Aims Community College  
SPECIAL Board Meeting Minutes  
April 10, 2015  
Beaty Hall Theater, 9:00 a.m.

Aims District Board Meeting
I. Call to Order  
   a. The meeting was called to order at 9:04 a.m. by Board President Walt Richter. Other Board members present included Mike Geile, Ray Peterson, Carol Ruckel and Larry Wood.

II. Pledge

III. Additions/Deletions to the Agenda

ON MOTION OF MIKE GEILE, THE BOARD UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED.

Remarks presented by Board Chair Walt Richter  
During executive session the Board of Trustees will be in contact with Dr. Savona of ACCT. The Board has received legal counsel regarding what is and is not permitted in an executive session of this nature. There will be no vote taken in executive session; all voting will take place in open session. During the executive session the Board will be reviewing all of the comments submitted on feedback forms from the open sessions. An alert will be sent out when the regular session meeting reconvenes.

IV. Executive Session
   a. As allowed by CRS 24-6-402 (4) (f), the Board will adjourn into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters.

ON MOTION OF CAROL RUCKEL, THE BOARD UNANIMOUSLY ADJOURNED TO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 9:08 AM.

ON MOTION OF MIKE GEILE, THE BOARD ADJOURNED EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 3:33 PM.  
ON MOTION OF CAROL RUCKEL, THE BOARD RECONVENED REGULAR SESSION AT 3:46 PM.

V. Reconvene  
   a. Chair Richter called regular session back to order.

VI. Board Comments Regarding Executive Session
o **Walt Richter**- Laurie Savona reviewed with the Board the complex evaluations that ACCT compiled for each of the candidates. The Trustees recessed to attend the flag ceremony. Upon return they reviewed the employee feedback forms. After each candidate review there was discussion about each candidates merits and their fit for the college. At no time there was a vote taken.

o **Mike Geile**- Thank you to everybody involved. In situations like these it is required that our community comes together to find what will move us forward as our current leadership departs. This process has been very difficult and challenging. The things that have been very important are collaboration, leadership, and strategic planning. The College has been through the hard times and is now in a position to be very successful. Trustee Geile went forward to speak about each of the individual strengths of each of the candidates. Trustee Geile would like to emphasis how seriously he has taken this decision.

o **Carol Ruckel**- This has been a long process, which began with employees as they provided input for the presidential profile. Trustee Ruckel expressed her gratitude for all of the effort and due diligence that the committee members put in to the process, which led to the top three finalists. There were many feedback forms that the Board read and gathered information from. They also considered what the references for each of the candidate had to say. The Board spent over 5 hours interviewing and getting to know each of the candidates.

o **Ray Peterson**- Trustee Peterson shared the sentiments of Trustee Geile and Trustee Ruckel. The comments from the open forums were highly important. Thank you to everyone who took the time to listen to the candidates and respond with input.

o **Larry Wood**- Trustee Wood echoed the sentiments from his fellow Board members. There have been tough times at the College where there was a lot of give and take. We have had and still have a dynamic leader. We are a strong campus and in many cases we are on the cutting edge of many community colleges. The College needs someone dynamic, visionary, and has strong well rounded leadership experience. These qualities drove Trustee Wood’s decision. Thank you to everyone who was involved in this process especially Trustee Ruckel who has worked very hard throughout the entire process.

Each trustee shared their opinions of each of the candidates.

V. **Action Item**

a. Selection of Top Presidential Candidate

**ON MOTION OF MIKE GEILE, THE BOARD UNANIMOUSLY SELECTED LEAH BORNSTEIN AS THE NEXT PRESIDENT OF AIMS COMMUNITY COLLEGE; CONTINGENT UPON A BACKGROUND CHECK, SITE VISIT, AND SUCCESSFUL CONTRACT NEGOTIATION.**

Roll Call Vote
ON MOTION OF CAROL RUCKEL, THE BOARD UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED LARRY WOOD AND STOW WITWER TO ENTER CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS WITH LEAH BORNESTEIN.

VI. Final Comments
Larry Wood: Trustee Wood extended his gratitude to Dr. Liddell for her leadership that has gotten the College to the successful place it is in today.
Ray Peterson: Trustee Peterson expressed his comfort with the decision that the board made.
Mike Geile: Trustee Geile commented that Dr. Bornstein will not come here to make changes; she will come to find out why the institution is so successful.
Carol Ruckel: Dr. Bornstein’s experience was very important through this process. Trustee Ruckel believes that the Board has made a very good decision. Trustee Ruckel commended those involved behind the scenes of this process, including: Dr. Laurie Savona, Ann Grotness, Kate Elliott, Damion Cordova, and Jenna Oliver. She also extended gratitude to the search committee for all the time they put in to read each of the applications and skype with individuals to select the finalists. Thank you to the IT staff for all their work during this process. Thank you to all of the participants at the forums. Thank you to our media team for all of the set-up of camera and audio. Trustee Ruckel extended a final thank you to the Tribune, Tyler Sylvie and Dustin Jones, for all of the coverage of this process.

VII. Adjourn
ON THE MOTION OF RAY PETERSON, THE BOARD ADJOURNED THE MEETING AT 4:19 PM.