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Our Mission

NWCCD welcomes all learners, empowers student success, encourages and strengthens community development.

NORTHERN WYOMING COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT - BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Minutes

Wednesday, April 1, 2020, 6:30 p.m.

Zoom (Online Video Conference Platform)

Trustees Present

Walt Wragge, Chair
Robert Leibrich, Vice Chair
Debra Wendtland, Treasurer
Shelley Wilson Kinnison
Norleen Healy
Bruce Hoffman
Gary Koltiska

Trustees Absent

Advisory Board Representatives Present

Cindy Kremers, Chair, Johnson County Advisory Board
Robert Palmer, Chair, Gillette College Advisory Board

Advisory Board Representatives Absent

Administration Present

Dr. Walt Tribley, President
Janell Oberlander, Vice President of Gillette College
Cheryl Heath, Vice President for Academic Affairs
Jen Crouse, Sheridan College Foundation Executive Director & Vice President for Student Affairs
Estella Castillo-Garrison, Vice President of Academic Affairs
Heidi Gross, Gillette College Foundation Executive Director
Wendy Smith, Associate Vice President for Strategic Communication & Public Relations
Jennifer McArthur, Assistant Vice President of Human Resources

Others Present

Hayden Heaphy, NWCCD Board Counsel
Pat Blair, Sheridan Media
Diane Adler, Gillette College

Ashleigh Snoozy, Sheridan Press
Michael Summers, County 17 Press

Recorder

Andrea Morgan

1. Call to Order and Roll Call – Emergency Meeting

NWCCD Board Chair, Walter Wragge, called the Emergency Meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Chair Wragge stated the purpose of the meeting was to consider a resolution granting the District President the authority to make decisions related to the developing Coronavirus situation.

Chair Wragge asked if there was a quorum. A verbal roll call was taken, and there was a quorum.

Chair Wragge asked Dr. Tribley to explain the protocol for the meeting facilitated by Zoom, an online video conferencing platform. Dr. Tribley explained the roll call approach used to solicit input and votes should there be any.

2. Public Comments

Chair Wragge called for any public comments. There were none heard.

3. New Business

Chair Wragge introduced the new business item as the consideration of a resolution to grant emergency powers to NWCCD District President, Dr. Walt Tribley to have the authority to make decisions on behalf of students, faculty, and community.

Chair Wragge read the resolution in its entirety.

Chair Wragge asked Dr. Tribley to give context for the resolution. Dr. Tribley explained that this is a temporary granting of unusual authorities to cease with the end of this state of emergency. Unusual authority granted for things such as making decisions related to academic calendars, for example. A good faith effort has been made to describe what can be anticipated, but there may be some things that are unforeseeable. In the eight years Dr. Tribley has been a CEO or President of a complex organization, he has never sought to extend his capabilities or authority. This Resolution allows the Board the opportunity to grant NWCCD a tool so that it may respond quickly. Dr. Tribley will continue to make a good faith effort to communicate decisions quickly by posting them online and communicating daily with the elected NWCCD Board of Trustees.

Chair Wragge commented that Dr. Tribley has done an exceptional job of keeping the NWCCD Board of Trustees well informed.

Chair Wragge asked for comments on the resolution.

Vice Chair Leibrich offered no amendments or changes to the Resolution as he finds it prudent and appropriate.

Trustee Healy offered an additional phrase to be considered. On the second page of the resolution in the paragraph which reads,

“NOW, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the temporary powers authorized by this Resolution

are in effect for the duration identified in Governor's Order 2020-2 dated March 13, 2020, and all subsequent Orders of the Governor or the State Health Officer, unless otherwise rescinded or extended by the Board upon a two-thirds majority vote"

Trustee Healy suggested adding "related to the above" or "related to COVID-19 emergency" for clarity. Chair Wragge asked if Trustee Healy if she thought that point wasn't covered well enough in the Resolution already. She did not. Chair Wragge offered her the opportunity to forward an amendment after everyone has spoken.

Treasurer Wendtland suggested that on page two, paragraph two, sentence two which reads,

"Such actions may include, but are not limited to: adjustments to the curriculum and the provision of alternative educational program options;"

removing, "but are not limited to." She suggested that the list is already broad and encompasses what Dr. Tribley has done and may have to do in the future, and anything not covered by the list might warrant an emergency Board meeting.

As with Trustee Healy, Chair Wragge stated that he would come back to Treasurer Wendtland.

Secretary Kinnison praised Dr. Tribley for the job he is doing. She had no suggestions related to the Resolution.

Trustee Hoffman stated his support for the resolution as proposed.

Trustee Koltiska offered no suggestions for the Resolution and said he would be in agreement with or without the suggestions made by Trustee Healy and Trustee Wendtland. Trustee Koltiska expressed his faith in Dr. Tribley.

Advisory Board Chair Kremers offered no suggestions or edits to the Resolution. Ms. Kremers praised the work of the District thus far and agrees with the Resolution with or without the proposed changes.

Advisory Board Chair Palmer praised the District for communication during these challenging times. Mr. Palmer made no suggestions related to the Resolution but asked that a signed copy of the Resolution be forwarded to all of the public funding groups in Campbell County including the city, county, and school districts so they are made aware of the emergency action taken.

Chair Wragge called upon Trustee Healy. Trustee Healy asked if this is the appropriate time to make changes before a motion. Chair Wragge stated that he would call for a motion at this time.

Trustee Healy moved and Trustee Koltiska seconded that NWCCD Board accept the NWCCD Resolution to Grant Emergency Powers to the District President, as presented by Administration.

Motion on the floor.

Chair Wragge asked Trustee Healy if she had any wording to present as an amendment.

Trustee Healy made a motion to amend the Resolution by adding the phrase “related to the above” and Vice Chair Leibrich seconded that the Resolution would now read,

“NOW, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the temporary powers authorized by this Resolution are in effect for the duration identified in Governor’s Order 2020-2 dated March 13, 2020, and all subsequent Orders of the Governor or the State Health Officer related to the above, unless otherwise rescinded or extended by the Board upon a two-thirds majority vote.”

A roll call vote was taken, and the amendment passed unanimously.

Treasurer Wendtland made a motion to amend the Resolution by removing the phrase, “but are not limited to” from page two, paragraph two and Trustee Hoffman seconded. A roll call vote was taken, and the amendment passed unanimously.

Trustee Healy made a motion to pass the Resolution as amended and Trustee Koltiska seconded. A roll call vote was taken, and the amended Resolution passed unanimously.

Copies of the amended Resolution will be provided to the NWCCD Board as well as to anyone who submits a request for information to Wendy Smith, Associate Vice President for Strategic Communication & Public Relations.

Trustee Healy thanked Dr. Tribley and his staff for their amazing work.

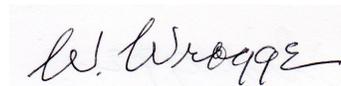
Dr. Tribley acknowledged his outstanding team.

4. Meeting adjourned at 7:04 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:



Michelle Wilson Kinnison
NWCCD Board of Trustees, Secretary



Walter Wragge
NWCCD Board of Trustees, Chair