history, governance of the Florida College System, and the role of Trustees. He welcomed Mrs. Berlam's suggestion to add a checklist on succession planning to the manual which will be made available to all trustees. Mrs. Berlam shared several points from the *Manual*:

- The Board should act as a unit, govern with one voice, and work as a team with common goals.
- The Board should represent the common good. Members are appointed from the communities where they reside and are ambassadors of those communities.
- The Board sets the policy direction for the College.
- The Board employs, evaluates, and supports the CEO of the College.
- The Board defines policy standards for College operations.
- The Board creates a positive climate for the College.
- The Board monitors the performance of the institution.
- Board members are advocates for the College.

The *Manual* suggests that Boards adopt a code of ethics, be familiar with the Sunshine Law, and stress the importance of professional development for Trustees.

Chancellor Randy Hanna addressed the role of Trustees to hire, evaluate, and terminate the President, to be responsible for policy and not operation of the College, and to work as a collegial body. The President should be transparent and open, make sound personnel decisions, and incorporate performance measures in how the College is doing. Chancellor Hanna also spoke about issues for the future from a state perspective, including higher education reform, student performance in that students are ready for college and for the workforce, performance-based funding, and funding for capital.

With the assistance of Matt Holliday, Board members and President Goodlette met with all legislators from the five-county district served by the College. They were recognized in the Senate and House chambers for their attendance and for the 50th anniversary of Edison State College.

Ms. Seay described the visit to Tallahassee as an extraordinary opportunity to take the Board's message to our legislators who saw the Board as engaged and involved. She also highly recommended the AFC conference.

Mr. Vernon suggested to AFC to have a list or resource of other trustees around the state available for Board members to talk to since our Board members cannot talk to each other out of the Sunshine. He volunteered to be the Board liaison to AFC which was accepted without objection.

3. *Interim District President's Report* – (Mr. J. Dudley Goodlette)

President Goodlette attended the College of Presidents meeting along with twenty-seven other College presidents. They spent an hour with Governor Rick Scott.

With the help of Teresa Morgenstern, President Goodlette has held Town Hall Meetings at the College campuses with a “looking forward” theme, and is encouraged by feedback from faculty, students, staff, and community members.

President Goodlette noted that the February 28th Board meeting on the Charlotte campus would begin at 2:00 p.m. with the Charter Schools Governing Board preceding the regular public Board meeting.

President Goodlette received a letter today from Dr. Kenneth Walker's law firm regarding the next step in the administrative hearing process, and will keep everyone apprised of this issue.

Vote to Take Action On:

Agenda Item #1. Discussion of Presidential Search Committee (Presenter: John Hicks, Academic Search, Inc.)

Since being hired two weeks ago, Mr. Hicks has met on the Charlotte campus with Dr. Land, her leadership team, student leadership, individual faculty and staff members, and talked with them about their hopes for Edison State College, presidential attributes, what opportunities the next president should be able to take advantage of, and issues to resolve. Today he met on the Lee campus with the President's Cabinet, a group of faculty and staff members, and students. He will meet tomorrow on the Collier campus.

Following the meeting cited above, Mr. Hicks will begin to draft documents to use in the search to recruit highly-qualified candidates. Community meetings should be scheduled week after next at all College locations. His goal is to meet with the Presidential Advisory Search Committee on February 23, 2012 to review his documents and to officially launch the presidential search.

Mr. Hicks noted the common attributes discussed for the next President: someone who is transparent; able to assess where the College is with its many projects and take steps to see that they are supported; open to shared governance; committed to open and clear communication with the goal of taking Edison to the next level; able to repair any damage to the College's reputation, renew community relationships and partner in economic development.

Mr. Hick's goal today is to address how to move forward:

1. Appoint a diverse search committee composed of members from each of the campuses, representatives from the community, students, faculty, staff,

administrators, and Board of Trustees with those members being recommended by each specific group. Board members will suggest community representatives.

2. Have a clear charge from the Board to the committee. The Board is the only body who can appoint the next President. Its primary duty is to appoint, support, and evaluate a President. By investing in a committee, the Board will also listen to their counsel. The charge is to bring a list of at least three and not more than five unranked finalists. The Board reserves the right to ask for more names.

When Mr. Hicks assisted with an FSU search committee, the Chairman of the Board was also the Chair of the search committee, and worked very well there. His recommendation specifically would be that the Chair of the Board of Trustees would also be the Chair of the search committee, that there would be three faculty members appointed, four community members appointed, two staff members appointed, one administrator, and one student. A committee of twelve people would allow some ability to move quickly and communicate well as a committee. And because of the essence of time, it was his recommendation that the names from the various constituent groups be forwarded to Chair, Ann Berlam, and that she have the responsibility to name this committee so that it could meet on February 23rd sometime around noon.

MOTION by Marjorie-Starnes Bilotti, seconded by Chris Vernon, to accept John Hicks' proposal with respect to the Presidential Advisory Search Committee, as to its number of members, as to the composition of the committee, as to the Board of Trustees Chairman being the Chairman of the advisory committee, who will also designate the other committee members.

Mr. Vernon questioned the split of one candidate between Hendry and Glades counties, and if Dr. Parrish or Mrs. Perry would like to push for a thirteenth member to ensure one community member from each county. Dr. Parrish was satisfied with twelve members.

Mrs. Perry asked how she and Dr. Parrish should communicate with each other. Mr. Lupe said that they cannot confer outside of a public meeting. They would have to confer now, or each make their separate recommendations as to who would best represent both counties with possible crossover between the two.

Mr. Lupe said the best way to proceed is for Board members to give their names to President Goodlette. Ms. Seay expressed her concern with shortchanging the community by only having four community members and said that the Board may want to consider a committee of fifteen to eighteen persons or more.

Mrs. Perry requested that Glades County have a representative on the committee. She moved to amend the motion to include representatives from each of the five

counties served by the College. Ms. Starnes-Bilotti as the maker of the motion and Mr. Vernon as the seconder agreed to the amendment to the original motion.

Mrs. Berlam reiterated that the search committee will not select the President. The Board selects the president. The search committee is a vehicle, an advisory committee to the Board, who will bring three to five names to the Board in meetings which are open to the public.

CALL OF THE QUESTION. MOTION by Mrs. Starnes-Bilotti who moved to call the question. The motion carried, with one negative vote by Ms. Seay.

MOTION AS AMENDED by Mrs. Perry to establish a presidential search committee comprised of five community members; three faculty members; two staff members; one administrator; one student; and the chair of the committee being the Chair of the District Board of Trustees for a total of thirteen members. Each constituent group shall recommend candidates with board members recommending community members. The Chair of the Committee shall name the committee from the recommendations submitted. The committee should represent the diversity of the College and the community. Recommendations should be submitted to President Goodlette. Motion carries with one negative vote by Ms. Seay.

Board Member Comments

- Mr. Webb asked Mrs. Doeble and Mr. Lupe to prepare another presentation about the ESC Financing Corporation for the February 28, 2012 Board meeting. Any Trustee concerns should be forwarded to President Goodlette before the meeting so that the staff will have a chance to address them.
- Mrs. Berlam asked that the Financing Corporation presentation be made under the "Professional Development Discussion" agenda section.
- President Goodlette noted that the ESC Financing Corporation will meet on the Lee Campus Friday, February 10, 2012 and all are welcome to attend.
- Mrs. Berlam reminded everyone that the next Board meeting on the Charlotte Campus would begin at 2:00 p.m.
- Mrs. Berlam informed everyone that Brian Chapman has been named as Board Liaison to the Edison State College Foundation, Inc.


Adjournment MOTION by Randy Parrish, seconded by Julia Perry, to adjourn the meeting. Approved unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 2:02 p.m.



J. Dudley Goodlette, J.D.,
Interim District President
District Board of Trustees

2/29/12

Date



Ann Berlam, Chair
District Board of Trustees

Feb. 28, 2012

Date