

**Aims Community College**  
**Board Meeting Minutes**  
**Wednesday, August 6, 2008**  
Loveland Campus, Room 109

**I. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 2:57 PM by Board President Beth Bashor. Other Board members present included Richard Bond, Mike Geile, Sandy Neb and Walt Richter. College President Dr. Marsi Liddell was also in attendance.

**II. Additions/Deletions to the Agenda**

College President Marsi Liddell noted that under Information Items - VIc Derek Olson, held the position of Program Coordinator I for Fire Science not Accounting Technician.

**ON MOTION OF SANDRA NEB THE BOARD UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED  
THE AGENDA AS AMENDED.**

**III. Citizen Participation**

There was no request for citizen participation.

**IV. President's Report – Dr. Liddell**

a. Iron Mountain Project Overview

Dr. Liddell reviewed the background of the project for the Board, stating that the city of Windsor is part of the Aims tax district and town leaders had requested that the college locate a campus in the city. She added that, as part of the career and technical education program expansion, there was a possibility to place a niche campus for automotive technology in Windsor. This would also ensure flexibility for future programs, such as hybrid cars. She then introduced Joe Frye and Matt Doll from VFR Design, who presented a concept design for the Iron Mountain site, along with Russ Lee, landscape architect for the project. The Aims building will be in the northwest corner of the property, accessed off of Southgate drive. The building has been placed to the far corner to facilitate the storage yard and keep it screened from general sight at the back of the property. It also allows for expansion to the south. There will be a long entry drive to the facility. Mr. Frye pointed out portions of the design that refer to automotive design elements and also the areas on the site that will allow for excellent views. The west side of the property will be free of drives and parking lots to allow for a pedestrian walk between buildings and keep views open to the west. The building is designed to fit the site, blend with the Iron Mountain complex and emphasize the industrial aspects of the auto industry. The entry lobby will reflect a “showroom” feel with an outside plaza for auto display. He added that faculty in the auto program have been involved in the plan for facility development. Mr. Frye indicated that they have included most LEED principles in the building design. To qualify for LEED certification, they would have to complete a study to see how energy efficient the building is and ensure that all mechanical systems are working to their highest level. He commented that LEED is a good program which highlights the college's commitment to green building, adding that the plan is close to a basic level certified building. A trustee asked about the costs and return on

investment for LEED certification. Mr. Doll replied that the basic level will cost about \$60,000 and usually takes 5-10 years to reach pay off. Higher levels would take longer to pay off. Trustees made two comments about the building plans. One asked why the vent stacks were placed on the front of the building, commenting that the design might affect compatibility for later buildings to the south. Mr. Frye answered that the mechanical rooms need to be on the front of the building, but the vents could be placed on the top. Another trustee commented that all the classrooms feed into one small area, which may cause congestion. Mr. Frye indicated that the design team would consider the trustees' comments. Dr. Liddell commented on the amount of work that has gone into this plan. Director of Facilities David Laurence introduced the head of the construction team who was also in attendance.

b. Berthoud Campus

President Liddell reminded the Board that three to four years ago, college administration was charged by the Board to determine the future of the outlying campuses. At that time, the Board decided to maintain the Fort Lupton campus as it should become more viable as years progress. But since the Loveland campus is not in the Aims tax district, the Board decided not to invest more money there. Following this decision, the new site at Berthoud was selected for a new west campus. She introduced Joe Bilotta, of JBA, Inc, who presented an overview of his progress on site design and planning. He commented on the quality of the site and displayed site maps, adding that design will be based on both the physical attributes of the land and the programs that will be placed there. He indicated that the site is approximately 40 acres and includes several utility easements, including a data corridor that runs between Cheyenne Air Force base and Cheyenne Mountain in Colorado Springs and some oil drilling sites. Mr. Bilotta indicated that the college can use some of these easements as opportunities in the design of the site. Dr. Liddell told the Board that the college counsel confirmed that the oil sites will only allow directional drilling and thus won't affect the campus. Mr. Bilotta indicated that transportation studies show that growth near the campus will be incredible. Views from the site will be excellent and the visibility of the campus will also be excellent. The campus will include a flat area that will be used for a sports field and possibly some parking. This area will function as the "front door" of the campus, where visitors will see people using the land, kids playing ball etc. The main road will loop around the fields and the swale to access the building. Even with the fields, it will be possible to build up to 550,000 square feet, which is equal to the size of Greeley campus. He added that programmatically he will include the themes of wind, water, soil and sun, which is appropriate to an institute of sustainability with programs designed to train the green labor force. Mr. Bilotta indicated that he will continue his design work with additional program study, collaboration with local municipalities, site development issues, building considerations, site plan draft, adding that he and Dr. Liddell will be meeting with NREL. A trustee encouraged college administration to work with Colorado utilities to see what they can do to help the college.

c. Technology Update – Gary Bardsley

The technology report was included in the Board packet. A trustee asked about the projected strong enrollment in online courses. Dr. Bardsley indicated that due to the cost of gas and other factors, the college expects to have many students online and we want to make sure we are ready for them. Dean Jeff Reynolds stated that online

enrollment numbers are strong compared to registration in classroom courses, adding that the online AA is beginning this fall. Dr. Liddell mentioned that student services are available online to make sure students are succeeding.

d. AQIP Update

Dr. Liddell told the Board that Aims was given two options by the Higher Learning Commission for reaccreditation and in 2005 chose to adopt the Academic Quality Improvement Program (AQIP) model. Dean Jeff Reynolds gave the Board of Trustees an update on the progress toward re-accreditation through the AQIP process.

- Action project update: As part of the AQIP process, Aims committed to 5 action projects. Two of these have been completed. The Valuing People project was the genesis of the Recognition in Ripples program and was completed in 2006. The recognition program continues as a college initiative with hundreds of “ripples” awarded each year. The second completed project was Understanding Stakeholders Needs, completed in 2007. Surveys and studies commissioned from DesignWorks and Clarus examined the need and expectations of district residents and resulted in the selection of the Berthoud site for new campus.

The college is currently working on three additional action projects: Helping Students Learn is completing the 3<sup>rd</sup> year of the 3-year project. This project focused on three general education competencies: writing, critical thinking and math. The college is collecting data to see how our students are doing in these areas, with 2007-08 data available soon. A trustee asked how the study provides continuity between cohorts of students who are tested. Dean Reynolds replied that the study uses random sampling with a sufficiently large sample size. The second current project is the Emerging Scholars project, which will be a three year project. First year data is available and the second year data is due September 1. Dean Reynolds told the Board that this project is one of the most successful programs at Aims in a number of years. He continued, saying that the development of the Berthoud Campus site is the third current action project and plans that were just presented to the Board are part of this project, which is scheduled for completion by December, but may continue into next year.

- Systems portfolio: Dean Reynolds explained that the first AQIP system portfolio is due three years into the program and addresses each of 9 criteria. Aims’ first portfolio is due November 1 and will be around 100 pages when completed.
- Conversation Day 2009: The AQIP project at Aims began with a Conversation Day three years ago. A second event will be scheduled in 2009, allowing the college to come together to learn about AQIP, celebrate our successes and generate ideas for new action projects for the second AQIP cycle.

Dr. Liddell told the Board that one of the benefits of the AQIP process is that the college is always moving toward improvement. Board President Beth Bashor commented that she was glad to participate at the beginning of process and continues to be a believer.

- e. Allied Health and Sciences Division Update –  
Chief Academic Officer Donna Souther included her annual report on the Allied Health and Sciences Division in the Board packet. The board had no questions for Dean Souther but thanked her for her report.
  
- f. President's Executive Summary  
President Liddell gave a brief report on the following items:
  - Aims hosted the annual Legislative Breakfast, which was well attended by legislative representatives as well as city council members and county commissioners. Dr. Liddell noted that everyone was interested in Senate Bill 434 which allows Associate Degree Nursing graduates to sit for the RN license. The bill will sunset this year. The legislators in attendance supported extending the bill.
  - Reports on the number of participants in both FirstStep program and College Promise scholarship were included in the Board packet.
  - Also included was a sample of Myspace advertising. A similar page will be developed for Aims which should help with marketing to younger audiences.
  - Aims recently hosted the state-wide Deans Council meeting. Members of Senior Management presented a panel discussion about dealing with important issues at the community college and career advancement.
  - The new president at Colorado Mountain College, Dr. Stan Jensen, would like to have a joint meeting between Aims and CMC Boards. Karoline Woodruff will arrange it later in the fall.
  - A group of interested CEOs from Aims, Front Range, UNC & CSU have been joined by a few local corporations to begin a group currently named Joint Venture. The group will focus on the regional nature of higher ed and its impact on economic growth.
  - Dr. Liddell told the Board that she has recently held meetings with community leaders of both Loveland & Berthoud. Berthoud leaders are very excited about the new campus and look forward to working with the Board. In Loveland, she visited with the mayor, city manager and new school superintendent about what needs to happen at the Loveland campus to keep it viable for both Aims and Loveland.
  - The college is still waiting on FAA approval of the Aims Air Traffic Controller program as part of the College Training Initiative. While the college can offer the program without CTI approval, it would help our students move to the next level of training after graduation.
  - The renovation of Beaty Hall is complete and faculty and staff are moving back into their offices and classrooms. An open house will be scheduled later in the fall.
  - The executive summary from Burns Marketing has been included in the Board packet. The bottom line of the study is that students who have experienced Aims think the college is wonderful. Those who haven't had experience don't have as positive an opinion. Dr. Liddell said that she has asked Burns Marketing to work with Jared Fiel and the PIO office to identify marketing messages that will reach a variety of populations
  - The executive summary of the Socioeconomic Impact (SEIM) is also included in the packet. The study shows that Aims makes a \$1 billion

annual impact in the region. Dean Doherty told the Board that the impact is not only economic but also social, such as decreasing both the crime and poverty rates, adding that the college is a great return on investment for our tax district.

- Dr. Liddell introduced information on Initiative 121, also known as the “gaming initiative.” This initiative would allow the three gaming towns to vote to increase their gaming limits. The cities want to do this to increase their profits. The state estimates \$50-70 million additional tax dollars from these increases that would be earmarked for community colleges, including Aims and CMC. The supporting organization has requested that the Board pass a resolution to encourage having the initiative placed on the ballot for vote in November. The resolution as been approved by the Colorado Community College System, the Aims Foundation Board, and both the Chamber of Commerce Board and the Economic Development Board will be considering the resolution in the next week. Dr. Liddell indicated that signatures have been collected for placement on the November ballot. The Board discussed whether it was appropriate to pass a resolution in support of the initiative or its placement on the ballot and if the resolution would make a difference now that the petition deadline had passed. Dr. Liddell reminded the Board that they could remove the issue from action items if they prefer.

#### **V. Consent Agenda**

- a. Minutes of the June 25, 2008 Special Board Meeting
- b. Minutes of the June 30, 2008 District Board Meeting
- c. Administrator, Faculty and Exempt Employee Hires:
  - **Jeremy Rottini, Allied Health Advisor, exempt staff, new position**
  - **Nina Kirk, Associate Dean, Nursing & DNEP, administrator, replacement**

**ON MOTION OF RICHARD BOND, THE BOARD UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED.**

#### **VI. Information Items**

- a. Board Calendar
- b. Non-exempt Employee Hires:
  - Casey Rogers, Student Services Specialist, Admissions and Records, non-exempt staff, replacement
- c. Retiring or Leaving the Employ of the College:
  - Patricia Eaton, Accounting Technician, Financial Services
  - Derek Olsen, Program Coordinator I, Fire Science
  - Jillian Seaburn, Program Coordinator II, Learning ResourcesChris Urso, Program Coordinator I, Career and Technical Ed

#### **VII. Action Items**

- a. Rescission of Policy 1-401 Academic Council (Second Reading)  
Dr. Liddell reminded the Board that this policy is to be rescinded due to the fact that the Academic Council no longer exists. This is part of the clean up of the Policy and Procedure Manual.

**ON MOTION OF MIKE GEILE THE BOARD UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE THE RESCISSION OF POLICY 1-401 ACADEMIC COUNCIL, ON FINAL READING.**

- b. Rescission of Policy 4-703 Academic Dean Selection Process (Second Reading)  
The policy was developed to allow for a separate process for academic dean selection. This process has been incorporated into the general hiring practices reflected in current policy and procedure, thus there is no need to have a separate policy.

**ON MOTION OF SANDY NEB THE BOARD UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE THE RESCISSION OF POLICY 4-703 ACADEMIC DEAN SELECTION, ON FINAL READING.**

- c. Resolution to Support Initiative 121

**WALT RICHTER MADE A MOTION THAT THE BOARD SHOULD SUPPORT THE RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT INITIATIVE 121. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MIKE GEILE.**

The Board continued their discussion on the merits of the resolution. Trustees expressed mixed feelings, including concerns about the tie to gaming and the anticipation of receiving monies for the institution. A Trustee explained that he would personally vote for the bill, but didn't feel it was appropriate for the Board to pass a resolution in support of the measure due to the orthodoxy of politics involved. Dr. Liddell reminded the Board that they would be part of a long list of institutions that have already supported the resolution.

**RICHARD BOND MOVED TO TABLE THE ITEM AND RECEIVED A SECOND FROM SANDY NEB.**

Board President Beth Bashor called for a roll call vote on the motion to table item VIIc:

**RICHARD BOND: YES**

**MIKE GEILE: NO**

**SANDY NEB: YES**

**WALT RICHTER: NO**

**BETH BASHOR: YES.**

**THE MOTION TO TABLE ACTION ITEM VIIC PASSED BY A VOTE OF 3 TO 2.**

**The Board indicated that this item could be brought back before the Board, but would have to go through the same process to be considered.**

#### **VIII. Comments from Board Members**

- **Mike Geile recounted that he had overheard a rumor about the Aims nursing program being under academic probation and commented that he hopes that this rumor is not being generally circulated and that the college should make sure that we spread the word that no part of this**

institution is on probation. Dr. Liddell mentioned that there had been some intentional misrepresentation of the facts. We have communicated with the institution and will continue to try to clear up this falsehood.

- **Walt Richter said that he attended the first night of High Plains Chautauqua and was delighted to see such a great turn-out on the campus. He also extended congratulations to Ranelle Lang as the new superintendent of District 6.**
- **Sandy Neb thanked the administration and staff at the Loveland campus for hosting the Board meeting.**
- **Beth Bashor told the Board that she had enrolled in an online class through Continuing Education and received a call to confirm that she is prepared for the class. She commented on the positive student services.**

#### **IX. Comments from Board Reps**

- a. Faculty (Marsha Driskill or Tracy Trenam, ACEA Board Reps)  
Faculty representatives had no comment.
- b. Aims Staff Association (Jeff Smith or Bonnie Steele, ASA Reps)  
ASA representative Jeff Smith shared no comments.
- c. ASACC (Dan Beal, ASACC President)  
ASACC President Dan Beale was not able to attend the meeting.

#### **X. Adjourn to Executive Session**

Board President Beth Bashor asked for a motion for the Board to adjourn to executive session to discuss real estate and personnel issues, as allowed by CRS 24-6-402(4)(a) and (f). She stated that she did not expect any action following executive session.

**ON MOTION OF SANDY NEB, THE BOARD UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 5:03 PM.**

#### **Reconvene in Regular Session**

Board President Bashor reconvened the Board into General Session at 6:31 PM.

#### **XI. Adjourn**

**ON MOTION OF MIKE GEILE, THE BOARD UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO ADJOURN AT 6:31 PM.**

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**Sandy Neb, Secretary**

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**Date**