REGULAR MEETING

The Board of Trustees of the Stark State College District held its regular monthly meeting at Stark State College at 6200 Frank Avenue NW, North Canton, Ohio 44720 on February 20, 2013.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Michael Thomas called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

The following visitors were present: Marcia Addison, John David, David Johnson, Gloria Komer, Irene Motts and Kathleen Steere.

The following administrators were present: Para Jones, Tom Chiappini, Mike Droney, Cheri Rice and John Thornton.

ROLL CALL

The following Board members were present: Kari Groh, Jeffrey Halm, Stanley Jonas, Christopher Maurer, William Schweizer, Michael Thomas and Fonda Williams.

PUBLIC REQUESTS

There were no public requests.

AGENDA CHANGES

There were no agenda changes.

CONSENT AGENDA

Vice Chairman Halm moved to consider the Consent Agenda. Trustee Williams provided the second for the motion. The motion carried.

With regard to the financials, Chief Operating Officer and Treasurer Tom Chiappini reported that there were no significant changes in the budget from the previous month. He noted that the College has 138 days in reserve.

Trustee Schweizer moved to accept the Consent Agenda. Vice Chairman Halm provided the second for the motion. The motion carried.

Approved on the Consent Agenda were Minutes of Board Meeting on 1/16/13, Financial Statements and Personnel Actions.
OLD BUSINESS

There was no Old Business presented for discussion.

NEW BUSINESS


Chief Operating Officer and Treasurer Tom Chiappini introduced Controller David Johnson to provide a report on the results of the FY 2011-2012 financial audit.

Highlights of Mr. Johnson’s report were as follows:

- **Revenues**
  - $121,745,000
  - Up 2.5% over previous year
  - $80.9 million in unrestricted funds and $40.9 million in restricted funds
  - $37 million comes from student financial aid

- **Expenditures**
  - $115,719,000
  - Up 5.1% over previous year (due to salary and wage package – will balance out with attrition)

- **Bookstore Revenue, Expenditures and Fund Balance**
  - Revenue up 46.2% over previous year
  - Expenses up 47.2% over previous year
  - Overall fund balance increase $2.1 million prior to $250,000 in transfers

- **Corporate and Community Services (CCS)**
  - Net loss of $501,766
  - Dr. Jones noted that consideration is being given to decentralizing these services by moving them to the academic divisions where offerings can be managed more efficiently and effectively and built into credit programs in a stackable format.
  - Many colleges in the state and nation have already moved to decentralizing their CCS function.
  - Trustee Groh asked for a progress report on the new structure in the next three months.

- **Fund Balance**
  - Fund balance is at $27.5 million
    - $15 million in education and general funds, $8.1 million in auxiliary funds, $81 thousand in endowment funds, and $4.4 million in plant funds

Although the College finished in the black and finances are tracking as expected this year, several things have been done to make sure the financial situation stays stable. A few of these are as follows:

- A fiscal accountability team has been put in place. They have provided some very good strategies for the executive team to consider.
- Efficiencies in class size have been put in place via a higher mandatory number of students per class.
Open faculty and staff positions have not been filled.

**Update on Department of Labor Grant – P. Jones and Kathleen Steere**

President Jones explained that this presentation would provide the Board with perspective on the $14.9 million grant received to provide training for the oil and gas industry. She introduced the College’s Oil and Gas Program Coordinator, Kathleen Steere.

Ms. Steere provided the following highlights:

- ShaleNET is a 100% funded $14.9 million Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training grant supported by the United States Department of Labor’s Employment and Training Administration.
- ShaleNET college partners are Navarro Community College, Penn College, and Westmoreland College
- Partners situated in hubs where shale is abundant in different parts of the country
- Training (credit and non-credit) designed to be transferrable throughout Hub Network
- Key employer partners are Chevron, Shell, XTO, Encana, Chesapeake and Anadarko
- Training designed in a stackable model from a non-credit base through bachelor’s degree
- There is a grant timeline that must be met for training to be in place, which makes the need for a location critical.

Trustee Williams suggested the possibility of having the Board members take a tour of a well site.

**PRESIDENT’S REPORT**

President Jones reported the following:

- The first cut of the new state budget indicates, as expected, that State Support of Instruction (SSI) will move from an enrollment-based model to a student-success model. One unexpected item in the proposed budget is a 2 percent cap on tuition. Two-year institutions are lobbying to move the percentage cap to a dollar amount cap. The College’s budget for FY 2013-2014 will be presented when there is more certainty about SSI funding.
- The Ohio Board of Regents will hold its March meeting at Stark State on March 27 and 28.

Dr. Jones provided a recap of her first year as president:

- She thanked the Board for a productive first year.
- The presidential transition was a smooth one.
- She has enjoyed many opportunities to meet with students, faculty and staff and get their input.
- Having faculty and staff lead the strategic planning process was a productive approach.
- Working toward positioning Stark State as a leader in oil and gas training has been exciting. Key to that has been the leadership and expertise of Kathleen Steere.
- The College is focusing on Value 6 (Our People) from the strategic plan. As requested by employees, there has been a focus on communication and the opportunity to hear from the president. Several responses to that include:
Monthly President’s Updates where the faculty and staff have an opportunity to hear a 15-minute presentation from colleagues and then have 45 minutes to dialogue with the president.

- Meetings with each division
- Monthly newsletter from the president

- This year saw new and/or improved employee activities such as a health fair and a holiday open house.
- Dr. Jones has made an intentional effort to meet with student groups.
- The articulation agreement with The Ohio State University is another wonderful accomplishment from the past year. The same type of articulation agreements are being developed with the other colleges and universities in Ohio.
- The College had a very successful re-accreditation visit this year.
- There has been a new focus on bringing dual-enrollment students to Stark State after they graduate from high school. Endowments are being built specifically to offer those students opportunities at Stark State.
- We have begun to actively reach out to the City of Akron and Summit County to assist them in meeting their many training needs.
- Dr. Jones thanked her team of administrators, faculty and staff for all they have done over the past year.

Dr. Jones was asked to place her report on the trustee portal.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At 7:47 p.m., Trustee Williams moved to go into Executive Session to discuss the purchase of property for public purposes according to R.C. 121.22G(2). Vice Chairman Halm provided the second for the motion. A roll call vote was taken, and all members voted aye.

Vice Chairman Halm recused himself from the conversation at 7:48 p.m. He left the room and did not return.

At 9:45 p.m., Trustee Williams moved to return to open session. Trustee Groh provided the second for the motion. The motion carried.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

Items of communication were provided in the packet for this meeting.

**BOARD ACTIVITY DATES**

Board members were asked to review the activity chart and notify the President’s Office of events they plan to attend.
ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:46 p.m.

Michael Thomas, DDS     Para Jones, Ph.D.
Chairman     President
March 20, 2013     March 20, 2013