



Gila County Provisional Community College District
Special Governing Board Meeting
Gila Pueblo Campus, Room 522
Monday, June 24, 2024
****APPROVED****

1. **The meeting was called to order by President Brocker at 5:31 p.m.**

Board Roll Call – President Brocker – present; Vice President Nye – not present, Treasurer Shipley – present; Secretary Cockrell – present; Member Knauss – not present. A quorum was present.

Also Present: Janice Lawhorn, GCPCCD Interim President; Lauri Avila, HR Specialist; Ron Carnahan, IT

Guests: CF Yankovich - Freelance Writer; Megan Martinez; Joanne Zache; Ed Alexander; Ericka Flores; Christa DalMolin; and 5-6 additional members of the public who did not speak or identify themselves.

2. **Read by President Brocker**

Pursuant to A.R.S. §15-1402.01(A)(4), the Governing Board of the Gila County Provisional Community College District (hereinafter the "College") shall hear testimony and discuss the conversion of the College from a provisional community college district to an independent community college district. This item shall be for discussion only and no final Governing Board decisions shall be made during this meeting. Members of the public are invited to participate by providing testimony and participating in discussion for up to three (3) minutes per speaker. The total time allotted for this public meeting forum shall be two (2) hours and members of the public shall be permitted to participate on a first come first served basis.

3. **Public Comments**

- A. Megan Martinez was supportive of the College stating that last year she did have concerns but was pleased with the efforts GCC has made toward independence. She also commented that it would be beneficial to have local control and be able to tailor the programs in support of the students and communities.
- B. Joanne Zache was thrilled that GCC had finally made it to this point. She voted for the provisional District more than 20 years ago knowing that it was going to be the first step in becoming an independent College. She was elated that this was finally coming to fruition.
- C. Ed Alexander mentioned there were several rumors about the College as the amount of information being communicated in the media in Globe was sporadic. He was concerned about the finances and a tax increase, losing senior citizen tuition waivers, and wanted to know what Plan B was to ensure the College was not shut down like it was previously. Dr. Brocker and Dr. Lawhorn addressed the finances and clarified there would not be an increase to the property tax levy. Additionally, GCC continues to

pay for its employees, all equipment and supplies, plus the 25% overhead which equates to over \$1.5M annually to EAC. Dr. Lawhorn asked Ron to clarify that the College was never shut down. Ron indicated that the College did not close, enrollment dropped dramatically, and the other educational partner was not a good fit.

- D. Erika Flores was concerned with the College’s ability to develop the courses and curricula necessary for a July 1, 2025, start date. She wanted to know what programs were going to be offered and if the courses would articulate with the public universities. Dr. Lawhorn and Dr. Brocker stated that confirmation had been received from ASU, NAU, and U of A that with Candidacy Status the courses would be articulated. Dr. Lawhorn stated that based on the program completion data and the available faculty, current programs including Welding, HVAC, Cosmetology, phlebotomy, medical assistant, dental assistant, and elementary education as well as others will be offered. Dr. Lawhorn has written procedures for implementing new curricula when the College achieves independence.
- E. Christa DalMolin-East expressed concern regarding the dual enrollment students and whether there was a Plan B. Dr. Brocker indicated the College was exploring every opportunity for partnerships that will benefit our students.

4. Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 6:41 p.m. by motion of Treasure Shipley and seconded by Secretary Cockrell.

Respectfully submitted,



Janice Lawhorn, Ph.D.
Interim President, Gila County Provisional
Community College District

Attest:



President Jan Brocker
GCPCCD Governing Board President

Attest:

 Connie Cockrell _____

Secretary Connie Cockrell
GCPCCD Governing Board Secretary