

GREAT BASIN COLLEGE FOUNDATION
Board of Trustee Special Meeting

Tuesday, August 18, 2020, at 12:15 pm

Due to Covid-19, this meeting utilized Zoom Meeting.

MINUTES

1. Call to Order

2. Roll Call:

Present

Dr. Robert Colon (Chair)
Kaley Sproul-Chapin
Molly Popp
Dave Roden
Holly Wilson
James Glennon
John Pryor

Absent

Zach Gerber
Chris Johnson
Danny Gillins
Caroline McIntosh
Gregory Hafen

Others Present:

Matt McCarty, Director
President Joyce Helens
Sonja Sibert, Vice President of Business Affairs
Jake Rivera, Vice President of Academic Affairs
Justine Stout, Controller's Office
Kelli Baker, Administrative Assistant

3. Public Comment *(see notation below regarding public comment).*

Information Only

No comment.

4. Discussion and possible approval of a request from Great Basin College for supplemental funding, and all items related thereto.

Possible Action

Mr. McCarty informed the Board that due to COVID 19 and the impact to the State budget, the Department of Education canceled the College and Career Readiness (CCR) Grant, which went to all 17 school districts. However, Mr. McCarty explained, the money came directly to Great Basin College for the 10 school districts we have, the other seven districts receive the money directly. Mr. McCarty explained that a letter had already went to 170 students saying they were accepted for dual enrollment. He explained that Great Basin College would pay for half of that and they are responsible for the other half, which is what the CCR covers. Mr. McCarty explained that this covers all three tiers of need within k-12. He explained that it is approximately \$120,000.00 and

if the students have to come up with their half, which is around \$500.00, then GBC may lose the enrollment for those students over the next two years, which impacts the budget.

President Helens stated the system was cut \$50 million and then during the special session it was cut another \$25 million. President Helens explained for rural institutions that was another \$200-\$250 thousand additional after the 14% that was already cut. President Helens stated the College was set out to start strong before the pandemic hit. She also said the last special session, when k-12 was cut, we did not know about it because we are the only college that receives the funds directly. President Helens stated the students and families are already expecting the grant and because of pandemic the families do not have those extra funds to pay for the dual enrollment.

President Helens stated that right now GBC is the only college in the system with positive numbers and that the dual enrollment has surpassed last year. President Helens said that this will impact students and our bottom line. President Helens said that they did look at other fees, but they have not had time to go back to school districts.

President Helens stated what GBC is asking for is an up to amount, even if it is the Tier 1 students, which is the greatest need. President Helens stated the Tier 1 students include English, Math, and History, which students need to obtain their Associates Degree. She stated the \$120,000.00 covers one semester and her thoughts are for one year to have \$150,000.00 to cover the Tier 1.

Vice President Sibert said she will provide some additional background for the crisis the State is under, in particular the Nevada Department of Education and the dual enrollment funding. Vice President Sibert stated that in the first special session, the Department of Education (k-12) was asked to cut \$175 million, as part of their proposed plan \$5 million for FY21 was cut, which eliminated dual enrollment throughout the state.

Vice President Sibert informed the Trustees that most other school districts receive the grant directly. She explained the grant was received the last three years and it should have received this year. Vice President Sibert stated that over the last three years the funding for the grant has ranged from \$125,000.00 to \$320,000.00. Vice President Sibert explained the students apply through their school then through the College, they receive a reduced rate and that reduced rate is 50% of registration and tech fee, and the students pay lab fees. Vice President Sibert stated that the CCR Grant covers 100% of the 50% that the students would have to pay.

Vice President Sibert informed the Board on August 4, 2020, Jeannie Bailey, Grants Director, received word the grant was eliminated and that was a much later date than the school districts, due to the communications through the Department of Education and the school districts. She explained it was confirmed with Heidi Harts, Budget Director for the Department of Education, that the grant was completely eliminated, and they hope to propose it back in the 2021 Legislative Session.

Vice President Rivera explained to the Trustees that the dual enrollment is set up in 3 tiers, and currently for fall semester there are 247 students signed up. Vice President Rivera said that Tier 1, which is the highest need, has 165 students which would represent \$82,600.00 that is needed, Tier 2 has 21 students which would represent \$8,800.00, Tier 3 has 61 students which represents

\$30,700.00, for a total of \$120,000 and a possible loss of 125 FTE for all 3 Tiers. He explained that the school districts may be able to help with some of the costs, but it would take time to come to that determination and as you know the semester is starting. Vice President Rivera stated what they are asking today is to approve any funding to cover the \$120,000.00, or a minimum of our Tier 1 students at about \$82,600.00, and we would work with the districts to determine if funding or any other resources are available to them. Vice President Rivera stated if this request is not approved, GBC will be affected by 125 FTE after a very successful fall enrollment, but more importantly not being able to assist our dual enrollment students reduces their opportunities.

Trustee Roden inquired if this is a count year. Vice President Sibert replied it is not, count years are even years, so the next one will be FY22. Vice President Sibert added this grant funding provided registration fee and purchase of textbooks, but they are not asking for funding for this at this time.

Chair Colon inquired as to what the different tiers are. Vice President Rivera explained that Tier 1 is the greatest need, i.e. Math, English, History, Science, a Physical Education course would fall under Tier 2 or Tier 3, but we have opportunity to fund only the Tier 1 students. He also explained that one of things they embarked on last year with the school districts was a College Bound Certificate, and this is a step backwards after we have been promoting students to stay on a pathway.

Chair Colon asked if there are any vocational programs in the tiers? Vice President Rivera replied yes, and some students are in Tier 1. Vice President Sibert replied the schools also determine the tiers and they base them on needs of students' financial ability to pay for dual enrollment. Chair Colon inquired which school districts would partner. Vice President Rivera replied there at least ten. Mr. McCarty stated the ten districts are Nye, White Pine, Elko, Eureka, Lander, Humboldt, Esmeralda, Lincoln, Mineral, and Pershing.

Chair Colon inquired if they will ask the school districts for help. Vice President Rivera replied yes, that would be our next step and that some have already reached out to the college stating they may be able to help some of their students. Vice President Rivera said if this is approved today, they will send out a letter asking the districts to work with the college, but some districts won't be able to help and will put it on the parents to fund it. Chair Colon asked if it was \$500.00 per student per semester. Vice President Rivera replied that is correct.

Trustee Glennon stated normally he would be all for funding the kids, but for the last three years there have been so many requests for funding from the Foundation that maybe we won't have to worry about it anymore because there will be no money left. Trustee Glennon said he is nervous that we are down to \$253,000.00, that is only a one and a half to two years left for operations. Chair Colon asked about backing off of the athletics program, he sees that as not as important at this time. Trustee Glennon stated that his reservation is not the request, but as a Board we do not have a strategy for funding, he agrees with the program, just nervous with funding. Chair Colon agreed that there needs to be a plan of action because when the money is gone it's gone.

Trustee Roden stated we need to look at the students and would like to make a motion to fund up to \$120,000.00 on this request. Chair Colon asked where the funds would come from? Trustee Roden responded from the \$253,000.00.

Trustee Popp said her concerns align with Trustee Glennon on how to replace those funds due to not being able to raise funds right now as we did in the past. Trustee Popp said what it comes down to is real life, this impacts businesses, schools, and homes, we are in a pandemic. Trustee Popp said maybe fund 25% and not the 50% to the students or not the \$120,000.00, but maybe up to \$80,000.00 or \$90,000.00. Trustee Popp also said she would feel more confident if there was fundraising but cannot give that because of the unknown. Chair Colon inquired if Trustee Popp would you be willing to fund the Tier 1 students for the \$86,000.00? Trustee Popp said she would feel better about this if the school districts would chip in as well. Chair Colon said he can't see the school districts denying the request. Trustee Glennon says he agrees with Trustee Popp funding the Tier 1 and approaching the districts for funds. Trustee Glennon asked what the amount was for the Tier 1. Vice President Rivera answered \$82,600.00.

Chair Colon asked Trustee Roden if he would like to withdraw his motion. Trustee Roden said he will redo his motion to cover Tier 1 \$82,600.00.

Mr. McCarty asked Chair Colon if this is just for fall semester or is this the full year? Chair Colon said he would assume the students are enrolled for an entire year correct. Vice President Rivera reiterated it is just for the fall semester. Chair Colon said they can revisit later, but he would like to see contributions from the other schools. Chair Colon asked Vice President Sibert what the school districts do with the money they receive from the grant. Vice President Sibert said the College and Career Readiness Grant comes to the college directly and not to the school districts. Vice President Sibert indicated that the charter and home schools can also apply. She stated that we are in a different situation because the other colleges work directly with the school districts to figure out how they are going to fund the dual enrollments, as the money goes directly to the districts. Vice President Sibert stated the ability for schools to pay varies tremendously through the State.

MSP to approve to fund \$82,600.00 for Tier 1 Students - Roden; Glennon

***** The motion passed - Trustee Pryor did not cast a vote due to technical difficulty.**

Mr. McCarty stated that Trustee McIntosh was also in favor of providing extra funds.

Mr. McCarty inquired on how quickly the funds need transferred over as he has been working on finding foundations to assist in funding, and if so, would the Board be willing to allow those foundations to assist our foundation? Chair Colon asked if Mr. McCarty was talking about the \$82,600.00? Mr. McCarty said he was initially looking for \$120,000.00 with the numbers that were provided, that he was looking at foundations outside of the GBC Foundation that would be able to fund the CCR, but we just did not have a lot of notice.

Mr. McCarty stated his concern is we do not have a lot of cash and he would like to find other foundations to supplement the cash. He stated he would just like to make sure the Board is okay

with him still pursuing finding other donors, with the first \$82,600 coming back to GBC Foundation, as he does not want to be disingenuous to donors. Vice President Sibert stated there are additional items we need to do so we don't need the funding immediately. The consensus of the Trustees was for Mr. McCarty to seek additional funds.

President Helens, Vice President Sibert, and Vice President Rivera thanked the Board.

5. Items from Board Members .

Information Only

Board members may bring to the attention of the board items pertaining to the Foundation that might be of interest. No action may be taken on a matter raised under this agenda item, though items may be designated to be added to the next agenda.

None.

6. Public Comment *(see notation below regarding public comment).*

Information Only

None.

Adjourn 1:08 pm