

Johnson County Community College Board of Trustees Special Meeting

January 3, 2024

10am

Transcript of Meeting

- Good morning, everyone, and welcome to a special meeting of the Johnson County Community College Board of Trustees here on January 3rd, 2024. I'm Lee Cross, and I believe we have five trustees, six trustees in attendance? I can't count today, five.

- There are five.

- Okay. And then we have two other trustee elects here, Val Jennings in the gallery, and Greg Mitchell, who are not yet sworn in, but are trustees elect. Do we know about Dawn or? Who am I missing?

- Melody.

- Melody.

- She should be calling.

- Melody should be-

- Melody, I-

- Okay, I hadn't heard, so thank you.

- [Trustee Rale] Trustee Rale is here by phone.

- I was gonna say, I thought I heard her-

- Oh, thank you, Melody.

- Calling-

- Thank you, Trustee Rale. Okay, so there are six trustees present. The first item on our agenda is a proposed policy change. It's a recommendation regarding meetings of the board policy 112. It's at pages one through six of your, your special meeting packet. The current meetings of the board of trustees has a policy, it states that new board officers and committee members will begin their duties following the organizational meeting in December after an election, and revision is required to ensure the consistency with KSA 71.14.12, which provides that new members of the community college boards begin their terms on the second Monday in January following the election. I will state further that I know I and others had asked for this to be reviewed and revised, really for consistency and understanding of what it is we're doing. I really didn't want the extra time as chair, but I thank you all for your patience and understanding as we work through this. So it is therefore the recommendation of the board chair and vice chair that the board of trustees accept the changes to the meetings of the board policy 112.00 as shown subsequently in the special board meeting packet. And I so move.

- I'll second.

- The motion has been made by myself and seconded by Trustee Ingram. Is there any discussion on this?

- No.

- Any discussion on this? Madam Trustee.

- Thank you, as the trustee that brought this forward with my fellow trustee, Nancy Ingram, I'll vote for it reluctantly. I think the reason we brought it forward was for the, to try to iron out what we are now dealing with, which is this misalignment between the meeting where we pick who is the next chair and all the then the other positions that are picked along with the election cycle. And I know that there are other elected bodies, the first one that comes to mind is Lenexa, that does it earlier than January. I would like to inquire, I don't know if that would fall to you, but inquire with how they're able to get around state statute.

- [Kelsey Nazar] State statute specific to community colleges.

- Okay, that's how. It just puts us in a terrible bind, where we're always gonna have this clunky transition that I just don't think is in the best interest of being able to start a fresh start with leadership and the cabinet being able to get going in a new year with a new board. So that's my comments.

- Thank you.

- Mr. Chair.

- Yes, sir, Mr. Trustee.

- We need to align this better than it was this year. I'm wondering if we, did we consider having the new officers and committee assignments take place on the second Monday in January, when new trustees become members of the board? Because I was just thinking about this, and I apologize for bringing it up now, but right now on January 8th, we will lose two board members.

- [Trustee Smith-Everett] Mm-hm.

- But Lee will still be chair until the January board meeting, the third Thursday? Is that what is intended?

- No, I don't believe so. I believe there was-

- Or is there a gap between when we don't have a chair? Because I mean, it sounds like you still, you're still chair. If you're still on the incoming board, you would remain chair until the the board meeting.

- I'm just gonna change it as often as Vladimir Putin does, so I can just continue.

- That's the first Putin reference in 12 and a half years.

- Page two-

- I mean, that's great.

- If I may, Mr. Trustee, page two it states that new officers and committee members will begin their duties at the first regular board meeting in January.

- [Trustee Musil] Right.

- I... You know, look, some of this falls on me, some of this falls on my decision making with respect to the change in presidential administration that we have going here, and with regular consultation with Trustee Rale and Trustee Ingram as to how to proceed, and how everybody thought best to proceed. So a lot of the faults in the, I'm sure you'll be shocked to learn that a lot of the fumbling here has been mine, but-

- There's no fumbling.

- I'm just saying.

- It's just trying to figure out. I'll support this. But I think we might wanna think about another change before two years from now that says the new officers take their officer and committee positions as of the second Monday in January, which is when the statutory transition requires us for new members. So, I mean, and Trustee Musil, you're raising an interesting question, because I suppose there could be an incidence where a chair, for example, doesn't run for reelection, is not reelected, and then there could be a period of time where there is no chair. I will say, just the history behind this, it used to be that the organizational meeting occurred in January. And then the board switched it to-

- December.

- To December. And so that's where the disconnect occurred. Before it was that the organizational meeting occurred in January and the officers took place, or took effect, you know, took effect right at that time. And so there was no disconnect, and now there's a disconnect, and you just gotta figure out which situation you're most comfortable with.

- Just, my concern was a period between the second Monday in January and the third Thursday in January, if there's not a chair, theoretically there might not be a vice chair. If we need a special meeting, what happens?

- Yep.

- It's purely hypothetical, but it would-

- Real quick, if I may, why wouldn't we change it, then, will begin their duties the first Monday in January?

- The second Monday.

- Second Monday.

- Second Monday in January.

- Yeah.

- That was my suggestion that I just thought of this morning. That way the entire transition occurs the second Monday in January, new members of the board come on, and the new officers and committees take charge.

- Yeah, so there are some years in which you would have a committee meeting that falls before the second Monday in January. So those old previous officers would roll over to that first committee meeting, and then effectively, you know, just so you're aware it would be... That result makes sense, but it would result in a difference in how the board operates in different years, depending on when that first committee meeting occurs.

- I think the committee meeting issue, it'd be nice if we could delay the committee meeting until the second week, after the second Monday, but that doesn't give staff enough time to get it to the board meeting. So that's an intractable problem, tractable problem, I think.

- I think we're just stuck with that one.

- We considered doing that. We darn near did it. We thought it best to have a management committee day, just so we could see you one more time. And then because of the circumstances now, we thought it best to have management and then have the opportunity for this meeting. So, my preference would've been, under normal circumstances, to not even had a committee day in January. And your point is noted and very good. Like, we really should wait for the new board, but there's a combination of factors here. Any other discussion? Sorry, I didn't mean to cut anybody off. I just was offering my thoughts as to what we...

- Are we interested in making the change to the second Monday instead of?

- I would support that, to the second Monday?

- Yeah.

- I'd agree.

- I'd rather do that now.

- And I'm gonna note here, new officers and committee members will begin their duties, I'm gonna say upon the second Monday in January,

- And maybe we say consistent with KSA, blah, blah, blah, as amended, so that if they, that changes. Because cities have the opportunity to move theirs earlier, which is what almost every city has done now. We don't have that opportunity.

- Kelsey? Ms. Nazar, Mrs. Nazar, that's case A71-1412?

- [Kelsey Nazar] I believe so. I don't have it in front of me.

- It's in the memo-

- I didn't get a copy of your .

- Okay, so here's... Are you making an amended motion? Is it?

- I think you and-

- I think Trustee Hamill did.

- The vice chair can-

- Withdraw your motions and-

- We'll withdraw.

- State a new one.

- I'll withdraw the motion. So, therefore the recommendation I will offer, it is the recommendation of the board chair and vice chair that the board of trustees accept the changes to the meetings of the board policy 112.00 as shown subsequently in the special board packet. And then I have interlineated page two to state, and Vice Chair Ingram, I can pass this around if you wanna see it. New officers and committee members will begin their duties upon the second Monday in January, consistent with KSA 71.14.12. Does that suit you, sir?

- Yes, sir.

- Okay. Period. New officers and committee members will begin their duties upon the second Monday in January, consistent with KSA 71.14.12, and I so move.

- I'll second.

- Thank you, thank you.

- Motion is, thank you. The motion has been made by myself and seconded by Trustee Ingram. Any discussion, any further discussion on this motion? And I will note that Trustee Rattan is now present. She joined us several minutes ago, and then Trustee Rale is on by phone. So, all those in favor please signify by saying aye.

- [Board Members] Aye.

- And those-

- Aye.

- No? The motion passes unanimously. Thank you all. Thank you for your patience. Now I'd like to entertain a motion to go into executive session to discuss personnel matters of non-elected personnel in order to protect the privacy interests of the personnel to be discussed. The executive session will last for how long? How long do we wanna talk? 10:15 to 11:15, 10:15 to 11?

- I don't-

- 10.

- Know what we're doin' But I would, 11 should-

- Yeah, 11.

- I guess I don't know how much we have to cover.

- Yeah.

- To 11?

- We've gotta go through a new contract for a proposed interim.

- Okay.

- President.

- I didn't know if it included that or...

- Yes.

- I would... 11?

- 11 oughta be-

- Yeah, I think 45 is enough.

- I would think would be sufficient, and we can come back for more?

- Very good. So beginning at 10:15, ending at 11, at which time we'll resume at this exact same location. And we'd like to invite Dr. McCloud, Vice President Rachel Lierz, Kelsey Nazar, and Chris Gray to the executive session. May I have such a motion?

- So moved.

- Second.

- Motion has been made by Trustee Ingram and seconded by Trustee Laura Smith-Everett. We'll see you all in room... What is that room? 141. WCMT 141 at 10:15. Thank you all. We're back after an executive session here today at WCMT 141. We're back here at WCMT 111. And may I ask, is Trustee Rale here by phone?

- [Trustee Rale] Yes, I am here.

- Very good, that makes me feel better. All right, fellow trustees, after meeting executive session, I'm going to take the liberty to move to appoint Dr. Judy Korb as Interim President and CEO of Johnson County Community College, and that we approve her contract as Interim President and CEO of Johnson County Community College, effective tomorrow, 1/4/24, January 4th, 2024.

- I'll second.

- The motion has been made by myself and seconded by Trustee Ingram. Any discussion on this point? Thank you all for your participation and input during the executive session. I appreciate it. All those in favor, please signify by saying aye.

- [Board Members] Aye.

- Those opposed, no. The motion carries unanimously. So we'd like to congratulate Dr. Judy Korb on being the Interim President here. And thank you to Dr. McCloud, Chris Gray, Kelsey Nazar, Rachel Lierz, and the entire cabinet for your role the past several months and in the future. We appreciate you. The next item our agenda is any new business. Any new business for the good of the order? I'll take the liberty to thank Trustees Musil and Ingram for their service again. I know we had a lengthy goodbye, but appreciate y'all being here today, and your support and wisdom.

- Thank you.

- In our decisions we've made. Any other new business? I will then entertain a motion to adjourn, if I may.

- So move.

- Second. Motion has been made by Trustee Musil and seconded by Trustee Ingram.

- Oh no, oh no.

- All those in favor please signify by saying yes.

- Yes.

- No. No, the motion passes six to one. Thank you all for coming. Happy New Year.