

**MESALANDS COMMUNITY COLLEGE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL BOARD MEETING**

November 18, 2014

The Mesalands Community College Board of Trustees met for a Special Board Meeting on Tuesday, November 18, 2014 at 5:30 p.m. in Room G606

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Bronson Moore, Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

ROLL CALL

The following members were present: Mr. Bronson Moore, Mr. Jimmy Sandoval, Mr. James Streetman, Ms. Liz Estrada, and Ms. Teresa Stephenson.

LIST OF ACTION ITEMS

- 1) Approval of Agenda
- 2) Approval of Meeting Date Change

APPROVAL OF AGENDA – ACTION

Dr. Newsom requested that the agenda be amended as follows:

- Addition of new item 'New Business' after Item IV.A. and before Item V. Adjournment.

ACTION – Ms. Stephenson moved to approve the amendment to the agenda as requested. The motion was seconded by Mr. Streetman. A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting yes.

ACTION – Mr. Sandoval moved to approve the agenda as amended. The motion was seconded by Mr. Streetman. A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting yes. The motion carried.

COMMENTS BY THE PUBLIC ON ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA

As per Board Policy 2.3 Procedures for Addressing the Board: Any person wishing to speak to the agenda must register prior to the meeting and their comments are limited to five (5) minutes.

No public comments were made.

APPROVAL OF MEETING DATE CHANGE – ACTION

Dr. Newsom informed the Board that he will need to be in Santa Fe for a Legislative Finance Committee (LFC) Hearing on December 9 and requested a Meeting Date Change for the Regular Board Meeting. Dr. Newsom proposed moving it to Wednesday, December 10, 2014 at 5:30 p.m. to be held in the Board Room, G606.

ACTION – Mr. Streetman moved to approve the Meeting Date Change from Tuesday, December 9, 2014 to Wednesday, December 10, 2014 at 5:30 p.m. in Room G606, as requested. The motion was seconded by Mr. Sandoval. A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting yes. The motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Higher Learning Commission (HLC) On-Site Visit Update

Dr. Newsom informed the Board that an official letter regarding the accreditation visit in March has been received. He indicated that he will be sharing this information with all employees on Wednesday, November 19, 2014 and has scheduled three sessions. The sessions will be held at 9:00 am, 12 noon, and 2:00 pm at the NAWRTC Lecture Hall and Dr. Newsom invited the Board Members to attend one of the sessions at their convenience.

Dr. Newsom reported that Mesalands Community College has received accreditation reaffirmation for the next ten years. However, one caveat to this is that the College has been put on 'Notice' which is defined as 'being in compliance, but some issues need to be addressed.' Dr. Newsom stated that a requirement of being placed on 'Notice' is that the 'Public Disclosure Notice' must be posted on the College Website as well as on the HLC Website. The Commission will notify the state as well as the New Mexico Higher Education Department (NMHED).

Some issues revealed include: timely submissions of audits; credit limits on degrees; engagement by faculty with students for on-line classes; inconsistency of syllabi; use of data assessment regarding graduation success; and retention and persistence.

Dr. Newsom indicated that the College has been given two years to address these issues but it is his intent to do so in one year. He added that measures have already been put in place to start addressing some of these concerns. By addressing and resolving these deficiencies, it eliminates them becoming problematic in the future.

There will be additional visits during the interim which consist of: filing a notice report in October 2015; a focus visit in December 2015; an evaluation by the Board in February 2016 for review; and a visit in 2018-2019. If all concerns have been addressed and resolved, then the re-evaluation for continued accreditation will be in 2024-2025.

Dr. Newsom informed the Board that the current liaison with HLC has been reassigned and the new liaison for Mesalands Community College is Dr. Anthea M. Sweeney.

Board Election Update

Ms. Estrada inquired on what the outcome was regarding the Board Election. Dr. Newsom informed the Board that he spoke with Dr. Becky Rowley, President, Clovis Community College and she reaffirmed that a Board can change the date of their election. Dr. Rowley indicated that they had changed theirs and acquired assistance from their legal counsel to ensure that the process was correct. Dr. Newsom stated that given the timeline involved, he didn't feel comfortable rushing into this change. He informed the Board that he does want to re-visit this possibility in the future but for now will leave it as is currently scheduled. Mr. Moore stated that it may cost a little more but may be best. Mr. Streetman indicated that one needs to be mindful about separating the elections if any controversy is involved by the other entity.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Moore stated that there was no further business and the meeting was adjourned. The meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

[signature on original]

J. Bronson Moore
Chair

[signature on original]

James Streetman
Secretary/Clerk