

MEETING MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

Vice Board Chair Takamura called the meeting to order at 3:00 P.M. and noted a quorum.

2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Vice Board Chair Takamura asked for a motion to approve the following minutes:

A. January 18, 2023, regular and special meeting

Trustee Cooper moved to approve the minutes for the regular meetings held on December 7, 2022. Trustee Norouzi seconded and the motion carried.

3. COMMUNICATIONS

- A. General Information/Introductions** Dean of Student Success and Programs, Anthony Covington introduced two new employees in Student Services: Linda Bui who was recently hired into a permanent role as an Entry Specialist/Advisor and Sophie Marriott who is the Front Desk Student Support Specialist.
- B. Correspondence** There was no correspondence.
- C. Public Comments from the Audience** There were no public comments.
- D. Student Leadership** Director of Student Leadership and Programs, Walter Lutsch, reported that the Associated Student Government and Student Leadership Office are currently rebuilding policies and procedures and working to increase student engagement having sponsored two successful events on campus recently: Rashad Norris who was ASG's Black History Month Keynote Speaker, followed later in the month by Magician/Performer Nash Fung. Director Lutsch introduced new Executive Board member and Administrative Coordinator for Associate Student Government, Computer Science student, Chris Blystone, who invited everyone to the February 23rd, Men and Women of Merit event, Unspoken Truths. Vice Board Chair Takamura invited Mr. Blystone and the ASG senate to the RTC Board meetings.
- E. Renton Federation of Teachers** RFT President Donna Maher thanked the IR team, Dr. Delaney, and VPA Jackson for providing dashboards and data and reaffirmed its importance as it relates to student enrollment, retention, and program viability. RFT VP Rick Geist reported on RTC's February 1 trip to the State Legislature in Olympia, commending the group that went which included himself, Dr. Harden, VPA Jackson, former RTC Board Trustee Tyler Page and RTC student, Sarah Combs. RFT VP Geist will also attend this week's SBCTC meeting and next week's American Federation of Teachers Lobby Day (February 20) in Olympia and he urged everyone to get involved in the legislative process. Vice Board Chair Takamura thanks RFT VP GEIST and requested information regarding specific bills so that everyone can write to their district legislators and support RTC as the session continues.

- F. Written Communication Reports Reports were included in the board packets. Vice Board Chair Takamura Chair thanked all who provided reports as they are helpful to trustees in learning about what is happening at the college.

4. DISCUSSION REPORTS

- A. Administration/Finance VPA Jackson offered a report detailing the current year budget as RTC passes mid-year. He shared that the State allocation is about \$1.3M more than what was budgeted. Most of those funds are for targeted earmarks such as: cyber security, nursing sim lab, health care opportunity grants, homeless student expansion, and climate solutions curriculum. Last year's budget was budgeted by using about \$1.3M in variance/surplus funds. Tuition projections will be less \$800K due to students taking on average two less credits per quarter. Overall, the revised revenue budget will be up \$433k this FY. RTC has collected about 45 percent of the revenue that it was anticipating collecting for the fiscal year with the projected revenue college about \$80k less the revised revenue forecast.

Expenditures are about 46 percent of what was budgeted for FY23. Expected salaries and benefits should be about \$2M under due to unfilled positions; those vacancies help balance the budget this FY. Goods/Services will be over \$1.6M due to computer purchases and how ctclink classifies expenditures, which is different than how Legacy classified expenditures. Capital expenditures will likely be higher due to technological infrastructure upgrades. Client services will also be higher due to two additional allocations from the State: a student emergency grant and the healthcare opportunity grant.

RTC will likely spend \$10K more than budgeted which will be taken from surplus along with what was already approved to be taken from surplus last year.

Per VPA Jackson, December numbers are in, and projections take into account Winter and Spring with numbers showing up lower since enrollment has been lower. Vice Board Chair Takamura noted that all projected information is contingent upon enrollment. The new Outreach staff at RTC are working to bring students to RTC. College enrollment trends across the nation are projected to be lower in future years, which will force a careful review of the RTC budget for next year and beyond.

- B. President's Report Dr. Yoshiko Harden provided a report highlighting activities after the January Board Meeting. Dr. Harden attended the Renton City Council where she and a co-recipient received a Black History Month proclamation from Mayor Armondo Pavone. Dr. Harden acknowledged the recent devastating earthquake in Turkey and Syria and the associated loss and trauma, encouraging people to reach out for RTC resources if they are in need. It is Black History Month, and RTC hosted keynote speaker, Judge Nicole Gaines Phelps for a MLK Day presentation and showed a film later in the same week, 'Dr. King in the Wilderness' with post-film breakout discussions. Dr. Harden hosted, 'Cocoa with Dr. Yo' for students on January 30 where students reported the key reason, they stay at RTC is because of faculty. The President's Advisory Council also met on January 30 and attendees included Trustee Norouzi, VPA Jackson, Dr. Delaney and community business leaders working to help identify needs and

build partnerships with RTC. After recent national shootings and tragic events, the Office of DEI, Gerald Bradford and Dr. Harden co-facilitated the first RTC Community check-in. Dr. Harden would like to continue these as it was well received. Vice Board Chair Takamura mentioned that past emails sent from RTC on safety precautions to take in emergencies and how valuable they are. Dr. Harden reported that the Cabinet is working with Campus Safety Director Matt Vielbig to plan drills and share information on this with the campus.

Dr. Harden attended the statewide CTC Transforming Lives Dinner in Olympia, along with RTC student, Abubacar Kanteh and Trustees Norouzi and Cooper. February 1 was legislative day in Olympia for RTC. Trustees, faculty, staff, and RTC leaders joined her in meeting with legislators throughout the day and a reception in the evening. Dr. Harden noted the number one priority for RTC is fully funding compensation, which would cover 83% for RTC; if the Governor's budget is not fully funded, it will cost RTC \$1.6M across the biennium. All the legislative meetings focused on stressing local impacts regarding our state priorities across 2022-2025 include the following:

1. Fully Funded, Competitive Compensation: 6.5 percent for each year of the biennium (13 percent).
2. Advance Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion.
3. Support Workforce Development programs.
4. Expand Learning Technology.

Dr. Harden and Board Chair Entenman attended the Association of College Trustees, National Legislative Summit in Washington D.C., February 5-8, along with others from Washington state: sixty-nine (69) trustees, presidents and other staff lobbied congress on key national priorities for Community and Technical Colleges (CTCs) which include:

1. Strengthening the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA).
2. Authorizing a community college-led job training program by growing the Strengthening Community College Training Grants program via WIOA authorization or reauthorizing Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training program, which increased credential attainment and job placement.
3. Funding Key Education and WF programs:
 - a. Boost Pell Grant max award, including key SS programs.
 - b. Strengthen funding for MSI's T3, HBCU's, HIS's and Tribal Colleges.
 - c. Bolster Job Training and Career and Technical Education funding, including enhanced funding for Perkins Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs, Adult Basic and Literacy Education State Grants.
4. Enacting the Dream Act.
5. Establishing Pell Grant eligibility for shorter-term programs.
6. Ending Taxation of Pell Grants and support altering American Opportunity tax credit so that Pell grant awards are not subtracted from a student's eligible expenses.

Board Chair Debra Entenman and Dr. Harden also met with Congressman Adam Smith. Vice Board Chair Takamura thanked Board Chair Debra Entenman and Dr. Harden for their work in Washington D.C.

