

**COCONINO COMMUNITY COLLEGE
DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD**

SPECIAL MEETING

JUNE 26, 2024



**COCONINO COMMUNITY COLLEGE
MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING
OF THE
DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD
JUNE 26, 2024**

A Special Meeting of the Coconino Community College District Governing Board was held via Zoom Board on Wednesday, June 26th at 9:45 am. Chair Mr. Joey Smith called the meeting to order at 9:47 am.

PRESENT: Eric Eikenberry
 Patricia Garcia (via phone)
 Patrick Hurley
 Joey Smith
 Nat White

ABSENT: None

Also Present: Dr. Eric Heiser, Ms. Kirsten Mead, Dr. Jami Van Ess, Dr. Adriana Flores-Church, Ms. Janel States, Ms. Dianna Sanchez, Ms. Cindy Bitsui, Ms. Connie Fletcher, Mr. Jacob Hagan, Ms. Jane Jarboe, Mr. Joey Fritzler, Ms. Julie Baumgartner, Mr. Keith Becker, Mr. Robert Miller, Mr. Joshua Hudlow, Mr. Evan Burris, Mr. Ryan Norton, Mr. Brian Wilson, Mr. Henry Garcia, Ms. Alycia Russo, and Ms. Stacie Avelar.

Reports, summaries, background material and other documents referred to in these minutes can be found in the June 26, 2024, documents file.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Dr. Nat White moved to approve the agenda, and Mr. Patrick Hurley seconded the motion. The agenda was approved as presented (Mr. Eikenberry, Ms. Garcia, Mr. Hurley, Chair Smith, and Dr. White voting in favor).

1. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

There were no guests in attendance.

2. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

There was no response to the Call to the Public.

3. ACTION ITEMS

A. Discussion and possible action to approve the Addendum to the President's employment contract – Chair Joey Smith

Board Chair Joey Smith stated that this action item clarifies the language of the previously approved amendment to Dr. Heiser's contract and is pleased to recommend

College President Dr. Eric Heiser for a 4.9% salary increase (the same as College employees are receiving), a bonus of \$5,267.50, and a five-year contract extension, renewed annually and beginning on July 1, 2024 (ending June 30, 2029). This recommendation was presented for Board approval after the Board conducted the President's evaluation during a Special Meeting inside an Executive Session on June 6, 2024.

The Board found Dr. Heiser's commitment to the College, the County, and the Community to meet their high expectations of serving as President of CCC.

Legal counsel has reviewed the contract, and it will take effect July 1, 2024.

Dr. Nat White moved to approve Addendum 1 to the President's Contract, and Mr. Patrick Hurley seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously (Mr. Eikenberry, Ms. Garcia, Mr. Hurley, Chair Smith, and Dr. White voting in favor).

Please note that Ms. Patricia Garcia was present via phone but was unable to speak. Ms. Garcia supports Addendum 1 to the President's contract.

B. Discussion and possible action to authorize the filing of a complaint and notice of appeal with the Arizona Tax Court regarding the tax year 2023 primary property tax levy – Dr. Eric Heiser

Dr. Eric Heiser explained that only the District Governing Board can direct legal counsel to act against any entity or person because the Property Tax Oversight Commission recently ruled against CCC in its appeal for the maximum taxing authority during the property tax reset phase; CCC will need to file a complaint against the PTOC in Arizona Tax Court to protect its rights and what staff and legal counsel believes to be the correct formula.

The Board discussed:

- The interpretation of the law; the legislation is not written clearly and comes down to legislative intent
- The Arizona Constitution supports the College's position
- To ensure the College is collecting the correct tax rate
- The College is the first community college to act against PTOC
- If the College does not pursue litigation, it loses net cash, as well as the amount that would grow in perpetuity

Dr. Nat White motioned to direct the college president to work with CCC Legal Counsel to file a complaint against the Property Tax Oversight Commission in Arizona Tax Court, and Mr. Patrick Hurley seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously (Mr. Eikenberry, Ms. Garcia, Mr. Hurley, Chair Smith, and Dr. White voting in favor).

Please note that Ms. Patricia Garcia was present via phone but was unable to speak.
Ms. Garcia supports filing the complaint and notice of appeal with PTOC.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chair Smith adjourned the meeting at 9:59 am.

MINUTES PREPARED BY:

Ms. Kirsten Mead
Board Recorder

ATTEST and APPROVED:

Mr. Patrick Hurley
Vice Chair/Secretary of the Board

Mr. Joey Smith
Board Chair