

# Cloud County Community College

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

### November 28, 2023

**Present:** Bruce Graham, Dave Garnas, Amber Hanson, Richard Hubert, Jesse Pounds, President Amber Knoettgen, Dr. Brandon Galm, Caesar Wood, Brandt Hutchinson, and Samantha Pounds (ZOOM) – Board Clerk.

**Others Present:**

Justin Ferrell – Attorney, Toby Nosker – KNCK, Jim Lowell – Blade Empire, Chris Wilson, Matt Bechard, Stefanie Perret, Jessica LeDuc, Heather Gennette, Carleen Nordell, Courtney Stensaas, Cindy Lamberty, and Tom Roberts.

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- I. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Jesse Pounds at **5:00** pm in Room 257 of the President’s Addition.
- II. **Pledge of Allegiance**
- III. **Adoption of the Agenda** – Richard Hubert moved and Dave Garnas seconded to adopt the agenda as presented. Motion passed.
- IV. **Guest Comments:** None
- V. **Introductions and Highlights**
  - A. **Equestrian Team**

Jamie Gross introduced himself and shared that the students have worked very hard. He also thanked his assistant coach, Lauren Trecek, for her volunteer efforts this year.
  - B. **Soil/Crops Team**

Adel Almesmari introduced himself and shared that he has been leading this team this year.
- VI. **Consent Agenda** – Dave Garnas moved and Amber Hanson seconded to approve the Consent Agenda which includes the minutes of the October 24, 2023 regular board meeting; Treasurer’s Report; Purchasing and Payment of Claims; Contract Renewal

Recommendations for Volleyball Coaches – Hilda Ramos and Deb Monzon; and Policy C20 – Personal Relationships. Motion passed.

## VII. Reports:

- A. President - Amber Knoettgen** – Opened her report with the mission statement and guiding values. She reminded us of the role and impact the College has within the community.
- 1) *President's Updates* – Best news of the month is that Cloud has been selected as a top 150 (top 10%) community college in the nation by the Aspen Prize. We submitted the follow up data this month and will complete the application narrative due by December 12<sup>th</sup>.
  - 2) *KACC Updates* – Amber attended the quarterly meetings on December 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> at Seward Community College. During those meetings they reviewed KBOR Service Area Policy, Level Up Kansas – Department of Commerce initiative to strengthen and grow the Kansas workforce, EMSI Presentation, Education Landscape, Presidential Searches, and Legislative Session Preview.
  - 3) *Marketing* – Preparing for the first day of filming for the new commercial that plans to be completed in 2024. It will be a Black Out night on Wednesday, December 6<sup>th</sup> at the basketball games vs. Hutchinson Community College. With assistance from the Foundation, we've purchased black shirts to give away to all students who attend. There will also be \$1 hot dogs and \$1 popcorn at the game, as well as a game by Zoe Merz at halftime for a chance to win \$500.
  - 4) *Foundation* – The year-end campaign will kick off this week with letters being sent to donors and a social media campaign. The 12 Days of Giving campaign will start on December 14<sup>th</sup>. The Foundation submitted six grants over the last month; Leva and Frank Duclos Foundation - \$5,000 for Food Pantry, Community Foundation for Cloud County - \$10,000 for Food Pantry receiving \$2,339, Dane G Hansen Foundation - \$8,074 for Early Childhood Education Staff Support receiving \$8,074, KBOR Innovative Technology Grant - \$18,732 for Nursing Headwalls in Tech Center receiving \$18,732, Kansas Department of Commerce JIIST - \$55,521.46 for two new drones for Renewable Energy, and the Dane G Hansen Foundation - \$500,000 for Technology for the Technical Education and Innovation Center.
  - 5) *Athletics* – The Wrestling team will return to action this weekend when they travel to Hays, KS on Saturday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>. They currently have three wrestlers ranked in the top-12 of their respective weight classes and are the #11 overall ranked team in the NJCAA wrestling rankings. The first home dual will take place on Wednesday, January 17<sup>th</sup>. The Men's Basketball Team is one of four teams from the KJCCC to be nationally ranked, coming in at #25 in this week's NJCAA Division I Men's Basketball Poll. The T-Birds are 7-1

overall with their only loss to now #6 ranked Barton Community College and have the #2 scoring defense in the NJCAA this season.

- 6) *Upcoming Meetings and Events* – Dual Credit Information night will be held on November 29<sup>th</sup> and the Holiday Luncheon will be held on Friday, December 15<sup>th</sup>.

**B. Interim Vice President for Academic Affairs - Dr. Brandon Galm**

- 1) During November's Academic Affairs meeting, we discussed potentially allowing students to take specific technical courses for credit towards their degree. This would provide students with an opportunity to explore other areas they're interested in within their electives and could also help with enrollments in technical courses. There will be continued conversations about this matter. Back in August, we submitted a proposal for the upcoming HLC's Conference to present on our experiences through probation. We received notification on November 13<sup>th</sup> that it was accepted which means that Cindy Lamberty, Dr. Kim Zant, Amber, and Brandon will all present at the HLC Conference next April. Kristina Frost took some of her criminal justice students to the new Saline County Jail facility, where they had the opportunity to experience life as inmates. During the experience, students also had an opportunity to watch presentations on aggressive inmates and the use of force techniques. Julia Burr-Roveti spoke at the Rotary luncheon about her background, theatre at Cloud, and the upcoming production. Adult Ed will start offering ESL courses in the spring. Debbie Kearn is still working out the details, but this will be a good support for the community and potentially some of our students. Kim Smith was elected President of the Kansas State Nurses Association, Sunflower Chapter. She takes office in January 2024.
- 2) A group of 25 transitioning soldiers, 68th District Kansas House Representative Nate Butler, and additional representatives from the Military Affairs Council, Junction and Geary Chamber, and Junction City Mainstreet visited the Geary County Campus on November 2<sup>nd</sup> as part of the Kansas Employment Exploration Program (KEEP). Jen Zabokrtsky and Cindy Lamberty presented on employment and educational opportunities at Cloud.

**C. Vice President for Administrative Services – Caesar Wood**

- 1) *Finance/Reports Updates* – The auditors were here on campus on September 11<sup>th</sup> to complete the annual audit and we do not anticipate any findings. We will get a draft in December of the audit and then we will bring a copy to the board in January to review for board approval in February 2024. Neil Phillips, our auditor from JGPPA will be here January 23<sup>rd</sup> at audit and finance and the board meeting to present.

- 2) *Children's Center* – The Children's Center received the Longevity Bonus Grant from Dane G. Hansen Foundation in the amount of \$8,074.00 for our staff.
- 3) *Information Technology* – They have a systems admin interview scheduled for this coming Friday and are still looking to fill the PC Tech position. Institutional Research is working on several reports, including the KBOR Fall Census due this Friday. Security Compliance Associates (SCA), the vendor we contracted with for cyber security services, conducted internal and external testing.
- 4) *Residence Life* – The housing staff is working on room assignments for the Spring semester. A Refer a Friend program going on till December 1<sup>st</sup>.
- 5) *Cafeteria* – The café served nearly 200 students at JAG-K Days and Ag/Welding Days. Also served an incredible Thanksgiving meal the Tuesday before Thanksgiving.
- 6) *Facilities Updates* – The softball fence project is 90% complete with the first base and third base dugout pads and fencing are only left to finish. GR 205 and the stairs in Presidents Addition remain to be finished with the trim and edges, and one blind in the corridor to be installed.
- 7) *Technical Education and Innovation Center* – We are 51.36% complete with the project thus far. No delays and no injuries have occurred at the constructions site. Thank you to Monte Poersch as he continues to give us great video of the site.

**D. Vice President for Student Services – Brandt Hutchinson**

- 1) *Admissions* – About 160 attended JAG Day from 5 high schools in our service area. About 175 attended Ag/Welding Day from 12 high schools also in our service area. During both visits, prospect cards were collected from all students. Both events were a group effort from all departments.
- 2) *Dual Advising* – Kris Farmer has been preparing for the Dual Credit Info Night, on November 29<sup>th</sup>, and sharing information with High School counselors, Dual Credit coordinators, principals, high school students, social media, etc.
- 3) *Student Engagement* – The Haunted Forest was well attended. 426 students and community members visited the forest. The freewill donation collected over \$860 which will benefit Student Senate and the Cloud Cares Food Pantry. Thank you to Zoe Merz for coordinating this outstanding event.
- 4) *Mental Health Services* – There have been 46 appointments scheduled with 43 shows and 3 cancellations/no shows between October 24<sup>th</sup> and November 17<sup>th</sup>. This is a great service provided to our students.
- 5) Brandt has been visiting district leaders in our service area to build connections.

**E. Meetings the Board Members attended**

- 1) Dave Garnas attended the Community Foundation for Cloud County and the monthly OAC Construction meeting for the Technical Education and Innovation Center this month.
- 2) Richard Hubert attended the Concordia Senior Center meeting, Miltonvale Senior Center meeting, and Glasco Senior Center meeting this month.
- 3) Jesse Pounds attended CloudCorp and Pros of Con meetings this month.

**VIII. Discussion Items**

**A. Tuition, Fees, and Housing Rates for AY 2024-2025**

Caesar Wood presented that this information was shared with students for feedback before bringing this forward for discussion. Students were in favor of a Tech Fee increase, Building Fee increase, and International Tuition increase. This will be brought back for action at the December Board meeting.

**IX. Action Items**

**A. Approve the publication of the Board Vacancy Notice**

Bruce Graham moved and Dave Garnas seconded to approve the publication of the Board Vacancy notice according to the provisions of K.S.A. 25-2022 for a vacancy in the membership of the Board of Trustees. Motion passed.

**B. Approval of the furniture purchase for the Technical Education and Innovation Center**

Bruce Graham moved and Richard Hubert seconded to approve the furniture purchase from Sopa, Inc. in the amount of \$305,782.02 and from Landscape Forms, Inc. in the amount of \$36,844.28 and authorize payment from Fund 63 - Building Fund. Motion passed.

**X. Other: None**

**XI. Executive Session: None**

**XII. Adjournment**

Amber Hanson moved and Bruce Graham seconded to adjourn the meeting at 6:14 pm. Motion passed.

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Samantha Pounds, Clerk of the Board  
Cloud County Community College  
Board of Trustees