WESTERN NEVADA COLLEGE

INSTITUTIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes

Thursday, May 19, 2016

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Western Nevada College – Carson City Campus

2201 W. College Parkway, President’s Board Room

Carson City, NV 89703

Interactive video hook-up from the meeting site to:

Fallon Campus

Virgil Getto Hall – Room 309

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chet Burton, President, WNC

Rachel Dahl, Executive Director, CEDA

Tim Dyhr, Vice President, Nevada Copper

Jeffrey Gordon, Plant Manager, GE/Bently

Rob Hooper, Executive Director, NNDA/IAC Chair

Ricky Medina, Director, Assessment/Accountability, Carson City School District

Mary Pierczynski, Educator

Gerd Poppinga, Sr., CEO/President, Vineburg Machining (from Carson City)

Cary Richardson, COO, Miles Construction (from Carson City)

Hoyt Skabelund, CEO, Banner Churchill Hospital

Richard Slaby, Superintendent, Storey County School District

Richard Stokes, Superintendent, Carson City School

AD HOC MEMBERS PRESENT:

None

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Laura Ijames, Secretary, Fallon Paiute-Shoshone Tribe

Nick Marano, City Manager, Carson City

Bus Scharmann, Commissioner, Churchill

WNC STAFF PRESENT:

Deb Conrad, Assistant to the President, (Recorder)

Mark Ghan, Vice President of Administrative and Legal Services/General Counsel

Niki Gladys, Director, Foundation/Institutional Development

Georgia White, Academic Director, CTE

Robert Wynegar, Vice President of Academic and Student Affairs

GUESTS PRESENT:

Sara LaFrance

Call to Order

1. Call to Order and Roll Call: Chair Rob Hooper called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. and asked for roll call. Roll call was taken and a quorum was present.
2. Remarks from WNC President Chester Burton: Chet Burton provided the following remarks:

* WNC commencement ceremony is Monday and it is a record graduating class of 556.
* WNC’s nursing pinning is tomorrow and 20 of about 40 graduates are going to work at Carson-Tahoe Health.
* Chancellor Klaich resigned last week over an issue with an email and while counsel for the Board of Regents found no grounds for termination, the Board accepted the chancellor’s proposal to step aside so as not to be a distraction. The chancellor’s last day will be June 2, 2016. The Board will take recommendations for an interim chancellor and then conduct a nation-wide search
* Of the 556 students graduating this year, 27 are high school students who will earn an associate’s degree as well as a high school diploma.

1. Remarks from WNC IAC Chair Rob Hooper: Rob Hooper provided the following remarks:

* Chair Hooper is meeting with different manufacturers in the region and is encouraging the companies to bring ideas and comments to the IAC.
* Chair Hooper thanked the group for being members of the IAC because the process is really getting started now toward making an impact.

1. Public Comment: Hoyt Skabelund said he attended the WNC student awards reception on June 7, 2016 and thought it was well done and a great way to give recognition. Sara LaFrance introduced herself and said she is running for the Board of Regents.
2. Remarks from WNC IAC Members: Ricky Medina said he was able to meet with Cathy Fulkerson about how K12 can share data back and forth with WNC; Ricky and Cathy are looking at how UNR and Washoe County share data and plan to flesh out the plan over the summer. Cary Richardson said the construction committee is working to place some individual students with work. Mary Pierczynski said she is really glad that all the IAC chairs are getting together for the June meeting and give us more direction about getting out in the community and bringing back information. Robert Slaby thanked John Kinkella and WNC for working closely with the Jump Start students and being flexible with their needs, as well as Chet for embracing Jump Start.
3. Approval of Minutes from February 22, 2016: Rob Hooper asked all members to take a minute to review the minutes from February 22, 2016. Richard Stokes motioned to approve the minutes. Cary Richardson seconded the motion. **Motion carried by unanimous vote.**
4. Chair’s Report on the last Board of Regents Community College Committee Meeting:   
   Chair Hooper reviewed the meeting with key points as follows:

* Chair Hooper reported on successful growth of Jump Start, the success of the Fallon turn-around and the collaboration with ROCCC, local committees and WNC for the WNC IAC report.
* GBC reported on its Veterans Resource Center and donations to it, the year-long celebration for their 50th anniversary and its bid to become a state college.
* TMCC reported that two new members had joined and its IAC and that it is moving to address the well-being of the whole college rather than focusing only on workforce development, and how they are being advocates in the business community. Chair Hooper commented to the group that this is an area WNC’s IAC might want to focus on – how do we become better ambassadors to the business community.
* CSN reported on launching two subcommittees on performance metrics (curricula and career), understanding budget priorities and campus planning overview.
* Each president reported on dual enrollment programs at their institution in conjunction with local school districts and the report will be standardized to twice a year.
* Each president reported on campus initiatives:
  + CSN reported on the national Achieving the Dream meetings, the MOU with NSC and UNLV to solidify transfer improvements between the institutions and receiving a STEM grant for $150,000 to start a cyber security AAS degree.
  + GBC reported on growth of Veterans Resource Center and assignment of a Veterans Service Officer and Pahrump campus planning.
  + TMCC reported on the success of enrollment initiatives on Fall 2015 enrollment.
  + President Burton reported on the STEM grant award including $142,000 to purchase a robotic welder and associated curriculum, and planning for a WNC-TMCC joint robotics training center.
* Additionally, a discussion on the Nevada College Collaborative was put forth by executive director Frank Woodbeck, a report was given on the WINN fund structure, goals and funding and how to apply it to CSN-Faraday Futures initially, and presentations of the Southern Nevada forum.
* Chair Hooper added a side commented to the group that the WINN Fund offers real opportunities in the north if we understand it.
* Frank Woodbeck presented on the Business and Education Summit regarding the roles of community colleges in an integrated system of higher education and the need for investment in new programs.
* Discussion took place on advanced manufacturing technologies joint training center. President Richards and the principal of CCSD CTE Academy reported on plan to establish a joint training center on the campus of the academy.
* CSN presented its Institutional Strategic Plan covering the elements and time table for the next seven years.
* TMCC discussed their enrollment management initiatives.
* TMCC and CSN gave accreditation updates and both are on track for accreditation.

Jeffrey Gordon asked about the advanced technologies joint training center. Chester Burton explained that it is located in Clark County and is a joint venture with CCSD and CSN and would be located on an existing campus. President Burton added that WNCC and TMCC have had preliminary discussions about joint training with K-12 school districts and looking at the Tahoe Regional Industrial Center for the location of a technical training center there.

1. Review and possible changes to top five objectives of WNC’s IAC: Chair Hooper explained that Frank Woodbeck asked the IAC chairs to bring the top five objectives of their IAC to the June 2, 2016 meeting. Chair Hooper and Chester Burton met to come up with a top five list. Chair Hooper asked the group to review the handout (available at <http://www.wnc.edu/president/institutional-advisory-council/>) and to provide input on whether the objectives make sense and are they representative of the council’s focus.

* Chair Hooper read the five objectives out loud to the group.
* Cary Richardson said objective number one is a big issue from his perspective because there are no students in construction and information about the options needs to get to potential students because they don’t realize there are real career opportunities out there.
* Jeffrey Gordon added the opportunities at WNC need to be identified and be promoted to create awareness, but also need to be able to measure progress as well. Gerd Poppinga said his company’s growth is dependent on the interest people have in the industry and that there is a need to create excitement about the opportunity for people to advance themselves through education.
* Chester Burton and Robert Slaby suggested reaching middle school students because decisions about education and career paths happen early.
* Richard Stokes asked if it is an undue hardship or is it welcome to bring kids in to shadow or intern for companies. It could help drive interest in the various fields.
* Jeffrey Gordon said his doors are wide open to any student – even just to look at building. He’s committed to figuring out a way to make it work. Job shadowing and internships could also be discussed.
* Gerd Poppinga said his company is currently doing that but there are not enough people interested in doing it. He added that he is using his best resources to teach those who are interested. He is interested in promoting this process.
* Richard Stokes asked Gerd Poppinga if the kids come to his company or do they go out and find them. Gerd Poppinga said they do both; most just don’t know that they can.
* Ricky Medina said all the teachers have been through four year programs, so that is what they think of for students after high school. How can the IAC help build awareness for educators about the other viable options?
* Chair Hooper asked in return: How does the district allot time for educators to visit these companies? Richard Stokes replied that summer is probably the best time. Or after school times because there are already so many regimented expectations around academic day
* Cary Richardson said he would be happy to bring educators to job sites to help expose educators to the field.
* Gerd Poppinga said it is a big deal for his company and others to raise awareness, not just with educators but with parents and counselors. Gerd Poppinga added that work needs to be done on all kinds of fronts, including bringing in other manufacturers.
* Chair Hooper posed some questions about looking at all five objectives: How deep do we go? Do we get organized around that? How do we do that?
* Mary Pierczynski thought it was important that chairs are getting together and would like to know how the other groups get out into the business communicate because the WNC IAC needs to do that more.
* Chair Hooper asked if job shadowing was something the WNC IAC should take on. He said he’d like to see the IAC get involved, get organized and set dates. Chair Hooper added that the members should think about that for a future meeting.
* Chester Burton said it was perfectly appropriate to start looking at benchmarks and find out if the efforts are moving the needle. If not, what is going wrong and how can it be fixed.
* Jeffrey Gordon made a motion to delve into the what’s and how’s of the objectives at the next meeting. He added that the group is limited, but there are some things that can be done and measured. He also asked that some conversations happen in advance of the next meeting so everyone comes prepared.
* Mark Ghan said a motion is not needed to put it on the agenda
* Chair Hooper said he would resend the Top Five Objectives with the revised version of objective three.
* Chair Hooper also commented that a shift is coming and that more attention needs to be paid to existing employers. 96% of new jobs comes from existing employers or start-ups rather than new companies coming in to the state.
* Chair Hooper read objective number two again and no comments were made.
* Chair Hooper read objective four again and said the unique issues of the rural regions needs to be understood and addressed.
* Chair Hooper read object five again and no comments were made.
* Chair Hooper asked the members if they were comfortable putting the list forward. Gerd Poppinga motioned to accept the top five objectives. Ricky Medina seconded the motion. **Motion carried by unanimous vote.**
* Jeffrey Gordon suggested another agenda item for the next meeting be a report on the feedback on these objectives from the chairs meeting.
* Chester Burton suggest the bulk of the time at the next meeting be carved for this discussion.

1. Discussion on information to include in the IAC chair report for the June IAC chairs meeting: Chair Hooper asked that the members review the document (available at <http://www.wnc.edu/president/institutional-advisory-council/>) and offer comments. Chair Hooper said that one thing he put forward to Frank Woodbeck was that there needed to be a two-way street of communication with the Board. Chair Hooper would like to put forward a test item to go up the ladder and see what comes back on it. Chester Burton said he believes all the other chairs agree with the sentiment about the communication. Robert Slaby commented that he wished our legislators understood the importance of the community colleges to the system. Rob Hooper commented that he thinks it is well recognized at the governor’s office and that the IAC can play a role in making sure the information rises to the surface. No other comments where offered, so Chair Hooper said he’d move forward and report back on what happens.
2. Input requested for Chairman’s presentation to the Board of Regents in June: Chair Hooper said that each chair gets a chance once a year to report to the full board. WNC’s IAC is up on June 8, 2016. Chair Hooper asked that the members offer suggestions about what to say and how to say it. He said he’d also take individual emails on it as well. Robert Slaby said he would send an email on the Jump Start program because it is important for the board to know that the kids are not just college-ready, but college-successful. Chester Burton added that right after Chair Hooper’s presentation at the board meeting, the college will give its annual update with performance metrics with a concentration on the Lyon County Jump Start program. Chair Hooper said he plans to go over the five objectives, modifications from the meeting on June 2, talk about where WNC’s IAC is headed, and the importance of the IAC to WNC and the community colleges in general, and our integration with the K-12 systems and how everybody is at the table. No other comments were provided.
3. Update on t 2018-2019 budget priorities: Chester Burton said the budget priorities will be finalized at the special board meeting on June 22 The initiatives are fairly well set and will be locked in at that June meeting most likely. Chester Burton covered the budget priorities:

* Roll-ups — reflect growth through the system which affects WNC because the college will see a 4-5% growth in our WSCH – a key item in the funding formula.
* Faculty and staff pay — to address pay compression and give backs through furloughs, etc.
* Weighting for CTE classes — acknowledges that CTE classes are expensive to deliver and the current model doesn’t account for that.
* New program start-up fund —. The funding model is a catch-up model meaning that a program like Jump Start which started in 2015 won’t actually see any funding until 2018, so there is a need for a way to get seed money to start new programs and fund growth. NSHE is going to ask for a model for funds to start new programs.
* The WINN fund — institutions can apply for WINN funding if a company that is expanding or moving to Nevada comes to them requesting specialized training, etc.
* Capital Project – each institution can ask for funding for one capital project. WNC is asking for $1.5 million to expand and update the chemistry, biology and cadaver lab for nursing. As more students come in for STEM through Jump Start and looking at secondary teaching, WNC can’t do those things without expanding and updating the lab. The foundation has agreed to do fundraising to defer part of the cost. This project is critical to be able to do what WNC wants to do.

Chester Burton said IAC can play a role during the legislative session. Mary Pierczynski added that the IAC can and it must. Chair Hooper commented that the council should be planning now for what the IAC is going to do when the session comes in.

Chair Hooper suggested putting WINN on another agenda so that everyone understands what it is and how it works.

1. Update on Lake Tahoe Community College/Western Nevada College Interstate Attendance Agreement: Chester Burton explained the agreement that was distributed (available at <http://www.wnc.edu/president/institutional-advisory-council/>) and said that it came out of the last legislative session and SB391. The agreement allows 100 students from Nevada to attend LTCC and vice versa for California students and WNC. The cap was set at 100 to test the waters and allow for the opportunity to renegotiate later if need be. The agreement was structured so that there was no real financial incentive to choose one institution over the other. WNC does offer programs that LTCC doesn’t offer so this agreement may be a good recruiting tool. Chester Burton said “hats off” to Mark Ghan because he did the bulk of the work in hammering out the agreement.
2. Update on the rural nursing subcommittee: Hoyt Skabelund said the college is applying to include the salary of an instructor in Fallon in an existing grant. Chester Burton clarified that it is the TAACCCT IV grant. Hoyt Skabelund said the grant would provide for 18 months of the program with a registered nurse in Fallon for eight students. Hoyt Skabelund and Bus Scharmann and are working with Sherry Black to help raise private fund to sustain the program after that. The CEO of one geothermal company in Fallon is approaching the CEOs of other geothermal companies to try to raise matching funds. Regional city and county governments are being approached as well. The goal is $100,000 per year and the minimum needed is $60,000. Contacting private individuals has been ruled out since there aren’t any in the area to contact. Hoyt Skabelund added that the hospital will hopefully make a donation as well. Chester Burton added that Sherry Black has been working with the elderly care center that needs to get certified again for clinical purposes and there is already a lab in Churchill County that has been upgraded for CNAs. Some funding could potentially come through TAACCCT that would also allow the program to kick off. This is one of the new initiatives that could get start-up money during the next legislative session. Chester Burton said this an initiative that came out of this group and that WNC is going to try to have up and running by September, but might not be until next Fall.
3. Report on Jump Start College results and future planning: Robert Wynegar reported that Jump Start started two years ago with just over 200 students and Fall 2015 enrollment was just over 350. The Jump Start program has expanded and there are two additional tracks now: one for students who are not quite ready for the higher level work and one for CTE. The students have all been amazingly successful. Jump Start is now picking up homeschool students as well as Native American students from Pyramid. Oasis in Fallon and NV Virtual Academy have also joined the program. Nevada State High School has approached WNC to ask to be part of the program. A request was made to the Department of Education to try to receive Pell Grants for the high school students, but it was unsuccessful. The WNC Foundation is working on a request to the Pennington Foundation for assistance for students who are unable to pay. The biggest expense for WNC’s Jump Start program is the TA’s – which WNC does not provide for regular students. Pennington is unable to provide funding for normal operating expenses, so the Foundation is trying to explain that the TA’s are non-normal operating expenses to see if the funds can be used for TA’s. Georgia White reported that the CTE track has four areas available: auto mechanics, collision repair, manufacturing and construction. Excess funds from last year’s Perkins grant was made available to purchase some manufacturing equipment for the Silver Stage High School hub. Georgia White added that several of the “distant rural” communities are no more than 30 miles from the hub making it easier for those schools to participate. Silver Stage High School’s principal already has 15 students ready to go in manufacturing hub. Many high schools or school districts have put in for state funding or competitive grants, but the results won’t be known until the first week of June. As part of that grant, Virginia City high school but connecting with other high schools for an IT track. The idea is to bring NC Lab into the classroom at the high schools. NC Lab is an online programming class that takes students through 3-D modelling and python programming which is used in engineering. Currently Georgia White is writing a competitive grant for pool of money for community colleges to add to Silver Stage equipment to provide even more expansive training. Georgia White added a success story: one of the seniors from Jump Start will be interning at an international company in their global quality control area. Companies are recognizing the value of these students. Chair Hooper wondered if Community Development Block Grants could be applied for to help benefit Silver Stage. Full disclosure, he sits on grant review committee but recused self from anything in our region. Governor’s office wants the grants to have an economic development application to benefit low and moderate income areas and people. Money is going to be available. Chair Hooper said he would be happy to work with Georgia White on it.
4. Update on TAACCCT IV funding for career hub type work: Chester Burton said this a carry-over from a previous agenda and falls more into the deep dive when the group talks about workforce development, recruitment and getting students through the program. Coordination is a challenge; manufacturers coming at it from one direction, K-12 from another direction, WNC another direction. The state has a new benchmark test for graduating students – the ACT Test. There are issues around the test especially around students going into technical careers. The National Career Readiness certification might be better suited to those students and it is recognized nationally by employers. Under the umbrella of Workforce Ready Communities, the NNDA workforce committee is looking at coordination all the way down to students who are 12, 13, 14 and getting training in high school, any additional training post-secondary and then onto getting a job. This is one thing that links it all together. Richard Stokes added that the school district recognizes some students may not have prepared themselves along the track to do well on the ACT test, so the interest is high in having an exam geared to the career/technical education students.
5. New Business: Chester Burton asked Cathy Fulkerson and Ricky Medina to bring forward to the council what they work on over summer in terms of sharing metrics.
6. Public Comment: Georgia White thanked everyone for making this a great year and for being so accessible to her and her students, for helping to get the right equipment, for helping to place students and helping create a six-week program to train construction laborers.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 11:58 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Deb Conrad

Handouts for this meeting can be found on the following link:

<http://www.wnc.edu/president/advisory>