

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING  
SAN JUAN COLLEGE BOARD  
July 8, 2024**

**ITEM A. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson Uselman called the meeting to order at 6:12 p.m. The following members were present:

Valerie Uselman, Chairperson  
R. Shane Chance, Vice Chairperson  
Evelyn Benny, Secretary  
Byron Manning, Member  
Joseph Rasor, Member  
Bev Taylor, Member  
GloJean Todacheene, Member

**ITEM B. WELCOME OF GUESTS AND VISITORS**

San Juan College administrators and staff in attendance included:  
Toni Hopper Pendergrass, Edward DesPlas, Boomer Appleman,  
Kerri Langoni Carpenter, Yolanda Benally, Lorenzo Reyes, Troy Brown,  
Alicia Corbell, Sherri Cummins, Gayle Dean, Teresa Emrich, Veronica Evans,  
Amanda Jones, Kris Kraly, Roy Lytle, Murdoch Maloney, Robert Martinez,  
Eric Miller, Michael Ottinger, Sherry Paxson, Elizabeth Phelps, Harley Prinster,  
Chris Rosen, Rhonda Schaefer, Paulette Stanley, Carrie Tsosie-Jim,  
Meridee Walters, Gerald Williams, and Donna Ellis, Recorder

Guest(s): None

**ITEM C. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Mr. Manning moved and Mr. Chance seconded to remove the Closed Session from the agenda. **MOTION CARRIED** by unanimous voice vote.

Mr. Chance moved and Ms. Taylor seconded to adopt the revised agenda as presented. **MOTION CARRIED** by unanimous voice vote.

**ITEM D. REPORTS**

**1. Monthly Presentation**

Dr. Boomer Appleman, Vice President for Student Services, will provide a presentation on “The SJC Needs Intake Survey”. Beginning in Fall 2023, a basic needs intake survey was designed and implemented to gather feedback on various non-academic aspects of student’s educational experience. Based

on survey results, programming and supports have been realigned to address the identified needs to improve the student experience and completion rates.

**iCare Minute Video**

This month's iCare video features Ms. Mingma Sherpa. Minga is a Nursing student and will share her journey from the Phillipines to San Juan College, working as a Resident Assistant in Nizhoni Suites. She will speak about the friends she has made and the lessons she has learned features the new recruitment video for prospective students.

**2. Association Reports**

Faculty Association representative, Ms. Kris Kraly, will provide the Board with a presentation.

Professional Staff Association representative, Ms. Amanda Jones, will provide the Board with a presentation.

Support Staff Association representative, Ms. Harley Prinster, will provide the Board with a presentation.

No report from the Associated Students.

**ITEM E. CITIZEN COMMENTS**

None.

**ITEM F. CONSENT AGENDA**

**1. June 3, 2024, Work Session Minutes**

The June 3, 2024, Work Session Minutes are presented in the Board Packet for approval.

**2. June 3, 2024 and June 13, 2024, Board Meeting Minutes**

The June 3, 2024 and June 13, 2024, Board Meeting Minutes are presented in the Board Packet for approval.

**3. Correspondence**

None.

**4. Financials**

None.

## 5. Personnel Report

The following employment actions were made since the last Board meeting:

**Appointments:** Tia Johnson, Coordinator of TeachUp Academy, Indigenous Teacher Residency Program, Teacher Education-TEACHUP, effective June 3, 2024; Darin Ulibarri, Library Assistant III, Library-West Center, effective June 10, 2024; Erica Thomas, Senior Administrative Assistant, Advising and Transfer Center, June 10, 2024; Steven Brown, Integrated Education and Training Coordinator and Instructor, ACE Center, effective June 10, 2024; Bennett George, Custodia, Physical Plant, effective June 17, 2024.

**Changes:** Letitia Yellowhorse, Administrative Assistant II, School of Health Sciences to Administrative Assistant to the Vice President, Student Services, effective May 28, 2024.

**Separations:** Kali Trowbridge, Senior Administrative Assistant, School of Energy, separation of employment, effective May 16, 2024; Brandon Whatley, Vice President, Office for Learning, separation of employment, effective May 17, 2024; Guillermo Rodriguez, Building Services Supervisor, Physical Plant, separation of employment, effective May 17, 2024; Jeff Parkes, Controller, Business Office, separation of employment, effective May 24, 2024; Luann Dunlap, Senior Administrative Assistant, Student Achievement Center, separation of employment, effective May 24, 2024; Vittoria Parsons, Security Officer, Public Safety, separation of employment, effective May 24, 2024; Brent McCay, Assistant Professor, PTA Program, School of Health Sciences, separation of employment, effective May 25, 2024; TaLisa Bedonie, Administrative Assistant II, Transportation Program, School of Energy, separation of employment, effective May 30, 2024; Madison Cannon, Associate Teacher, Child and Family Development Center, separation of employment, effective May 31, 2024; Sarah Oliver, Donor Relations Coordinator, SJC Foundation, separation of employment, effective May 31, 2024; Leonard Brown, Custodial Crew Leader, Building Services-Physical Plant, separation of employment, effective June 10, 2024; Carli Pauly, Administrative Assistant II, TRIO SSS/STEM-H, separation of employment, effective June 14, 2024; Kymbr McLaughlin, Assistant Professor-Director/CLEAR Program, School of Humanities, separation of employment, effective June 14, 2024; Christy Ferrato, Senior Director, Advising and Transfer Center, retirement, effective June 30, 2024; Debby Hibner, Switchboard Operator, Public Relations, retirement, effective June 30, 2024; Greg McCarty, Assistant Professor/EMS, School of Health Sciences, separation of employment, effective June 30, 2024; Jacob Bertrand, Assistant Professor, School of Science, Math and Engineering, separation of employment, effective June 30, 2024; Janet Parkes, Assistant Professor, School of Science, Math and Engineering, retirement, effective June 30, 2024; Jenniffer Valora, Director-Student Achievement Center, separation of employment, effective June 30, 2024; Jeri Oxspring, Curriculum-Professional

Development Specialist-Teacher Education, TEACHUP, separation of employment, effective June 30, 2024; Noe Soto, Admissions Recruiter, Student Services, separation of employment, effective June 30, 2024; Roman McCabe, Coordinator of Outdoor Recreation, Health and Human Performance Center, separation of employment, effective June 30, 2024.

**6. Deletion of Equipment from Inventory**

College administration recommends the disposition of certain assets that are worn out, unrepairable, cannibalized, obsolete, or otherwise unusable. In accordance with Chapter 13-6-1 through 4 (Article 6) of the New Mexico State Statute, the Board is required to affirm the administration's recommendation. (The list of the assets recommended for disposition are included in the Board Packet.)

**Recommendation**

I recommend the Board of Trustees approve the College administration's recommendation and approve the listed items for disposal.

**APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

Mr. Chance moved and Ms. Taylor seconded to take the recommended actions as presented on the Consent Agenda. **MOTION CARRIED** by unanimous voice vote.

**ITEM G. OLD BUSINESS**

None.

**ITEM H. INDIVIDUAL ITEMS/NEW BUSINESS**

**1. EXCEPTION TO NEPOTISM POLICY**

Board of Trustees Policy #500, prohibits employment of individuals from the same immediate family to be in a supervisory/subordinate relationship, or below the same lines of authority. College administration is recommending an exception be granted for Daniel Augustine, candidate for the vacant Instructor of Navajo Language position. Mr. Augustine is a brother to an Instructor in the English Department. The Navajo Language and English Departments both fall within the same School of Humanities, and report to the Dean of the School of Humanities. Mr. Augustine and his brother will not have a supervisor/subordinate relationship.

Well qualified individuals for the Instructor of Navajo Language are difficult to recruit. In light of the aforementioned, College administration requests an exception to Board Policy #500 for Daniel Augustine.

Mr. Razor moved and Ms. Taylor seconded to grant an exception of Policy #500 for Daniel Augustine. **MOTION CARRIED** by unanimous voice vote.

**2. PRESIDENT’S CONTRACT AMENDMENT**

President Toni Hopper Pendergrass has completed one year of her three-year contract, and an amendment to President Pendergrass’ contract is needed.

The amendment provides for a 3% across-the-board pay increase as granted by the New Mexico legislature for the President, consistent with other regular College employees, for the period of July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025.

The amendment also provides for an annual executive health evaluation at a medical facility.

Trustees were provided with a copy of the amendment to the contract form in advance of this meeting.

Mr. Chance moved and Ms. Benny seconded to approve the amendment to the President’s Contract. **MOTION CARRIED** by unanimous voice vote.

**3. GERALD WILLIAMS’ GRIEVANCE APPEAL – DETERMINATION TO HEAR, OR NOT HEAR, STEP 4 APPEAL UNDER COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT ARTICLE 30**

The Trustees discussed whether to hear or decline to hear Gerald Williams’ grievance appeal at Step 4 of the Collective Bargaining Agreement.

Mr. Manning moved and Mr. Chance seconded to decline to hear Gerald Williams’ grievance appeal. **MOTION CARRIED** by unanimous voice vote.

**4. SHERRI CUMMINS’ GRIEVANCE APPEAL – DETERMINATION TO HEAR, OR NOT HEAR, STEP 4 APPEAL UNDER COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT ARTICLE 30**

The Trustees discussed whether to hear or decline to hear Sherri Cummins’ grievance appeal at Step 4 of the Collective Bargaining Agreement.

Mr. Chance moved and Ms. Benny seconded to decline to hear Sherri Cummins’ grievance appeal. **MOTION CARRIED** by unanimous voice vote.

**ITEM I. ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT MEETING**

The date of the next regular meeting will be **Monday, August 5, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.** in the San Juan College Board Room.

**ITEM J.      CLOSED SESSION**

No Closed Session.

**ITEM K.      ADJOURNMENT**

Ms. Todacheene moved and Ms. Taylor seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting. Chairperson Uselman adjourned the meeting at 7:05 p.m.

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Ms. Valerie Uselman, Chairperson  
San Juan College Board

ATTEST:

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Ms. Evelyn Benny, Secretary  
San Juan College Board

Date: August 5, 2024