

R-CCC Board Highlights

Volume 1, Issue 2

February 2009

January's Board Agenda

Jernigan Board Room

February 21, 2009

12:00 P. M.

Call to Order: Chair Ruffin-Barnes
Roll Call Ms. Dudley
Invocation: Mr. James Eure
Conflict of Interest Statement:
Chair Barnes
Approval of Minutes:
1/27/09 (Regular Ses.)
Personnel Committee: Ms. Owens-White, Chair
Personnel Issue (held for closed session)
Finance Committee: Ms. Lassiter, Chair
Financials for 2nd Quarter
Approval of Budget Amendments
Increase in Graduation Fees
Buildings and Grounds: Mr. Gatling, Chair
No Report
Policy and Program: Mr. James Eure, Chair
No Report
President's Report: President Soney
ESC in Old Small Bus. Center
Gift from Como EMS/Fire Dept
State Budget Issues/Stimulus Disc.

Board Accepts Donation from Como EMS/Fire Dept.

At its last Trustee meeting, the R-CCC Board accepted a gift from the Como EMS/Fire Department on behalf of the College. The gift, which is valued at \$4,352.00 in equipment, included various items that are no longer needed by the Como departments. The items are no longer needed by the department; therefore, they have been donated to the College for use in R-CCC's EMS training program.

The item list includes: six long spine/back boards (\$714); one combi carrier (\$235); three traction splints (\$540); one K.E.D. Extraction Vest (\$168); a wheeled stretcher (\$2,600); one padded board splint set (\$46.00) and a blood pressure kit (\$49.00).

The Board directed the President and his staff to express its appreciation for the donation of the training equipment for the EMT/EMS/Fire Programs.

Employment Security Commission and Job Link Center Coming to R-CCC Campus

The Trustees voted unanimously on Saturday February 21, 2009 to provide space in the College's Old Small Business Center Building for the Hertford County Job Link/ESC Office. Last year the county lost its Employment Security Commission Office, which meant that job seekers from Ahoskie and Hertford County had to go to neighboring counties to utilize job services.

Dr. Soney explained to the Trustees that the loss of the ESC had caused an outcry among local citizens and officials. After several meetings on R-CCC's campus by a task force dedicated to getting the ESC back, he had been approached with the notion of locating a new JobLink center on R-CCC's campus.

He explained to the Trustees that he felt that R-CCC should jump at the opportunity to house the facility on its campus. He pointed out that such a move would

ESC continued...

greatly compliment the Colleges role in job and employability skills training.

Several Trustees expressed their support of the notion that a JobLink Center might be coming to the county. They said that they were pleased that the operation would be held on the campus.

In a unanimous vote, the Trustees gave the green light for the facility to be placed on R-CCC's campus. Trustee Sue Lassiter asked that the Trustees add to the motion for acceptance the caveat that the College should not have to expend any of its normal county allocation for the renovation and up-fitting of the space.

Board Discusses Potential Fallout from State Financial Woes

President Soney told the Trustees that he attended a meeting of the executive committee of the North Carolina Community College President's Association in Raleigh on Thursday February 19, 2009. He said that the topic of discussion was on the State and National Financial Crisis.

He handed the Trustees a copy of a letter penned by NCCCS President Scott Ralls. The letter, which was written to Governor Perdue, outlined the repercussions of a potential 6% budget decrease for next year if applied to the Community College System.

In the letter Dr. Ralls states that "our Community Colleges have seen an explosion in enrollment having grown by 31 percent prior to this year...because our colleges grow when times are toughest...this equates to the full-time student enrollment at Wake Technical Community College or Appalachian State University...currently, we are serving an estimated 212,000 plus full-time students on a budget for only 201,000."

If the System loses 6% of its budget next year, this would be approximately \$59,000,000.00 in lost operating funds. According to the System this would mean a drastic reduction and /or cut in programs and services from VLC to Child Care Grants to Dual Enrollment/Huskins/Early College to faculty upgrade allotments. It may also mean that the System would no

longer be able to manage tuition fee waivers for emergency personnel such as fire/police/EMS & EMT and senior citizens.

If budget reductions exceed 6% the System says that it will most definitely be felt in personnel losses and program cuts.

Trustees Participate in Annual Board Retreat

On Friday February 20th and Saturday the 21st eleven of R-CCC's Trustees took part in a retreat geared toward focusing the Board on performance and goals. The first part of the retreat was facilitated by a consultant from the National Community College Trustees Association (ACCT).

Trustees had discussions on several topics, which included: How to be an effective board; Understanding the Board's responsibility to the community; Interacting with the President; as well as other topics.

The Board also took part in a self-assessment and laid the ground work for some goal setting and action plans. The highlight of the first day was a dinner held in the Jernigan Art Gallery where Trustees heard from a recent graduate of the Cosmetology Program (Wendy Liverman) and a College Transfer student (Thomas Colson).

On Saturday, the Trustees were presented with the results of the recent Climate Survey and a discussion of Institutional Effectiveness by Juan Vaughan, the Colleges new Compliance and Data Director. Wesley Liverman spoke to them about new initiatives in the area of Law Enforcement In-Service Training. The retreat ended with the College Attorney, John Leidy, discussing "Policies, Procedures and Legal Issues that Trustees Should Know."

