

# **PRESIDENT'S CABINET MEETING**

**May 20, 2014**

## **MINUTES**

### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

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

### **MEMBER ABSENT:**

Russell Lowery-Hart

### **OTHERS PRESENT:**

Joe Bob McCartt and Brenda Sadler

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

### **Cabinet Roundtable:**

Joe Bob McCartt, President of McCartt and Associates, a commercial real estate firm in Amarillo, Texas, was introduced. He grew up in Amarillo and attended Amarillo College for two years; received his BBA from the University of Mississippi. McCartt returned to Amarillo and got involved in the cattle business, he then became interested in renovating old buildings where he started buying buildings in downtown Amarillo. He got his real estate license and began selling buildings. McCartt furthered his education and learned that there are ways to make things work and spoke with people who accomplished things and made good things happen. He made a living as a broker and then was able to invest in different ventures. McCartt had a vision of making East Port a reality; he made a deal with the City and bought an airplane hangar; there are two more hangars owned by Arden Manufacturing and he hopes to purchase them and fix them and build another building on the East property. The old laundry mat on the East property was recently converted into a restaurant. Anderson Trucking which transports large objects is out east where a concrete slab was poured and a 100 foot gate constructed to allow their large trucks and cargo to park. Mr. McCartt was asked why it is hard to draw businesses to Amarillo. He has not leased any of the land at the East property to local businesses. He said that any business needs to learn how to take care of their clients and tenants. For the businesses in the Chase Building on Friday afternoons in the summer he provides free ice cream with the theme of "chase away the heat" in place. He believes that tenants should be treated well which will make them want to be there. McCartt is working on the Levine's and Blackburn buildings downtown. He recently partnered with Chuck Patel on the Barfield Building to build a hotel. McCartt believes in emphasizing the positive and finding out what works, figure out what is needed and attract capital; he thinks AC has the opportunity to do those things now and that is when his group PRANA approached AC concerning property around the East Campus. McCartt now owns Wellington Square and is in the midst of renovating the square; it is 96% occupied. Debra McCartt, former mayor and Joe Bob's wife, has many causes and helps others.

### **Discussion:**

**DOL – NMSU GRANT** – McAnally said that four staff members traveled to Lubbock to hear about the DOL Dairy Grant. There are 50 dairies in the area which employ 75-125 people. This is a

good area due to the climate. Tamara Clunis and Daniel Esquivel will meet with dairy owners to find out if we can help them out with employees at least receiving their GEDs. McAnally reported that Amarillo College has a good chance of receiving a DOE grant (\$70 million) which focuses on developmental education and STEM programs; \$20 million will go to Hispanic-serving institutions.

**PRELIMINARY BUDGET** – Matney and Berg will present the preliminary budget at the May Board meeting; the Coca-Cola tax abatement request will be presented; and Gary Clark, Regional President at Cynergistic will attempt to convince the Board of the energy-savings program they offer in an effort to get a signed contract. Four dates will be offered to the Board to select one in order to hold the Board Budget Workshop.

**TEXTBOOK POLICY** – Lowery-Hart and Matney will visit with Mark White, legal counsel, regarding a textbook policy to present to the Board at the June Board meeting.

**ACADEMIC BLACKBOARD REVIEW** – Colaw distributed a handout and gave an academic Blackboard review. There are currently 11,421 active users of Blackboard and 600 GB of storage. There are approximately 8,600 unique people who have logged on in the past 30 days; 9,194 in 60 days. The number of enabled courses is around 6,700. The Blackboard Learning System application disk space usage is at 148.12 G. Colaw discussed the example of Blackboard stats report which demonstrates active users, available users, enabled users, and total users; the report makes an assessment of a student taking a test online and other data on who and what they are using and measures the intensity of the system. Starting on September 1 the contract service levels will be adjusted for \$50 more.

#### **Announcements:**

- Colaw distributed and discussed information on the new emerging IT trend of 3D printing. He distributed two AC logos which were created by a 3D printer. The current price for the printer is \$1,000; operational supplies are about \$50 every two weeks when printing eight hours a day for about 10 days.
- Matney distributed an emsi Economic Impact Study for Community Colleges handout. Emsi will conduct individual impact studies for \$9,900. The study provides rates of return and other measures illustrating the college as a wise investment for students and taxpayers. It also illustrates how to produce a quality workforce and strengthen the local economy. A typical study takes 3-5 days of effort from all staff to complete the work.

Next meeting: June 3, 2014

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