

Lac Courte Oreilles Ojibwa Community College

Board of Regents

Regular Meeting – LCOOCC Hayward

October 21, 2016

1. Opening Prayer, Daryl Coons.
2. Call to order at 9:07 a.m. by Jason Bisonette.
3. Roll Call – Daryl Coons, Gary Gerber, Kyle Van Acker, Dianne Sullivan, Shauna Coons. Absent: Lisa LaRonge.

James (Jimmy) White Jr., Student Senate President, was in attendance and will added to the roll call for future meetings. Jimmy was welcomed by the Board and will be actively participating in the meetings moving forward as a non-voting member.

4. Public Comment –No public comments.  
Brief discussion took place on how public comments can be brought forward to the Board. Mention was made that in addition to attending in person items could be brought forward to a Board member or an email or letter may be sent as well. Suggestion made to post a sign on the door of the Boardroom during meetings to let people know they are welcome to attend and participate.
5. Approval of previous meeting minutes –

**MOTION – September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2016 Meeting Minutes –Motion to approve the minutes as presented by Daryl Coons, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kyle Van Acker. MOTION CARRIED.**

6. Approval of today's agenda –

Question was posed as to whether or not an additional Executive Session should be held prior to meeting with Morgan Stanley regarding their presentation.

The following items were added to the agenda for today's meeting as well:

- 16.e. - Student Senate President Report – James White Jr.
- 16.f. - Board Self Assessment Report from GISS Survey Results – Kyle Van Acker
- 11.a - Withdrawal Request from General Endowment into Reserve Account – Jill Matchett

**MOTION – Move to approve the agenda with the changes noted directly above made by Dianne Sullivan, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Shauna Coons. MOTION CARRIED.**

7. Consent Agenda Items –

Discussion took place on the Vice President of Academic Affairs and Student Affairs report to further understand information contained therein referencing financial aid disbursements being approximately one month behind and reasoning for such. Ms. Coons expressed concern on this item as well as other members of the Board as to the impact this may have on students. Additional information will be obtained and reported back to the Board.

**MOTION – Move to accept the Consent Agenda reports with the expectation that the item raised by Ms. Coons will be addressed by the President as presented made by Gary Gerber, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Daryl Coons. MOTION CARRIED.**

8. Financial Audit – WIPFLi

Becky Denzine of WIPFLi was in attendance at the meeting to provide an overview of the annual financial statements audit for fiscal year 2016. A handout showing the highlights of information from the audit was shared by the Board and will become part of the official Board materials for the meeting. The final numbers in the audit are the same as that which was presented in the preliminary report. Due to a change from an AIC to a Uniform Guidance Audit occurring this year, things may look a bit different in presentation. Ms. Denzine shared that the audit result is an express an opinion on financial statements to ensure that they are conforming with requirements and free of misstatements. Analytics occur to make this determination.

After WIPFLi's completion of the audit, the Department of Education issued a requirement related to audit testing of the Financial Aid departments moving forward. Request was made and a waiver on the process was granted for this year – however starting next year this will need to occur annually as well.

Ms. Denzine also shared that the change in net assets noted is partially due to insurance proceeds during the year and removal of the bookstore off the roles. The tax return will be sent to Jill Matchett next week so that it can be submitted by the due date of November 15<sup>th</sup>.

A question was posed as to whether or not consideration is ever given to do a sampling of grant funds under \$750k in the audit process? Ms. Denzine noted that If there is something found in the type A review they would then complete a sampling and assessment of B level items as well which would include these items.

Jason Schlender joined the meeting at 9:45 a.m.

**MOTION – Move to accept the financial audit as presented by WIPFLi made by Gary Gerber, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Daryl Coons. MOTION CARRIED.**

Break at 9:57 a.m.

Return from break at 10:07 a.m.

#### 9. Endowments – Morgan Stanley

Prior to the presentation by Morgan Stanley the Board held discussion on customer service provided by Morgan Stanley related to the endowment investments. Approximately three years ago similar concerns were in place. Some of the definitions related to the management of the accounts were provided at that time which helped to clarify the situation. Rate of return and the large portion of cash that is often on the books was noted as areas that the Board would be looking to have further information on related to from Morgan Stanley. Additional information is also needed on the method in which they charge the College for their services.

William White and Leisa Nash from Morgan Stanley joined the meeting. A handout providing an overview of our accounts was provided to all Board members and will become part of the materials for this meeting. Mr. White shared that Morgan Stanley strives for a 5% rate of return over the course of investments and information shown in the documents shows they are trending close to such.

Mr. White also share that there are no administrative or management fees charged to the College for their services. Revenue to Morgan Stanley for oversight of the accounts is realized between the trading desk and the firm and the offer paid. This is due to direct fixed income – if there is not activity on the account then there is no compensation. If a bond matures they replace it and then there would be compensation included at that time. On the equities side there is a 1% overall fee on the equities only. He also shared that our accounts are not trading accounts but instead tradition investment accounts. The small amount of equities investment which the College has in place is through O’Shaughnessy which is a small investments boutique firm.

Brief discussion took place on a number of items within the report with explanation being provided by Mr. White and Ms. Nash. They also shared that they can provide additional assistance and resources to the College if needed. Suggestion was made for consideration of investing another \$100K with O’Shaughnessy at some time in the next year. Determination was made to wait on such until a future meeting.

Break for lunch at 12:04 p.m.

Return from lunch at 12:44 p.m.

#### 10. Enrollment Management –

Dr. Vertin provided information to the Board as a follow up to the GISS Survey from information presented last year to this year. Enrollment data was also shared. Moving forward GISS data provided can be used but participation will not occur as it is not the current focus of the College. It was noted however that the leadership congress for Board members is a good aspect where dollars should be set aside to allow new Board members to participate.

11. Financial Overview –

Jill Matchett, CFO, provided an overview of each of the financial reports for the Board. A question was posed as to whether or not there was any financial request to the Tribe to assist with the supporting of AIHEC. It was noted that \$5K was requested last year but not funded. Request was made to present the request for financial support earlier this year.

Ms. Matchett also shared an overview of the report related to the Internal Control Assessment completed by WIPFLI. It was noted that none of the findings came as a surprise. Discussion took place on the importance of having a follow up audit at a future date to determine if the items identified have been addressed. A timeline will be developed to address the various items identified in the report.–

**MOTION – Move to accept the financial reports as presented made by Gary Gerber, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Shauna Coons. MOTION CARRIED.**

a. Withdrawal Request –

Tabled until after the reserve account policy is discussed.

12. Contracts and RFP Updates

a. Kim Swisher Marketing Contract

Request made to extend the agreement with Kim Swisher until the end of June 2017 at a rate of \$1,500/month for a total of \$12K for the remainder of the year.

Brief discussion took place on the document presented as the agreement for Ms. Swisher

**MOTION – Move to approve the Kim Swisher Marketing Contract made by Gary Gerber, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dianne Sullivan. MOTION CARRIED.**

13. Purchases –

None at this time.

14. President's Report –

Dr. Vertin shared a copy of the letter sent to the IAC in response to the visit from our HLC visit. November 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> will be the date for the meeting with the Board. Final determination will be shared by the HLC by end of November.

Advocacy efforts related to the ongoing Title III's recommended to sunset of funding to tribal colleges in 2020 will take place through AIHEC. Approximately 70 % of tribal colleges do use Title III funds to operate.

Great Lakes and the Department of Higher Education are in the process of opening up additional funds for minority serving institutions related to persistence, retention, and completion. We have submitted a grant proposal requesting approximately \$600K over three years to support these efforts.

As a follow up from last month's meeting where the question was posed related to diversity training for WI DNR, the training will be done through Patti Lowe with WIPLFLi and will occur in February or March.

Dr. Vertin shared that Amber Marlow, Dean of Continuing Education, is working in partnership with WITC for the development of a "J" term for construction. The nine credit course would provide a certificate upon completion for those enrolled and who complete the course study. Work is underway to secure a location for the course as well as determining a method to assist in payment of tuition costs for the cohort of students since it would not be eligible to have financial aid support the costs for the students. An instructor has also been identified to teach the course.

**MOTION – Move to approve the President's Report as presented made by Kyle Van Acker, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dianne Sullivan. MOTION CARRIED.**

15. Tribal Governing Board Liaison –

Jason Schlender was present at the meeting and shared that next Monday a decision was to be made on the applications sent over for confirmation for Board of Regents vacancies. Documentation will be provided after that time.

The Chippewa Federation held a meeting held yesterday. The group is working to develop an educational model to implement and carry out their educational initiatives on the same premise and collaborative approach of how GLIFWC was developed. The group is specifically geared toward Ojibwe education sovereignty. Furthering efforts of the group in the venue of educational opportunities was noted as possibly being dependent upon the College's ability to Charter. Request was made by TGB Member Schlender for the College to consider such. – to consult with different tribes to see what the educational goals of the entities are. Model – helping tribes implement and carry out their education initiatives. Jason Bisonette shared that he has additional information which he can bring to the next meeting.

TGB Member Schlender also shared that Waadookdaading has a preschool component that does not currently receive any funding. Request was made for the College to again considering chartering which could possibly assist the school in obtaining funding through the Walton Foundation.

TGB Member Schlender will keep the Board of Regents updated as the Tribes education initiative unfolds. LCO has applied to become part of the TEGNA which has funding to support the development of such.

Discussion is currently underway with the State to raise the initial funding level for per pupil funding level to be more comparable to that of other charter schools in Wisconsin.

October 26<sup>th</sup> the Crossing the Line video presentation produced by GLIFWC will be premiered in the James Mustache Auditorium of the College. A feast will occur at 6 p.m. The video will begin at 7 p.m. The Act 31 video will also be shown at this event.

16. Other –

a. Endowment Investments –

- i. Investment policy will be tabled with changes brought back to a future meeting
- ii. General Endowment Policy –
  1. Request was made for additional information on the drafting of policy processes in place.
  2. All endowment policies will be tabled until the next meeting. Members were encouraged to provide feedback on documents to Rita.

b. Policy on Reserve Account – tabled until next meeting. Additionally the request to withdraw funds to begin a reserve account was tabled as well.

c. Board Appointments & Officers – table.

d. Videoconferencing – Tyler Turpin provided an overview of the application Zoom Cloud Meetings which can be found on the app store as Zoom.us. The app allows a person to dial in to a meeting instead of being in person. This would be in place of Badgernet and NWAX which we currently have in place and that is much more costly. Tyler also provided a brief overview of information related to the degree trees and situations which could have been able to address the reason for the financial aid issue earlier.

e. Student Senate Representative - There will be an additional area added to the agenda moving forward to allow for the Student Senate President to provide information to the Board.

f. GISS Update – Kyle Van Acker

Early in the year a self-assessment survey was sent out to the Board to assess how the Board is working as a Board. Kyle Van Acker provided an overview of the findings. Overall the Board's rating of itself has improved over the past year.

17. Executive Session –

18. Next Meeting –

The next meeting is scheduled to occur on Friday, November 18<sup>th</sup>.

19. Adjournment –

**MOTION – Move to adjourn made by Dianne Sullivan, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Shauna Coons. MOTION CARRIED. Meeting adjourned at 3:19 p.m.**

Respectfully Submitted,  
Rita Mueller  
Vice President of Administrative Services