A Work Session of the Coconino Community College District Governing Board was held in the Board Room at the Lone Tree Campus at 2800 S. Lone Tree Road, Flagstaff, Arizona 86005. Board Chair, Ms. Patricia Garcia, called the meeting to order at 5:17 pm.

PRESENT: Patricia Garcia
Lloyd Hammonds
Patrick Hurley
Marie Peoples
Nat White

ABSENT: None

Also Present: Dr. Colleen Smith, CCC President; Ms. Suzanne Adams-Okcrassa, Ms. Ali Applin, Dr. Kimberly Batty-Herbert, Dr. Dudley Gardner, Ms. Veronica Hipolito, Mr. Ron Hurle, Mr. Jeff Jones, Ms. Jenna Krizo, Ms. Kay Leum, Ms. Siri Mullaney, Dr. Gonzalo Perez, Mr. Anthony Rivera, Ms. Suzanna Rodriguez, Ms. April Sandoval, Mr. Dietrich Sauer, Mr. Kurt Stull, Mr. Scott Talboom, and Ms. Jami Van Ess.

Reports, summaries, background material and other documents referred to in these minutes can be found in the February 6, 2018 documents file.

Follow Up

- None

Important Dates
February 21, 2018  DGB Regular Meeting

DISCUSSION/INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Budget Retreat – Ms. Jami Van Ess
Ms. Jami Van Ess gave a presentation to the Board on the planning and development process for the fiscal year 2019 budget. Topics addressed in the presentation included budget guiding principles; background and trends; budget assumptions and fiscal year 2019 outlook; tuition and fees; and compensation. For additional details on the presentation, please see the February 6, 2018 documents file.

Ms. Van Ess asked the Board for their direction in the budget process. Board direction included the following:
- Dr. Nat White favors minimizing the tuition increase as much as possible but would support a placeholder for a $3 tuition increase. He hopes that the College will be able to move towards no increases in the next few years.
• Dr. Marie Peoples was uncomfortable with a $3 tuition increase, not because a tuition increase isn’t needed, but because the cost of living for students is so high. She does not support a parking increase for students but suggested one for staff. Dr. Peoples was supportive of the changes in differential tuition for higher cost courses.

• Mr. Lloyd Hammonds was supportive of the $3 tuition increase, the differential tuition changes, and increasing parking fees. Mr. Hammonds felt that this was the minimum amount needed to support strategic plan initiatives, meet the requirements of the Higher Learning Commission, and to fully serve students. Mr. Hammonds also supported the parking fee increases and an across the board increase for students and staff because the additional revenue would result in adding parking spaces.

• Mr. Patrick Hurley stated that this year the Board has only reviewed a proposal for a $3 tuition increase. He would have liked to see other options to consider whether the College could meet goals with a smaller increase. Mr. Hurley has never been a fan of increasing tuition, but at the moment, the College does not have the means to meet goals for the Higher Learning Commission and to support the community who are looking to the College for workforce development. Mr. Hurley did not have any concerns about differential tuition and is in favor of an across the board increase for parking. Additional parking spaces would make a big difference and additional revenue for parking could fund long-term capital improvements of the parking lot.

• Ms. Patricia Garcia did not have a strong feeling about raising parking fees. Ms. Garcia is never happy to raise tuition but is alarmed by not having other options besides a $3 tuition increase. She is not in favor of differential tuition because it may allow students with more resources better access to certain courses or programs.

• The Board expressed a desire to see different options for tuition increases. Ms. Van Ess stated that each dollar of tuition increase generates approximately $62,000 in revenue. The cost for two new full-time faculty members would be $114,000 (after adjusting costs for part-time faculty who would no longer be needed).

• Mr. Hammonds and Mr. Hurley supported a tuition increase amount that allows the Board to keep their commitment to meeting Higher Learning Commission requirements and allow for hiring more full time faculty.

• Dr. Peoples and Ms. Garcia expressed concern of continuing to increase tuition as a way to assist with increased costs for healthcare for employees. They both felt that healthcare costs would continue to rise and that there may need to be other options to support increased costs in this area.

• The Board expressed concern that the College is pricing students out of being able to complete their education.

The Board gave overall direction for moving forward in the budget process. That direction included the following:

• Dr. White supported the budget as presented but is a little concerned about parking fee increases. Dr. White would prefer options 1, 2, and the first item for option 3 related to the compensation adjustments presented today. Dr. White is concerned about tuition increases but hopes that the College will have other ways to generate revenue in the future.

• Mr. Hammonds supports the $3 tuition increase and supports absorbing the increased health care costs because passing those along to employees places more of a burden on
lower paid employees. Mr. Hammonds also supported options 1, 2, and the first item for option 3 related to compensation adjustments.

- Dr. Peoples sees the need to support employees but is not supportive of the current budget because it places more of a burden on students.
- Mr. Hurley expressed some concern over possible insurance coverage options that may not be available to other companies. Mr. Hurley was in favor of the budget as presented and supported the same compensation options as Dr. White and Mr. Hammonds.
- Ms. Garcia was not able to support the budget as presented.
- The Board appreciated the opportunity to review all budget items at one time.
- The Board asked to remove the two new faculty positions from the compensation adjustments handout. They are supportive of moving forward with these positions but did not feel these items were in the correct section of the recommendations.
- The Board would also like to see other options for absorbing some of the costs of the compensation adjustments. They suggested options such as adjusting the amount given for compensation or for medical costs.

Dr. Colleen Smith thanked the Board for their time and thoughtful participation in the budget process.

ADJOURNMENT: The Work Session Adjourned at 8:16 pm.

MINUTES PREPARED BY:

Ms. April Sandoval
Board Recorder

Mr. Lloyd Hammonds
Vice Chair/Secretary of the Board

Ms. Patricia Garcia
Board Chair