

Navajo County Community College District Governing Board Study Session Minutes

March 20, 2012

2251 East Navajo Boulevard, Holbrook, Arizona, 86025

Governing Board Members Present: Bill Jeffers, Ginny Handorf, E.L. "Dusty" Parsons and Daniel Peaches

Staff Present: President, Jeanne Swarthout; Vice President, Blaine Hatch; Vice President, Mark Vest; Information Services Director, Eric Bishop; Institutional Effectiveness Director, Leslie Wasson; Recording Secretary to the Board, Kristin Thomas.

Report:

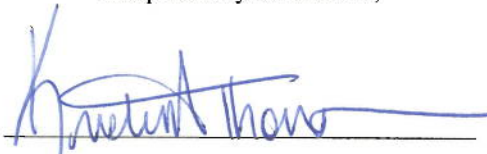
1. Study Session Agenda Item 1.: Northeast Arizona Training Center (NATC) (Information)- President Swarthout

President Swarthout reviewed the previously announced item; Arizona Auditor General Office findings that Northland Pioneer College is not in compliance with General Session Law regarding the operation and control of the Northeast Arizona Training Center also known as the Jake Flake Training Center. Dr. Swarthout requested short-term direction. Due to impact of possible control/management of NATC by NPC on NPC budget planning process for FY13. Dr. Swarthout reviewed several current items submitted by the Town of Taylor and the standing NATC board. Dr. Swarthout stated the two primary areas of immediate concern include basic network connectivity and classroom improvements. Dr. Swarthout reports the budget request for fiscal year 2013: Information Services projection is \$65,000 and Facilities projection is \$80,000. Dr. Swarthout noted the additional in facilities issues are still in process of discovery and could cost up to \$200,000. Mr. Jeffers stated initially the college hesitantly accepted a partnership with the understanding that this would not be a second campus in the Snowflake/Taylor area. Mr. Jeffers stated misinformation was submitted during the initial phases of partnership. Mr. Jeffers stated the realization that many funds have been invested and facility promises have not been delivered; as a result Mr. Jeffers is hesitant to invest taxpayers money into this project and prefers to sell it. Mr. Parsons agrees with Mr. Jeffers in part but recent progress has been made despite many challenges. Mr. Parsons stated that with college resources and college management revenue can be generated to improve and deliver necessary services to the community. Mr. Parsons stated interest to cautiously allocate NPC funds to improve NATC services. Dr. Swarthout stated Stuart Bishop, Public Safety Director, has agreed will lead Law Enforcement Academy, Fire Academy and oversee NATC day-to-day if NPC controls and operates the facility. Ms. Handorf asked when NATC began. Dr. Swarthout responded legislative funding was secured in 2007 but the concept has existed over 12 years. Dr. Swarthout added many entities have invested over the years i.e. Town of Taylor loan, county assets, AZPOST and NAVIT. Dr. Swarthout reports the Town of Taylor has been reimbursed to date for the loan. Dr. Swarthout added there is approximately \$500,000 in capital account for NATC. The State of Arizona had requested that these funds be held for possible sweep. However if compliance issue is met with the Arizona Auditor Generals Office is resolved then NATC capital funds can be used. Dr. Swarthout stated transfer and management of assets needed to be complete prior to use of capital funds. Mr. Jeffers noted if the state will provide a letter releasing the \$500,000 NATC capital funds then financially moving forward is more favorable. Stuart Bishop reported the future is bright with a certified ten-month Law Enforcement Academy is under development and a new fee schedule is potentially implemented. Stuart Bishop reported partners are coming together based on the SWOT (Strengths, Opportunities, Weaknesses, Threats) analysis and recent meetings. Stuart Bishop is confident that NPC can run this facility most effectively; it will be a benefit to the community as well as NPC. Ms. Handorf is in favor of giving NATC another try under Stuart Bishop's leadership, she is confident that it has potential and the investment will be a benefit.



Study session ended at 9:58 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Kristin Thomas
Recording Secretary to the Board



Bill Jeffers
Chairman



Ginny Handorf
Board Secretary

APPROVED

