

CARBON COUNTY BOARD OF COOPERATIVE HIGHER EDUCATION SERVICES

Board Minutes

The Carbon County Board of Cooperative Higher Education Services (BOCHES) held its regular monthly meeting May 26, 2011 at 4:30 p.m. at the Carbon County Higher Education Center in Rawlins, Wyoming.

Members Present

David Dingman called the meeting to order. Members present: David Dingman, Mike Mann, Juli Miller, George Eckman and Pat Sheehan . Also present was David Throgmorton, Shelly Collier, Karen Webster, Greg Garner and Barb James. Lindsey Musgrave via Phone.

Agenda

George Eckman made the motion to accept the agenda. The motion was seconded and passed.

Consent Agenda

George Eckman made the motion to approve the minutes for April 28, 2011 meeting, Treasurer's Report, and Accounts Payable for May 2011. The motion was seconded and passed.

Action Items

Pat Sheehan made the motion to approve the one time amended salary schedules reflecting employee compensation for insurance coverage. The motion was seconded and passed.

Juli Miller made the motion to approve the new insurance benefit plan offered by WSBAIT for 2011-2012. The motion was seconded and passed.

Discussion Items

Dave Throgmorton notified the board that the offices will be going to summer hours next week. This will have employees working nine (9) hours a day for four (4) days and four (4) hours on Friday closing at Noon.

Dave Throgmorton proposed to the board that a workshop be scheduled to properly discuss the Juvenile Services Program. The board agreed that a workshop is necessary.

Director's Report

See attached.

Executive Session

Mike Mann made the motion to move into Executive Session at 5:15 p.m. The motion was seconded and passed.

Julie Miller made the motion to return to open session at 5:35 p.m. The motion was seconded and passed.

Julie Miller made the motion to approve Executive Session minutes for May 26, 2011. The motion was seconded and passed.

Julie Miller made the motion to approve a one (1) year extension to Executive Director Throgmorton's contract with standard step increase and insurance compensation in compliance with the Carbon County Higher Education Center's Insurance Plan. The motion was seconded and passed.

Staff Reports

Lindsey Musgrave from the LSRV Campus told the board about their upcoming summer programs specifically about Camp Peak which will take place in June. She believes the camp will go well.

Dave Throgmorton talked to the board about the letter from Dan Massey who is the Rawlins City Attorney. The Carbon County Higher Education Center is interested in seventeen (17) acres of land that is owned by the city. The price is acceptable and off the tax rolls. Dave Throgmorton would like to hold off on recommending purchase of this property until the Nursing Program is resolved and the workshop has taken place for the Juvenile Services Program. Dave Throgmorton would like to have it on the agenda for June.

Board Comments

George Eckman requested time to address a couple of issues about the Nursing Program.

1. Personnel – There is an employee who may not have their contract renewed. This issue will be resolved next week one way or the other and is out of the college's hands. It is a requirement by the National Nursing Association that all nursing instructors have a Masters level degree to keep accreditation for this program. George Eckman explained that he is on the Board of Trustees and is not privy to very much information about this issue in case it would prejudice his decision if the individual decides to appeal the Board of Trustees because they are not satisfied with the resulting decision next week.
2. Nursing Program – George Eckman wanted to assure the board that he was not aware of any issues with this program prior to last Friday. Dr. Karla Leach approached George after the Nurse Pinning Ceremony in Rock Springs and made him aware of some of the issues involving the Rawlins Nursing Program. From that Meeting George was under the impression that these were only proposals and nothing has been decided. George wanted to assure everyone that regardless of what the Nursing Director implied it is not the case. George also stressed to Dr. Leach that the Carbon County Higher Education Center is very concerned about the nature of the program here and that it must be brought to this group first, especially since the Carbon County Higher Education Center approved of, runs, and pays the cost of this program. He believes that it is the obligation of the college as the provider to be meeting our needs and our requests. He also believes that if any changes are proposed that they should first be brought to us to discuss before it is brought to other leaders of the community. On behalf of Dr. Leach, George let the Board know that she would like to meet with them on June 7, 2011. She will come to Rawlins for this meeting. George also mentioned that none of these changes would happen this year and would be phased in next year if at all, but not without first consulting with the Carbon County Higher Education Center. George also shared the reason it has not been brought to us before this is on the recommendation of the attorney (Phillips?) involved in the personnel issue.

Juli Miller said she appreciates the position George has been put in and thinks it is unfortunate. Juli wondered why this is being discussed amongst such a significant group of people if it is being said that it is confidential because of the personnel issue and feels this situation has been handled under the table. The indication of things that were said to Juli Miller by the Nursing Director at the Nurse Pinning Ceremony actually was very opposite of what is about to take place.

George Eckman feels bad that this information came in the way it did. George feels he should be bringing any possible proposed changes to the Board and not from another source.

Dave Throgmorton admits that he has been fairly aggressive with this situation and feels proprietary towards this program and that it is an important part of the community. His sense of it, as the Executive Director, is to make sure we have an RN program. He would like the board to let him know if he is being too aggressive in this situation. Dave Throgmorton let WWCC know that if they do not continue the RN program here he will talk with other community colleges that will.

Mike Mann said that regardless of the outcome of this meeting in the path of the nursing program through Western; a parallel path needs to be looked at by Dave Throgmorton and is in the best interest of the folks of Carbon County.

Juli Miller mentioned that our demographics are totally different from those on campus and most students here in Rawlins are not in a position to travel to Rock Springs to do an RN program and that is why they do it here. It would be a huge devastation to students who have been working hard on their prerequisites the last two (2) years to get into the nursing program, if it were pulled from our community. Juli Miller believes we serve our community very well and that our nursing program is a quality one. It is disappointing that people don't recognize that and what a huge part of the community and the culture the nursing program is here.

George Eckman mentioned that the students of the Bairoil School have been invited to the Western Wyoming Community College to view the Dinosaur Exhibits and also the students will visit the Dinosaur Museum in Rock Springs.

The workshop for the Nursing Program is set for June 6, 2011 at 6 p.m. It will be open to the public with an ad put in the paper to announce the workshop.

George Eckman recommended that a letter of concern be sent to Dr. Leach about the Nursing Program prior to the workshop that has concerns from each board member in it.

The workshop for the Juvenile Services Program is set for June 13th at 4:30 p.m.

Mike Mann would like Dave Throgmorton to provide a skeletal overview of the proposed juvenile services program from the ground level up. He would like to see current data from Carbon County in the past 3-5 years that may provide trends along with any legal issues.

Juli Miller would like to see the county level members that were involved with the housing proposal involved in the workshop for example Dawnessa Snyder and Mike Reed.

Board Meeting Date

The next meeting is scheduled to be held June 23, 2011 at the Carbon County Higher Education Center. The meeting will begin at 4:30 p.m.

Adjourned

Juli Miller made the motion to adjourn the board meeting at 5:50 p.m. The motion was seconded and passed.

David Dingman, Chairperson

Mike Mann, Clerk

Karen Webster, Executive Admin. Assistant