

# **PRESIDENT'S CABINET MEETING**

**March 5, 2013**

## **MINUTES**

### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Bob Austin, Terry Berg, Lee M. Colaw, Ellen Robertson Green, Russell Lowery-Hart, Paul Matney, and Danita McAnally

### **OTHERS PRESENT:**

Brenda Sadler

**Core Values: Integrity + Innovation + Teamwork = SUCCESS**

### **Discussion:**

**TUITION AND FEES** – Tuition was increased this year 10% for in-district, 9.5% for out-of-district, and 6.6% for out-of-state. From all the state budget proposals and numbers the Business Office has run, it appears that we will have \$2.685 million less in revenue for the 2014 budget; it seems that a tuition and fee increase may be proposed to the Board at the March 26 meeting. Expenses for the coming year might include a raise for fulltime employees; fringe benefits are going up \$522,447 due to health insurance and retirement costs. We used \$4 million from reserves this year; \$2 million went to the Hereford Campus.

There was discussion regarding spring 2013 tuition and fees and how AC compares to other Texas community colleges. AC's in-district rate for tuition/fees is \$77/CH compared to the \$76 average state rate; \$116/CH out-of-district rate compared to the \$118 state average; and \$177/CH out-of-state compared to the \$173 state average. The remissions and exemption summary for unfunded mandates for tuition/fees increased \$294,396.48 from 2011 to 2012.

There was discussion over various scenarios of tuition rate increases. Matney asked Berg to furnish him different scenarios regarding rate increases for six-, nine-, twelve-, and fifteen- hour tuition increases. The Cabinet was in consensus that there needed to be some sort of increase; the amount to be proposed to the Board will be determined after additional figuring and discussion at the March 19 Cabinet meeting which will begin at 8:30.

### **Announcements:**

- The Distinguished Lecture Series featuring guest speaker, Aron Ralston is tonight.
- The major accomplishments of each Cabinet division given to Matney were included in his self-evaluation furnished to the Board.
- The U.T. Harrington Fellows luncheon will be on April 10 at the Amarillo Country Club.
- Matney distributed a copy of an email regarding Commissioner Tom Pauken's testimony concerning House Bill 5. HB 5 focuses on the broken state education policy by providing more flexibility in graduation requirements; the bill also strikes a strong balance between ensuring that all high school graduates receive the basics and flexibility for students to pursue multiple career pathways. Pauken is concerned with the overemphasis on standardized testing and wants more emphasis to be on career and technical education.

- A copy of an email Matney received from John Marmaduke, Chairman, CEO, and President of Hastings Entertainment sent him regarding an article from *The Economist*, "Not What It Used to Be." The article focuses on steep rises in college fees, increases in the levels of debt of both students and universities, and the declining quality of graduates.
- An article from *Forbes* entitled "Forget Four More Years: Why Community College Could Be Your Ticket to Financial Success" was distributed.
- Colaw will reschedule the Ellucian teleconference for a future Cabinet meeting due to the blizzard and closing of campus on February 26.
- Jarrett Atkinson, Amarillo City Manager, will be rescheduled to address another Cabinet roundtable; Matney said he would like to invite Dan Adams, President and CEO, Cal Farley's Boys Ranch to speak at a Cabinet roundtable in the future also.

Next meeting: March 19, 2013

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