

1 FLATHEAD VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
2 BOARD OF TRUSTEES
3 Regular Board Meeting
4 Monday, September 23, 2024, 3:45 p.m.
5 Blake Hall 140
6

7 A regular meeting of the Flathead Valley Community College Board of Trustees
8 convened at 3:45 p.m., Monday, September 23, 2024.
9

10 **I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

11 Chairperson Kelly Stimpson called the meeting to order at 3:45 p.m. The following
12 Board members were in attendance:

13 Peter Akey Patrick Gulick Jamie Pickering
14 Mary Ruby Travis Steindorf

15 Trustee Callie Langohr was absent with prior Board approval. Also present were President Jane
16 Karas and Suzanne DeCamp, Clerk of the District.
17

18 **II. PUBLIC COMMENT – None**
19

20 **III. CONSENT ITEMS – ACTION**

21 **A. Approval of the minutes of the Regular Board of Trustees meeting on July**
22 **22, 2024.**

23 Trustee Patrick Gulick moved that the Board of Trustees approve ITEM A under
24 Section III, Consent Agenda. Trustee Travis Steindorf seconded the motion. The motion carried
25 unanimously.
26

27 **IV. MONTHLY REPORTS**

28 **A. Student Activities Report**

29 The Student Activities Report was submitted to the Board as a written report.
30

31 **B. Faculty Activities Report**

32 The Faculty Activities Report was submitted to the Board and presented by the
33 Faculty Senate Vice President, Dr. Jessica Ennist, Associate Professor, Chemistry.
34

35 **C. Executive Staff Activities Report**

36 The Board acknowledged the Executive Staff for their informative reports.
37

38 **V. COLLEGE ISSUES**

39 **A. Student Success: Plumbing Program**

40 Jodi Smith, Director of Continuing Education, provided an update on FVCC's
41 Plumbing Program. The non-credit Plumbing Apprenticeship Program was launched in the fall
42 of 2023 through Continuing Education. The first cohort had 17 students and 8 plumbing
43 business sponsors. The program requires 144 hours of related technical instruction (RTI), Dave
44 Micone a master plumber for over fifty-one years is teaching the RTI and retired FVCC math
45 professor, Don Hickethier is teaching the math modules. The materials are condensed to be able
46 to complete the program in three years rather than four. The employers are highly supportive

1 and engaged, many pay for the student’s course expenses. The second cohort was launched this
2 fall with 12 students and 7 plumbing businesses.

3
4 **B. Finance and Audit Committee**

5 **1. Quarterly Finance Report – Quarter Ending July 31, 2024**

6 President Karas summarized the quarterly financial report that was discussed at
7 the Finance and Audit Committee prior to the Board meeting.

8
9 **C. Board Policy, Chapter I, Doctrine, Section 120 – Second Reading**

10 Chairperson Stimpson reviewed Board Policy, Chapter I – Doctrine, Section 120.
11 The only recommended changes were under Intellectual Property Rights, Item B. The lines to be
12 removed belong with procedures rather than policy.

- 13 • Chapter I – Doctrine, Section 120 – Recording and Intellectual Property
14 Rights

15 Trustee Travis Steindorf moved that the Board of Trustees approve Board Policy,
16 Chapter I – Doctrine, Section 120 (second reading as revised). Trustee Jamie Pickering
17 seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

18
19 **D. Board Policy, Chapter VII, Students, Section 10 – Language Update**

20 The policy was reviewed in June 2024, but a minor title change was overlooked.
21 The change from Director of Student Services to Dean of Student Services is recommended.

- 22 • Chapter VII – Students, Section 10 Admissions

23 Trustee Peter Akey moved that the Board of Trustees approve Board Policy,
24 Chapter VII – Students, Section 10 (as revised). Trustee Travis Steindorf seconded the motion.
25 The motion carried unanimously.

26
27 **E. Occupational Trades Building and Trades and Industrial Arts Programs**
28 **Rebranding**

29 Lisa Blank, Executive Director, Workforce Development presented the Board
30 with information regarding a proposal to rename the Occupational Trades (OT) building and the
31 Trades and Industrial Arts programs that are housed there (e.g., welding and fabrication,
32 electronics, electrical technology, industrial machining, HVAC and firearms technology) to
33 better serve student access and public understanding of the opportunities available on campus.
34 OT has many meanings and for most people, occupational therapy is the first association they
35 have with OT.

36 In an effort to create a more cohesive program, a new name, FVCC Trades
37 Institute is being recommended, after extensive campus discussion and partnership with
38 Marketing. If the name is approved, the building and the programs would all be rebranded as the
39 FVCC Trades Institute. The new name would be consistent and parallel to the FVCC culinary
40 arts and catering program name of the Culinary Institute of Montana and provide an opportunity
41 to raise the visibility and awareness of the opportunities available in the trades at FVCC.

42 Trustee Patrick Gulick moved that the Board of Trustees approve the rebranding

1 name change of the Occupational Trades Building and the Trades and Industrial Arts Programs
2 to FVCC Trades Institute. Trustee Peter Akey seconded the motion. The motion carried
3 unanimously.
4

5 **F. Board of Trustees' Events Calendar**

6 President Karas reviewed the Trustees' events calendar. President Karas and
7 Chairperson Stimpson will be attending the ACCT Leadership Congress October 23rd-26th in
8 Seattle. The next Board meeting is scheduled for October 28th. The December Board meeting
9 will be a week early due to the College being closed for Winter Break
10

11 **G. President's Report**

12 President Karas updated the Board on several items:

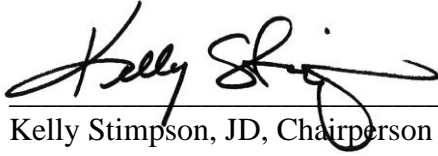
- 13 • All Employee In-Service – The in-service was held August 22nd at the Stinson
14 Event Center. Employees discussed the use of data and how to be more data
15 informed in decision making.
- 16 • Campus Farm – The program is moving to Continuing Education.
- 17 • CampusWorks – FVCC has contracted with CampusWorks to have them conduct
18 an assessment of our information technology services and practices. They will
19 identify strengths and areas for growth to better serve faculty, staff and students.
- 20 • Enrollment – Full-time enrollment is up 28.8 and total headcount is up 24
21 compared to this same time last year.
- 22 • Policies and Procedures – Brenda Hanson, Dean of Compliance, is reviewing all
23 of the policies and will be putting the procedures associated with them online.
24 Chairperson Stimpson added that it is the Board's responsibility to set the policies
25 and the College develops the procedures.
- 26 • Entrepreneurship Center – The request for proposals went out, the bids are being
27 opened this week. A special Board meeting will need to be held to review the
28 bids and select a contractor.
- 29 • Wachholz College Center – Yo-Yo Ma performed on August 3rd to a sell-out
30 crowd. President Karas is still receiving positive feedback from people who
31 attended the concert. Other recent concerts were Clint Black, Sawyer Brown and
32 Sarah Chang.
- 33 • Festival of Flavors – The Foundation hosted dinner at a private home on Echo
34 Lake Friday, September 20th, they will host a dinner at the Freestone Restaurant
35 tonight, a third dinner at the Somer's Mansion on Wednesday the 25th and wrap
36 up with the Grand Wine Event on Saturday, September 28th. All of the dinners
37 sold out, there are still tickets available to the Grand Wine Event.
- 38 • Board of Regents – The Board of Regents met last week in Billings and approved
39 all budgets.
- 40 • Legislative Session – Local legislators and FVCC Trustees were invited to attend
41 an informational luncheon on October 2nd. The Legislative Session will begin in
42 January. There are three main issues that the Community Colleges will be
43 focusing on this Legislative Session.
 - 44 ○ Funding for technology transitions and cyber security.
 - 45 ○ Potential funding to support and expand existing programs and
46 dual enrollment.

- Statutory conflicts with the new funding formula.
- A glycol leak in the practice rooms in the Wachholz College Center was caused by work being done by Diamond Plumbing. They are working with the insurance companies to fix the issue.

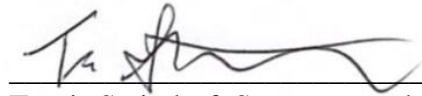
VI. ADJOURNMENT

With no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

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Kelly Stimpson, JD, Chairperson of the Board



Travis Steindorf, Secretary to the Board