

**Aims Community College Board Meeting**  
**Board Meeting Minutes**  
**September 2, 2009**

**Aims District Board Meeting**

**I. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 2:47 PM by Board President Beth Bashor. Other Board members present included Richard Bond, Mike Geile and Walt Richter. College President Dr. Marsi Liddell was also in attendance. Trustee Sandy Neb was excused from attendance.

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

There were no additions or deletions to the agenda.

**ON MOTION OF MIKE GEILE, THE BOARD UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO  
ACCEPT THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED.**

**III. Citizen Participation**

There was no request for citizen participation. Board President Beth Bashor introduced the two candidates for Aims Trustee in the upcoming November election, Mike Freeman and Larry Wood.

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

a. Financial Report – Dan Erbert

Dr. Liddell introduced Dan Erbert, Aim Budget Director, who produced the financial report for the Board and was present to answer questions. Mr. Erbert commented that there had not been much activity to report at this point. The Board had no questions.

b. Ballot language for November election

Dr. Liddell told the Board that with no contest in Trustee races, the College would not ordinarily hold elections but are required to hold the election due to the ballot question. She read the ballot language that will be included in the November ballot and noted that the election will be more complicated in Berthoud due to TABOR issues. A Trustee asked whether the Aims District annexation would include all future annexations by the Town of Berthoud. College Counsel Jackie Johnson told the Board that while there was no specific discussion with Berthoud on this concern, she had researched precedent set by the High Plains Library District and the Town of Johnstown and had no concern about inclusion of future Berthoud boundaries. In response to a Board question, she also stated that she didn't believe that future Metropolitan Districts could opt out of inclusion in the Aims district.

Dr. Liddell reminded Trustees that they may not campaign, but may educate on this ballot question. She added that an issues committee, made up of representatives from Aims Foundation and Berthoud, would be able to campaign. Ms. Johnson added that campaign issues are controlled by the Fair Campaign Practices Act. She reminded the Board of her earlier memo regarding Board restrictions on campaigning adding that individuals can speak their opinions, but must make it clear that they are not speaking for the Board or College as a whole. She added that there is some

difference of interpretation between Aims and the Berthoud attorney, but she prefers to be conservative in her interpretation.

The Board asked if the Issues Committee would write an op-ed piece for the paper or if a board member could write an educational piece. Ms. Johnson confirmed that the Board and/or College can educate on the issue.

c. President's Executive Summary

Dr. Liddell gave summary reports of the following items:

- Esmeralda Esparza, LULAC President, and Danielle Pacheco reported on the recent LULAC national conference in San Juan, Puerto Rico. Ms. Pacheco told the Board that the LULAC officers enjoyed the trip and the many activities and trainings they attended during the 7-day conference. Ms. Esparza added that the officers were able to be sworn in nationally for the first time. They also met many people on the national board which should help them to develop better programs at Aims. They had the opportunity to meet Manuel Randon, of the Dallas LULAC, who will be the keynote speaker for the Greeley LULAC Youth Leadership Conference on October 3. A Trustee commented that they had attended the LULAC banquet and was very impressed with the excitement and enthusiasm the group has.
- Paula Yanish has been asked to present for a webinar for the Consortium for Student Retention Data Exchange (CSRDE).
- Information on enrollment in aviation programs and the job forecast for communication-media requested by the Board is included in packet.
- AQIP schedule – Aims chose several years ago to use the Academic Quality Improvement Program to seek reaccreditation. This program, run by the North Central Association of the Higher Learning Commission, is very involved and is an ongoing system of continuous improvement. Aims is now in the fourth year of the cycle and will therefore have two examiners visiting Aims from November 11 through 13. She encouraged the Board to be available during that time. There will be a luncheon on November 12 for Trustees and Community Leaders.
- According to the key provisions of the Community College Initiative, a copy of which was given to the Board, Aims should be in a good position to participate and receive stimulus funding in a number of areas.
- The Director of the Colorado Department of Higher Education, David Skaggs, recently resigned. It is currently unclear how this vacancy will be filled. The Commission on Higher Education requested statistics for all institutions in the state for their August retreat. All data was gathered from the IPEDs database and statistics show that Aims is the second highest Community College in the state for graduation and completion rates. Dr. Liddell offered congratulations to faculty and staff for their contribution to this accomplishment.

**V. Consent Agenda**

- a. Minutes of the August 5, 2009 District Board Meeting
- b. Notes from July 6, 2009 Board Retreat
- c. Employees: Administration, Faculty and Exempt Staff
  - Dorene Boyd, Purchasing Director, exempt staff, replacement

- Rachel Davis, Senior Advisor, Student Services, exempt staff, new position- replacing two discontinued positions

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

**VI. Information Items**

a. Board Calendar

Dr. Liddell pointed out the following items from the Board calendar:

- September 10 will see the celebration of the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Fort Lupton Campus. She invited Board members to participate.
- New Board members will be seated at the November 4 Board meeting.
- AQIP visit will take place from November 11 to 13. The visit will include a lunch for Board and community members. Outgoing Trustees Beth Bashor and Richard Bond will be invited to join the meeting.

b. Non-exempt Employee Hires:

- Rebecca Chandler, Staff Specialist, Downtown Center, non-exempt, new position

c. Retiring or Leaving the College

- David Shimokawa, Staff Associate, Division IV/Continuing Education

**VII. Action Items**

a. Policy 3-110 Institutional Partnerships (Second Reading)

Dr. Liddell mentioned that Sandra Owens was not present at the meeting, but there had been no changes in the policy since the first reading. The Board had no questions.

**ON MOTION OF RICHARD BOND THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE POLICY 3-110: INSTITUTIONAL PARTNERSHIPS ON SECOND READING. (SANDY NEB EXCUSED)**

b. Policy 4-1525 Tuition Reimbursement/Tuition Scholarship for Employees, Dependents and Retirees (Second Reading)

Dr. Liddell told the Board that this was also a second reading of a policy that had been approved last month. A Trustee asked if the language “current spouses and dependent children of full time employees” includes domestic partners and children of domestic partnerships. Dr. Liddell asked College Counsel Jackie Johnson for her opinion. She commented that each institution is free to determine how they will define partnerships, as there is no definition of “domestic partnership.” If the Board has specific preferences, it would probably be necessary to amend the policy to include them. Susan Weber, Human Relations Director, indicated that domestic partners qualify for other benefits, as do partners in a common-law marriage, but both must document that they meet all requirements, adding that most definitions are included in the procedures. Ms. Johnson said that if the board intends to broaden the policy to include domestic partners, it would be best to amend it for clarification. She also stated that there is no legal requirement to extend this benefit, so the Board should probably have additional

discussion before the policy is changed. Board President Beth Bashor suggested that the Board vote on the policy as it stands and have additional changes in the future. Dr. Liddell asked Mike Kelly to bring amendments back to the board at a future meeting.

**ON MOTION OF RICHARD BOND THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE POLICY 4-1525 TUITION REIMBURSEMENT/TUITION SCHOLARSHIP FOR EMPLOYEES, DEPENDENTS AND RETIREES ON SECOND READING. (SANDY NEB EXCUSED)**

- c. Rescission of Policies 4-1400, 4-1450 and 4-1500 on Employee/Dependent Tuition Benefits (Second Reading)

Dr. Liddell reminded the Board that the intention is to remove three policies that have been replaced by 4-1525.

**ON MOTION OF MIKE GEILE THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE RESCISSION OF POLICIES 4-1400, 4-1450 AND 4-1500 ON SECOND READING.**

**VIII. Comments from Board Members**

- a. **Walt Richter offered his compliments to the PIO office for the excellent Annual Report.**

**IX. Comments from Board Reps**

- a. Aims College Education Association (Marsha Driskill or Tracey Trenam, ACEA Board Reps)  
Faculty representatives had no comment.
- b. Aims Staff Association (Karen Brighton or Jeff Smith, ASA Board Reps)  
ASA had busy month. ASA president David Shimokawa left the employ of Aims to return to college himself. His seat has been taken by Bree Winegarner. The Staff Association is planning to hold a monthly fund raiser at CiCi's pizza. In the past month, ASA has sponsored or assisted with the Aims Employee Art Show, Ice Cream Social, Student Welcome Fest and Fall In.
- c. Associated Students of Aims Community College (Mike Price, ASACC President)  
Over 1000 people attended Fall In, making it one of the most successful ever. The main sponsor was First National Bank and fifty businesses or college departments sponsored booths for student information and giveaways. The Welcome Fest, geared to engage students in campus clubs, was also successful. The structure of student government has changed. Formerly, there was a general assembly, but now there will be a student senate. Election of ASACC officers will take place on the 15<sup>th</sup>. ASACC had planned to host a debate for trustee candidates, but since there is no competition, they may host a meet and greet session. New recycling bins have been placed across campus in an effort to make the college more "green." Student government is also asking for suggestions for other green projects that students might want to take on. The MyLife suicide prevention program will begin next week.

**X. Adjourn to Executive Session**

The Board may adjourn to executive session to receive advice from counsel, as allowed by CRS 24-6-402(4)(b).

**ON MOTION OF MIKE GEILE, THE BOARD ADJOURNED TO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 3:40 PM.**

**XI. Reconvene in Regular Session**

Beth Bashor reconvened the Board into regular session at 4:50 PM and stated that

**XII. Adjourn**

**ON MOTION OF DICK BOND, THE BOARD UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO ADJOURN AT 5:15 PM.**

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**Sandy Neb, Secretary**

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**Date**