



**Gila County Community College District
Governing Board Work Session Meeting
Payson Campus
February 22, 2020
APPROVED**

A Work Session Meeting of the Gila County Community College Provisional District Governing Board was held on February 22, 2020, at Payson Campus ZOOM Room 209, 201 N. Mud Springs Rd, Payson Arizona, 85547, Gila Community College, pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.02(B), notice having been duly given.

Governing Board Members Present:

Jay Spehar, President
Jan Brocker, Vice President and Secretary
Connie Cockrell, Member
Kurt Knauss, Member
Samuel I. Moorhead, Member

Governing Board Members Absent:

N/A

Also Present:

N/A

OTHER GUESTS Karen Solinski, EAC/Accreditation Consultant

1. Call to Order * Roll Call * Pledge * Acknowledge Guests

President Spehar called to order the Gila County Community College Provisional District Governing Board Work Session meeting at 9:30 a.m. on February 22, 2020. President Spehar called roll. President asked that the record show that there is a quorum as all Board members are present. Member Moorhead led the Pledge of Allegiance. President Spehar provided information on work sessions and Open Meeting law issues.

2. Discussion

A. Board Duties and Succession Planning/Information/Discussion

President Spehar informed that in the Board packet there is a copy of A.R.S. §15-1444 titled General Powers and duties of district governing boards. President asked that Board members familiarize themselves and remind themselves what they are all about. President went through the copy item by item and discussion followed. (Copy attached and made a part of the official minutes.)

Member Knauss interrupted and informed of a news item just coming through regarding an EAC van accident Friday night in which three high school students were killed. The students were in an automotive class and were returning from a drag racing event in the valley. President asked that the Board hold the families close in their hearts and prayers.

President Spehar spent time presenting his thoughts on B.10 (second page of section 15-1444) regarding naming buildings or groups of buildings located on campus. President would like to see a wall or hall of fame honoring those who have made a significant contribution to the College. This would eliminate the boulders and plaques. He stated he will put a proposal together in the next few months and present it to the Board. President covered all items in section 15-1444. President did inform the Board regarding succession planning that he and VP Brocker will be leaving the Board at the end of their terms in December and wanted the members to be thinking and planning on the shape of the Board going forward. President stated that he would like to set up the new members with information so they know what to expect.

B. Gila/EAC Intergovernmental & Operating Agreement/Information/Discussion

President Spehar stated that this agreement was done because the old agreement had been in place for about 15 years and timed out. The former agreement was a three-party agreement. It was the District, Gila County and EAC. The agreement is now just two parties because Gila County wanted out. President stated that he believes it is a cleaner, easier to manage

agreement with just two parties. President reviewed the purpose of the agreement and explained each item listed. He pointed out in Item C that EAC shall not include Gila students in its FTSE count in compliance with A.R.S. § 15-1409 (H). He provided information on Item D that states EAC agrees to support Gila's efforts to become an accredited and fully organized community college district. He stated that this was new language in the agreement. President reviewed all of Gila's Obligations in the Agreement. He touched on each item and provided additional information when contract language was modified for clarity. One item was that Gila may retain professional services necessary for legal, legislative or consulting services. Member Knauss questioned if counsel from the County Attorney's office still served us. President Spehar assured that we did and commended Counsel Shire for his quick turnaround on College items. Another item was that EAC shall have sole authority to make the final decisions in personnel matters. Discussion followed. VP Brockner questioned the wording regarding EAC notifying and seeking Gila's input in personnel matters. She asked President Spehar if EAC had contacted him seeking input regarding the current open position that impacts GCC. President Spehar stated that he had not been contacted and it was on his list to contact EAC regarding this position. VP Brockner informed that she had not been contacted either. President informed that the Agreement has an "Initial Term" of three years and will be automatically extended for additional periods of 1 year each after the Initial Term unless either Party provides termination notice. President provided information on all types of terminations mentioned in the Agreement as well as Miscellaneous Provisions in the Agreement. President Spehar provided information for the Board on all items under the Operating Agreement. There was some discussion on FTSE amount and 301 funding and other funding that might become available. (Copy attached and made a part of the official minutes.)

President Spehar called for a motion for adjournment for lunch for 30 minutes. Time is 11:54 a.m.
Motion 02222020 #1

Member Knauss moved to adjourn until 12:30 p.m. for lunch. Member Cockrell seconded the motion.

President Spehar stated the Board would adjourn until 12:30 and then return to pick up the rest of the agenda. All in favor please signify by saying Aye. Opposed please signify by saying nay; there was no response. Ayes have it; motion carries and Board will resume at 12:30 p.m. (Brockner, Cockrell, Knauss, Moorhead and Spehar voting in favor.)

President Spehar announced that this was the Gila County Provisional Community College District work session reconvening after lunch at 12:30 p.m.

C. ARS 15-1444/Information/Discussion

President Spehar stated that ARS 15-1444 was discussed earlier but will review it because it is a part of the Provisional Status and also a part of Item E. Accreditation Issues & Pathways. President wanted Connie Cockrell to be informed so he explained about the Strategic Plan and how it is reviewed every year and updated when needed. Changes to the plan are made when necessary. President explained every page of the Gila Community College Five Year Strategic Plan. Discussion was held on technology advances and how it affects enrollment, the County funding that is no longer received, how recruitment should be handled, Mobile Shipping Containers for affordable housing on campus, and many other topics that are part of the packet. (Copy attached and made a part of the official minutes.)

D. Provisional Status/Information/Discussion

President Spehar provided information on Provisional District milestones. Provisional Districts were created in law in 1999. Santa Cruz Community College adopted Provisional status in 2000 but did not adopt a tax levy. In 2001 State Aid and Capital Outlay were permitted for Provisional Districts. In 2002 Gila Community College approved by voters as a Provisional District with a tax levy. President Spehar provided detailed information on each slide as presented in the packet. Board members asked questions, made comments and discussion followed. (Copy attached and made a part of the official minutes.)

E. Accreditation Issues & Pathways/Information/Discussion

Vice President Brockner provided information if Gila Community College were to pursue accreditation. She indicated that she would like to have some idea decided if it is going to be pursued or not. VP Brockner provided a handout of the process and cost involved in order to pursue it. One important item was that there was to be no public statement made while pursuing accreditation until granted candidacy status. VP Brockner indicated the cost just to get to candidacy status was about \$30,000 and she believes a full-time staff member should handle all the paperwork. She continued providing information while working through the handout. There was much discussion on meeting the requirements to apply. VP Brockner believes EAC would be willing to assist us when needed. Both President Spehar and VP Brockner believe a person with knowledge to work through this should be brought in to handle. (Copy attached and made a part of the official minutes.)

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President Spehar called for a motion for adjournment

3. **Adjournment/Action**
Motion 02222020#2


Member Knauss so moved. Member Moorhead seconded the motion. All in favor please signify by saying aye. Opposed please signify by saying nay. there was no response. Ayes have it. Work session meeting adjourned. (Brocker, Cuckrett, Knauss, Moorhead and Spehar voting in favor)

Meeting adjourned

Respectfully submitted,


Recording Secretary

Attest


Jan Brocker
Vice President - Secretary