Cisco College Board of Regents  
Regular Board Meeting  
March 2, 2015

The Cisco College Board of Regents met Monday, March 2, 2015, in a scheduled meeting the Board had voted during their January meeting to move from March 9, 2015, as the original March date conflicted with Spring Break. The meeting took place in the Board Room of the Regents’ House on the college main campus in Cisco, Texas. Officers in attendance were President Brad Kimbrough and Vice-President Ronnie Ledbetter. Also present were members Sarah Adams, Jerry Conring, Allen Masters, Joe Jarvis, Ricky J. Whatley and Charles Humphries. The only absence was that of Secretary Martha Davis. College administrators present were President Bobby Smith; Dr. Jerry Dodson, Vice President for Student Services; Dr. Carol Dupree – Provost, Abilene Educational Center; and Vice President of Instruction, Randal Golson. Audra Taylor, Chief Financial Officer and Dean of Business Services, was absent. Elaine F. Lee, recording secretary, was present.

Guests present at the meeting included Baseball Head Coach David White; Assistant Baseball Coach and Kinesiology Division Chair, Shawn Hughes; Devin White and Griffin Hughes; Faculty Senate President and Women’s Volleyball Coach, Susan Moore; Police Chief and Campus Safety Officer, Brad Teaff, and in a brief period of time following the start of the meeting, Athletic Director and Dean of Student Services, Steve Hudman, entered and was seated.

The Cisco College baseball coaches and a group of team members were the first item on the New Business portion of the agenda, but were moved ahead of their scheduled appearance. President Smith introduced Coaches David White and Shawn Hughes, and their sons who attended with them, Devin White and Griffin Hughes, respectively. Coach White asked the players to move into the board room and indicated a horseshoe-shaped formation around the board table. He stated that most of those present were sophomores, but there were a few red shirts in the group. Board members were impressed with the height of the players and their sizes. Each player introduced himself, his hometown, and told a little about his future plans. Coach White related that coaches from universities have been speaking to and scouting the players present. Future goals included those whose planned majors are in business, entrepreneurship and youth ministry at schools ranging from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock to Oral Roberts University and Texas Tech. Team members’ hometowns were as close as the Dallas/Fort Worth area, Houston and Wichita, Kansas, to places as far away as the Bronx, NY; Massachusetts; a transfer from the New Jersey Institute of Technology; Ontario, Canada and several from the much-envied warmth (during our recent cold temperatures lasting more than a week!) of Puerto Rico. The current record for the team is 17-3, and they will begin conference play next week. Board members thanked the team for coming and each player shook hands with President Smith and then filed out the door into the cold, foggy night. President Smith stated that the team schedule can be found on the NJCAA website.

Board President Kimbrough moved to the scheduled agenda and asked Regent Joe Jarvis to offer an invocation.

Following the invocation, the meeting was called to order at 7:07 p.m.

President Kimbrough called for additions or corrections to the minutes of the meeting dated February 12, 2015. There were none voiced and he declared the minutes approved as presented.
President Smith reminded Regents that since the meeting was occurring so early in the month that the March financial statement would be included in the April meeting agenda packet. In fact, he noted that the business office had received the monthly bank statements about noon, only a few hours earlier in the day.

President Smith moved to the Fundraising Report and stated that since the last report $4000+ dollars had been received. That amount includes $1500 from Alumni and Friends, and $1000 of that amount is for the Margaret Arnold Scholarship. A number of years ago, Mrs. Alice Kitchell, a longtime Abilene resident, along with her husband Charles, chose to honor Mrs. Kitchell’s mother, Mrs. Margaret Arnold, by contributing yearly to a nursing scholarship in her name. The remaining $500 is for a yet-unnamed campus project. Cisco College/Company Scholarships were designated for $2500 in funds received. Of that amount, $2000 was from the Hendrick Children’s Home to help several of their residents begin an education, and $500 from Bridgestone/Bandag for a matching scholarship.

Dr. Jerry Dodson offered a brief look at Spring enrollment. He began with the Spring TACC After Census Survey, a breakdown of information from 47 of the 50 community colleges in Texas. Dr. Dodson noted that of the 47 reporting schools, 25 or 26 of those had reported lesser enrollments and 30 or 31 of those reporting also had declines in contact hours for the spring semester. It was noted that the large schools, such as Alamo College District, or Lone Star College District, have multiple campuses and all campuses are included in the count. Headcount and contact hours count everyone enrolled. It was noted that, compared to last spring (2014,) the contact hours for all community colleges are down a little over 1%, but that the overall headcount is up a little at 0.7%. A brief discussion ensued when one board member noted the growth of Frank Phillips College with more than a 13% increase. President Smith replied that he knew the FPC president and had talked to him about their growth. He learned that a large company in the Borger area had partnered with FPC to use a Skills Development Grant and because of that the Frank Phillips enrollment had increased by close to 150 students. Dr. Dodson continued that the Enrollment Data for Spring 2015 is a report of only Cisco College and begins with Headcount headings on the left, then down the column to Academic and Technical Semester Hours and then Academic and Vocational/Technical Contact Hours. Totals are listed in the next column, then the percentage of change from the same semester last year, and finally, comparisons to the previous years, back to the year 2009. A board member voiced that he was not interested in the previous years, but in the numbers for now and for next year.

The board members arrived at the point in the agenda where the introductions to the baseball team members and coaches were originally scheduled to take place. It was stated that all the athletic teams had been introduced at this point in the college year. Board members expressed their appreciation for the introductions to the teams and the coaches.

President Smith moved on and reminded Regents that during the month of March, the recommendation for renewal of Executive Contracts is brought before the board. Board members were given a projected budget timeline during the last two board meetings and the process for eventual adoption of the budget includes the recommendation and approval of the executive contracts. President Smith stated that it could be sometime in the summer before we are notified of the total state appropriations and actually know the amount determined for the College’s portion. Vice-President Ronnie Ledbetter moved and Regent Sarah Adams seconded to approve the contract renewals as presented. Motion carried 8 – 0.
President Smith said that a single application, with accompanying recommendation signatures and documentation, had been received from a professor requesting tenure. Applications for tenure are due in February. The tenure application is from Cheryl Adams, a nursing professor, and the signatures attesting her qualifications included the Division Chair/Director of Nursing Programs, the Vice President of Instruction and the President of Cisco College. Her application packet included a list of her education and degrees, continuing education, teaching assignments, college committees on which she has served and professional memberships, in addition to having been an employee of the College for at least 5 years.

A board member asked for an explanation of tenure. Briefly, as explained by the Vice President of Instruction, Randy Golson, it is a process usually sought and attained by educators that requires a minimum of five years of successful teaching at Cisco College, participation in College and community activities, professional memberships and continuing education. Approvals and signatures are required by supervisory and administrative personnel, including the College President. Tenure at Cisco College offers a level of job assurance in that, in the event of non-renewal of a faculty contract, the tenured professor is given long-term notice of such non-renewal. It was noted by former and present Cisco ISD educators, who now serve as Regents, that their tenure is granted after two or three years of service. Regents Whitley and Humphries moved and seconded, respectively, to approve tenure for Cheryl Adams. Motion passed 8 - 0

President Smith gave a Legislative Update, but said he had previously sent an email with some information after a recent trip to Austin and a Senate Finance committee meeting. He left the meeting with a little bit of encouragement. The LBB (Legislative Budget Board) provides recommendations to the Senate and House. Their recommendation was for a funding cut to community colleges. Senators thoroughly questioned the LBB regarding the recommendation. Following the LBB, the Presidents' Association of TACC (Texas Association of Community Colleges) presented their recommendations and the LBB recommendation was met with presidential skepticism. The Presidents contend that over 700,000 students are enrolled in community colleges and remembered, along with several Senators, that additional contact hours were not funded several years ago when community college enrollments had booming growth across the state. Now, with some enrollments less in recent years, the recommendation to cut funding seems to be an ill-conceived notion.

The Legislative Agenda includes some push on Ad Valorem tax issues. At the Senate level, there is the desire to cut taxes, but then the Senate doesn't collect taxes. The guns on campus issue is still coming up for hearings. Campus Police Chief, Brad Teaff, asked if he could offer some input on the "campus carry" issue. His request was granted and he reminded Regents that most students on the Cisco campus will be too young to legally carry a concealed weapon, but said it would be a different dynamic on the Abilene campus where there is a greater population of older students. He also stated that the background check is more strenuous than that to purchase a weapon, and also noted that persons desiring to take concealed weapons classes are generally "good citizens" who are willing to pay for and attend the necessary classes. President Smith continued that another issue getting headlines is that of in-state tuition for undocumented students. Currently, there are some universities in Texas where undocumented students are receiving tuition and the issue is garnering a lot of attention.

President Smith stated he had no need for a Closed Session. President Kimbrough asked Regents if there was any issue they needed to discuss in Closed Session. There was none and the board moved to the next agenda item.
President Smith reported letters of resignation were received from Grant Greenwood, Dual Credit Coordinator (board members were heard to moan) and Tammy Thompson, Assistant to the VP of Instruction (board members moaned once again. They were saddened to learn of the two departures). There were no letters regarding retirements and there was a notice from AD and Dean of Students, Steve Hudman, reporting the terminations of TC Smith, a dorm supervisor and football coach, and Joy Scott, Dean Hudman’s administrative assistant.

There were no recommendations for employment of part-time personnel. Recommendations for full-time employment included that of Amy Callan as the new Technical Counselor. Professor Callan was formerly the Public Services Division Chair. There were no Other Personnel Matters. Regents Joe Jarvis moved and Ricky Whatley seconded to accept the letters of resignation, the terminations, and the recommendation to fill the full-time Technical Counselor position with the employment of Division Chair/Professor Amy Callan. Motion carried 8 – 0.

Faculty Senate President and representative to the board meetings, Coach Susan Moore, reported that the next meeting of the Faculty Senate will be either March 18 or 19. Ms. Moore mentioned that at the last meeting the Faculty Senate talked about the recent SACS visit and their specific interest in the profitability of the sites. The faculty senators also talked about the possibility of a new and improved marketing push. They discussed the counseling process and if there is follow-up on students who show some interest in the college either through an email, a phone call, etc. Their consensus is that everyone on campus should be a salesman for the city and college. She also mentioned questions regarding “do we have access to any person at other schools who has done well recruiting?” Or, a second question, “Is there any college or university that has done well recruiting?” It was suggested that we get in touch with such persons or schools and begin a dialog regarding successful methods.

President Smith stated he had no Remarks.

Board members asked about the April meeting.

The next meeting of the Board of Regents of Cisco College will be April 13, 2015.

President Kimbrough asked if there was anyone who would move to adjourn. Regent Humphries moved and Regent Adams seconded to adjourn. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

Minutes presented and approved at a regularly scheduled meeting of the Cisco College Board of Regents the 13th day of April, 2015.

Martha Davis, Secretary  Brad Kimbrough, President
Board of Regents  Board of Regents
Cisco College  Cisco College