

MINUTES  
FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING  
OF McHENRY COUNTY COLLEGE

A Meeting of the Finance Committee of the Board of Trustees of McHenry County College was held on Monday, March 24, 2011 in the Board Room, Room A217, in Building A on the Campus. Chair Walters called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. When Ms. Larson called the roll, the following were present:

Dr. DeWitt  
Mr. Lowe  
Ms. Walters  
Mr. Adams  
Ms. Miller  
Mr. Parrish  
Ms. Larson

Mr. Sheriff was absent at roll call and arrived at 6:10 p.m.

ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

The agenda was accepted as presented, without objection.

OPEN FOR RECOGNITION OF VISITORS AND PRESENTATIONS

Dr. Bev Dow signed in to address the Committee. She cited that during discussion about a tuition increase, business practices and cost cutting were discussed. She stated that other aspects need to be considered. She noted there was a 30% increase in enrollment, adding that times of increased demand are not times for serious budget cuts. She stated that in the biology department, every seat has been filled, classes are being held every day and on Saturday mornings, and added that fees do not cover microscopes, instruction and lab staff. She stated that staff has done more with less over the last two years, but that those efforts are not sustainable. Dr. Dow noted her pride in the fact that the cuts have been invisible to students, and added that further cuts will be felt keenly. She expressed her opinion that if sections are cut, the College will fail in its mission. Dr. Dow added her opinion that it is absurd that McHenry County College's tuition rate is the fifth lowest in the state for the fourth largest student population. She stated that McHenry County College is very good at making sure the neediest students receive financial aid. Dr. Dow stated that the tuition increase represents the cost of two months of an iPhone bill with internet access. She added that students benefit directly from education they receive and

it is fair and reasonable to ask them to pay a little more for education, the best investment a person can make. Dr. Dow shared a story from a former McHenry County College student – he stated that twenty instructors here knew his name, but after one year at a prestige university, the student could not name one instructor there who knew his name. Dr. Dow urged approval for the tuition increase so that quality education can continue to be provided.

Ms. Jamie Tyeptanar signed in to address the Committee to state her support for the tuition increase. She stated she has been enrolled at the College since 2009, is a Phi Theta Kappa honor student, and has participated in the L.E.A.D. (Leadership Education and Development) program. She stated that she is a single mother of a young child. She has learned that administrative board and managers have to make hard decisions, and have to facilitate unpopular decisions. She stated her opinion that a one-time increase would go better in the minds of the student body and thanked the Committee for letting her speak.

#### CLOSED SESSION

At 6:07 p.m., Mr. Lowe moved to go into Closed Session to discuss matters covered under 120/2(c), Exception #1, *The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body, or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity*, and 120/2(c), Exception #2, *Collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees*. Ms. Larson seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The roll was called and all present were in favor. The motion carried. Closed Session began at 6:08 p.m.

At 6:42 p.m., Ms. Miller moved to come out of Closed Session; Dr. DeWitt seconded the motion. There was no discussion. A voice vote was taken and all were in favor. The motion carried. Closed Session ended at 6:43 p.m.

#### TUITION & FEES

Dr. Smith stated that the administration has made a recommendation to the Board to raise tuition by \$10.00 per credit hour. Discussion followed.

Mr. Lowe moved to recommend to the Board an \$8.00 per credit hour tuition increase; Mr. Adams seconded the motion. Discussion followed. Dr. DeWitt stated that much of the College's expenses are tied up in people who make the College's business work, citing as an example that if a business can't keep up with orders, it's not time to cut people off the factory floor. Ms. Walters spoke about a request made at the March 21, 2011 Finance Committee meeting asking administration to provide information on where costs could be reduced. Response to that request resulted in areas the Board would prefer not to eliminate. Mr. Parrish moved to amend the motion on the floor from \$8.00 to \$5.00. Ms. Miller seconded the motion. The roll was called; Mr. Lowe, Dr. DeWitt, Mr. Adams, Ms. Larson and Mr. Sheriff voted against; Ms. Walters, Ms. Miller, and Mr. Parrish voted in favor. The motion to amend failed. The roll was then called on the original motion. Dr. DeWitt, Mr. Lowe, Mr. Adams, Ms. Larson and Mr. Sheriff voted in favor; Ms. Walters, Ms. Miller and Mr. Parrish voted against. The motion carried and a tuition increase of \$8.00 per credit hour will be recommended to the Board.

#### DISCUSSION ON PUBLICATION OF W2s AND TOTAL COMPENSATION

Chair Walters stated that discussion on this item will be moved to the March 24, 2011 Regular Board Meeting, item #19.

#### SUMMARY COMMENTS BY BOARD MEMBERS

There were no comments.

#### FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

No agenda items were proposed.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Hearing no further business, Chair Walters adjourned the meeting at 7:01 p.m.