



Board of Regents Regular Meeting

February 28th, 2020
LCOOCC Main Campus in Boardroom

Minutes

1. Opening Prayer
2. Call to order at 9:06am
3. Roll Call - Jason Bisonette, Gary Gerber, Marie Basty, Monica Chase, Daryl Coons Jr., Kyle Van Acker, Melissa Lewis
4. Approval of today's agenda

Motion - Melissa Lewis motioned to approve today's agenda with additions to item 6 Public Comment, item A for financial overview Audit, and item B under President's Report for bachelors degrees. Daryl Coons Jr. seconded motion. Motion carried.

5. Approval of previous meeting minutes

Motion – Gary Gerber motioned to approve previous meeting minutes. Kyle Van Acker seconded motion. Motion carried.

6. Public Comment - NA

7. Student Senate Report – Keshia Chino

We have archery as an official club and business club (AIBL) American Indigenous Business Leaders having a fundraiser today for a trip to San Diego CA in April 2nd-4th. AIBL is working with (Restore) Habitat for Humanity and working on a business plan for them. Business students will be submitting the business plan they create at the conference in San Diego. Trying to help find ways to raise money for Habitat for Humanity. Business club plans to take 8 people to the conference. AIBL will waive the fees for registration and so they have to raise the money for flights, transportation, hotel, and per diem. Deb Anderson has a grant and is helping with supporting 4 people to the conference and there is another grant they are going to sign up for \$2,500. The partnership with Habitat for Humanity was with William Cadotte and he came over and connected with the business program since they are really struggling. AIBL went to Madison a few weeks ago and with the governor's conference and had a really good learning experience.

8. Tribal Governing Board Liaison Report – Lorraine Gouge

Lorraine attended a conference in Washington DC that was the same time as



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an AIHEC conference and wondering when students need support to represent the college at AIHEC. LCO Tribe would like to help fund students to make sure LCO is represented next year in Washington. There wasn't too much on the agenda this year in Washington that was huge to advocate for this year. The college just didn't have the funds this year to send students but plan to in the future. Lorraine did have a chance to speak to Sarah Baldwin and talked with her about education and the importance of student support. Everyone that attended NIEA were talking about their needs and the importance of building with what we have.

Break – 9:45am – 10:00am

9. Financial Overview

a) Audit

We had 4 findings in the audit. Two of them were on the business office side which was for providing financial statements and internal controls. We are going to go over the internal control matrix and are looking to including people outside of the business office to help. Also looking to hire someone for the accounting assistant that will also help with that issue. We are going to ask someone temporarily to help out with payables to help as well until we can hire someone full time. Looking into the business courses and talking about what the business office can do with the students. Human Resources is actively recruiting for the position as well.

GLBA finding as well and it's a new thing and so a lot of institutions were getting that finding. It has to deal with IT and documentation of showing what we are doing to protect data. Also having a repeat finding reporting with NSLDS and we are going to be reconciling every 30 days instead of 60 days. We no longer had the finding for R2T4's from last year which is good. Submitted the audit report to the Federal Audit Clearing house and still need to submit to the Department of Ed.

Motion – Gary Gerber motioned to accept the audit report. Melissa Lewis seconded motion. Motion carried.

We received 5 RFPs and made a spreadsheet and decided that there are 3 of them that are viable to look at. We are going to have an audit committee which will be Steve Tracey, Jill Matchett, Dr. Swagger, Lydia DeNasha, and Gary Gerber and interview them that way.

Budget Summary –

Tuition has been booked in February and reflected in the report. We book our tuition after the financial census date. Our bad debt expense increase to \$214,000 and we don't have a good answer as to why it



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was so high. We are getting a group together with Lydia, Marilee, and Sissy and are going to look at the aging and find out those students that didn't get financial aid and what we can do to help them. We have a much larger group of students than before and then it's likely bigger risk that the bad debt as well will get higher. We would like to have financial aid, billing, and higher education at every registration event front and center. We are also working on a policy to require every student to complete a FAFSA and other scholarships. We really need to look at financial literacy for students and look into a checklist for students. Dr. Swagger sent an e-mail out to faculty/staff yesterday that stated that we plan to go on an essential spending policy and Dr. Swagger and Jill will be reviewing all purchases made throughout the rest of the year. Have a few more funding streams that we plan to come in and hopefully we won't need to go into a line of credit. Dr. Swagger is working with Lisa LaRonge and we have an outstanding for \$100,000 with the charter school and have been talking with Christie Quaderer about receiving payment. The last meeting we had at the casino with Lisa LaRonge, Keller, Michelle Beaudin, and Tweed Schuman and they were waiting for a signature block to be added and then the TGB would signed but still waiting. Next week Dr. Swagger will go into negotiations with Keller about a contract for the charter school. The AICF endowment has been going down every year and states in the letter that this isn't a given. Not quite sure why it's been going down within the past few years and what exactly funds it but we won't be planning to receive much going forward.

Grant Summary –

Working on an AICF grant due on March 6th, Cultivating Native Student College Success for \$300,000 3-year grant. Also submitting a grant for NIFA, TCU research grant for Hemp at the end of March. We have started to receive payments for LCO Tribal Government for the TRANS grant and everything should be good to go now with future payments.

Endowments –

There is an issue with the markets because of the corona virus and taking a look at where we are at. We lost \$23,000 yesterday and we gained \$1,300 of that back this morning. She did contact Lisa from Morgan Stanley about what that is looking like in the future and they send a report out daily as well.

Statement of Financial Position –

There is about a \$350,000 change from last year and reflected on cash equivalents and depreciation. A lot more comfortable with the essential spending with where we are on cash situation.



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**Motion – Gary Gerber motioned to accept the financial overview.
Daryl Coons Jr. seconded motion. Motion carried.**

10. President's Report

Dr. Swagger plans to attend the elders meeting with Jim Schlender and Karen Breit next week Thursday to clarify for the elders about the plans for the college and the land needed for expansion. DSGW is going to redeploy their drones to get a better idea of what is going on and an update on the clear cuts. Going to have a sub meeting with DSGW and to take pictures on the cut south of Trepania rd. but the college is in the talks about that.

We have been renewed for another three years with Achieving the Dream. We have a retention and advising model that we have been working on and we will be having the coaches come for two and half days in June. Going to have a data summit and go over all of the areas that we can use data to help us make decisions based off that data. Use the information that we learn to go into our retention model.

The Higher Education Aids Board is fully supportive and was able to get Janet Bewley to sponsor to add one tribal college voting member, financial aid person, and a student representative from a tribal colleges. Just learned that the College of Menominee Nation president is no longer there. Will have to find out who will plan to attend the HEAB meetings if the College of Menominee Nation will alternate with us or who will attend as the tribal college voting member.

Ted Hayes was here at the college twice to meet with the safety security committee and then also met with the executive council. He will come back on March 12th and will be training with our faculty and staff to train them on how to react to intruders and an active shooter. Still looking into the suggestions that Ted had about the campus. We plan to only have three entrances open during the day, the front by the receptionist area, the entrance on the 400 wing, and the entrance by the Bakade Café. The rest of the entrances will be closed off where you cannot enter them, only exit.

We plan to look into trademarking the new logo and name for the college. It will protect the college with merchandise and selling things with the new logo and name on it.

Going forward Dr. Swagger will be doing a report on any visit he has with the outreach site students and what the outcome of the meeting was to give the board an idea of what the needs are for the students.

a) Bachelors

HLC visited our campus on February 25th and 26th and we felt the



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meeting went very well. The two HLC reviewers weren't able to give the college a recommendation because they no longer give a recommendation prior to the actual review process. The HLC reviewers did say they were impressed with our leadership and also the meeting that they had with the students. Dr. Swagger feels that there wasn't anything indicating that we would be hearing a denial for the bachelor programs. We should be hearing back from HLC at the latest the beginning of April.

Motion – Marie Basty motioned to approve President's report. Kyle Van Acker seconded motion. Motion carried.

Break – 12:15pm – 12:55pm

Motion – Gary Gerber motioned to authorize the President to offer Bachelor Programs for Business and Human Services programs for the Fall 2020 semester. Monica Chase seconded motion. Motion carried.

11. Other

Lorraine Gouge would like to get a scholarship committee together to help with all the different scholarship opportunities for tribal students. It was suggested that this would be for a Tribal Director of Higher Education to take leadership on.

Birchwood school has a school paper and it might be a good idea to ask to do an ad in their paper. WITC has a letter in the paper and some students at Birchwood might not even know about us.

12. Executive Session

13. Next Meeting – March 20th, 2020.

14. Adjournment

Motion – Melissa Lewis motioned to Adjourn at 1:32pm. Daryl Coons Jr. seconded motion. Motion carried.