**THE OFFICIAL MINUTES**

The Big Bend Community College Board of Trustees held a special Board meeting Tuesday, September 24, at 8:05 a.m. in the ATEC Hardin Community room in Building 1800 on the Big Bend Community College campus.

Present: Mike Blakely

Anna Franz

Jon Lane

Stephen McFadden

Mike Villarreal

Board Chair Mike Blakely led the pledge of allegiance.

1. **Prepare for ACCT Conference Session, *Presidential Search in Austere Times***

Former trustee Mike Wren was introduced as a special guest. He led the Board through the 2012 presidential search, and he will participate in the *Presidential Search in Austere Times* session at the ACCT Conference in Seattle next week.

Trustee Mike Blakely announced he will bring apples to give away at the session. He suggested the presentation be organized by topic with each Trustee choosing a topic upon which to expound.

Mike Wren shared his thoughts on the key elements of the process. He also emphasized that hiring the president is the most important job the trustees have and each trustee was very involved in the process. Key elements:

Timeline,

Time investment

Work with the vice president of HR

Inclusive presidential search committee

Trips to candidates’ home campuses were critical

All of the top candidates were qualified, but not all would fit well at BBCC

The search would have been much more difficult without the support of staff namely, Interim President Gail Hamburg, outgoing President Bill Bonaudi, and the vice presidents.

President Leas observed the heavy time investment throughout the process. Many institutions use a consultant as the proxy rather than taking the time to conduct the search themselves. The BBCC board embraces the Carver Policy Model in which investing time and energy into strategic vision is critical.

Mike Wren expressed that the trustees were searching for a person with the values that matched BBCC rather than a certain personality. It was important to know that the person chosen valued students, staff, and the Big Bend service district.

Trustee Stephen McFadden was originally an advocate for hiring a search consultant. He was very concerned with making the right choice and finding the best fit for the community. Assembling the Presidential Search Committee was critical to the successful outcome of the process.

Trustee Mike Villarreal encouraged the group to think of tips that would be helpful to audience members who anticipate searching for a president. He also asked about President Leas’ perspective as a candidate. President Leas reported he had been watching BBCC. President Leas’ former colleagues from YVCC forwarded the job posting to him after it was sent to the WA community college system. President Leas stressed he was not looking for a change when he applied for the position. In part, he was attracted to BBCC by the website which offered detailed information about the campus and service district.

Trustee Jon Lane stated former trustee Mike Wren was very organized and communicated the expectations that the presidential search committee was a work group.

VP Mohrbacher said the BBCC trustees’ good working relationship made the successful search possible. Former trustee Wren commented that the entire board was involved in the process, and no staff member acted alone. That served as a protection for the staff member as well as maintaining the board’s authority.

The trustees decided Board Chair Mike Blakely will begin the one-hour session by describing BBCC. Former trustee Mike Wren will lead the holistic overview of the presidential search with trustees adding to the discussion. This will be followed by a question and answer time.

1. **Review and Discuss Alignment of Mission, Vision, Values, Ends Statements and Board Goals**

Board Chair Mike Blakely stated the Ends Statements relate to the board’s goals. Trustee Anna Franz stated the Ends Statements need to reflect the new Mission, Vision and Values statements. The goals are redundant, are they necessary?

VP Mohrbacher responded that there is no state or accreditation requirement to maintain board goals. The Ends Statements are the trustees’ directions to the campus through the president. The goals are the trustees’ expression for themselves. Accreditation requires a clear articulation of our efforts and alignment between the Mission and the Core Values.

Trustee Stephen McFadden recommended the Board Ends Statements and board goals become the same document, rather than duplicative. The Board agreed that the BBCC Values could be used as the new Ends Statements. The Ends Statements are policy level statements, and the core themes are how staff and faculty operationalize the Ends Statements.

President Leas and VP Mohrbacher will draft new Ends Statements for the trustees’ consideration at the October 24 Board meeting.

The group discussed transportation to the ACCT conference in Seattle October 2-4, 2013.

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

Mike Blakely Chair

ATTEST:

Dr. Terrence Leas, Secretary