Transportation Technologies

ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, March 6, 2013.

The following persons were present: Nevin Nyswonger, Gaye Canepa, Sam Byington, Ray Scow, Barb Evans, Scott Allen, Ted Kuhn, Cliff Bartl, James Herr, David Boston, Greg Overby, Greg Nelson, Monte Valerna, Michael Harvey, Terry Picard, Kyle Smith, Danny Doratt, and Kim Hopkinson.

- Scott Allen called the meeting to order at 6:08 p.m.
- Introductions of members and guests.
- Minutes read – Ray had a minor change – make name Kuhn. Cliff Bartl approved the minutes as read with correction.
- Scott talked about grant money. Perkins grant – federal money.
- Kim Hopkinson was introduced and talked about grants available. Perkins – Carl D. Perkins Act. TMCC has received 650K year from this program. Specific for career and technical education programs. Auto program received wheel alignment system. Diesel received dynometer to be installed in the next few months. Funds the big ticket items and small items that lab fees would not cover. Perkins requires that instructors run ideas by advisory board. Needs to see communication with advisory boards for their needs. Looking at simulation equipment. There is also an Economic Development Grant Submission, 2.3 million proposal. Having to compete for grant. Grant has given us a chance to strengthen our proposal. Looking for letters from employers – they would like to know what you anticipate to hire of the next five to ten years. Kim handed out sample letters. Scott mentioned that grant money is very important to us and advisory members are important to suggest tools and equipment – need written support or verbal support for our needs for funding.
- Scott stated front end machine is in and running. It’s a Hunter Hawkeye – very cool piece of machinery.
- We were recertified by NATEF 6-8 months ago. It’s a five year process – made through with flying colors. Have been cert for 20 years now.
- Cut backs – tool room attendant. Haven’t had one for many years due to budget cuts. We need a person to keep track of tools, keep shop clean and equipment working. Starting to loose control of our tools and equipment and upkeep of equipment. Asked board to see if they feel we need a tool room attendant because of the amount of equipment and tools that we have that we do not want people to steal them. Scott asked board if we drafted letter, would the board be able to support the need for a tool room attendant. Terry Picard suggested we get a letter together and is in support of a tool room attendant. Scott will draft a letter and board can sign in support of that position. Board in agreement with that suggestion.
- Just finished up five year program review – comprehensive look at what auto/diesel/aviation programs have done in last five years. Success and defeats - not a full on-line document yet, but will be on-line in the next month. Has all demographics of everything we do in the transportation trades, class sizes, graduation rates, etc. Huge project for the last six months – has been very successful for us.
- Diesel program – had to change our credits on the degree from 71 credits down to 60 credits because of Regents wanted to structure the community college. Auto program wasn’t affected because we are NATEF certified. Nevin added that the Regents look at the bottom line. Diesel students get skills they need and go to work and don’t come back to take Math and English courses – not all graduate. Took out hydraulics and air conditioning. Still offer class, just not part of the degree. Ray mentioned college adding embedded math in our programs – students would get a college math credit. Auto quadrupled graduation rates. Worked really hard to get those numbers up.
- Working on developing a Skills Certificate – come in, get skills, and get certificate for those skills instead of a degree. College is funded on graduation rates and body count – graduation is big deal right now. Federal and state
governments want people to get skills and get a job and be productive citizens. Certificates will be for specific courses. Will have competency rates or numbers.

- Evening Diesel Program - start in the fall and go through summer – one year program. Being requested by the mining companies. Hasn’t been 100 percent cast in stone, but is something we are working on. Would be good for the State of Nevada mining industry.

- New equipment in the last year – replaced two lifts. One purchased operating money and workshop money. The other purchased through TMCC foundation grant. Purchased some test equipment and tire pressure monitoring equipment.

- Nancy Roe is our new job placement person. She will be doing student screening - they will be interviewed before even sent to employers. Board asked about students’ willingness to live outside the Reno/Sparks area.

- Scott mentioned aviation maintenance program. Would be up at Stead – there are people that really want it to happen in the community.

- Community service – held SkillsUSA competition last Saturday for regional competition in northern Nevada. State competition will be down in Carson City at Western Nevada College. Every two years here and Las Vegas holds for two years. A couple of other community events going on: Building women – come in and look at jobs that are not focused for women - do some welding, out in auto shop - fun day for women. LifeSkills college – program through the summer.

- Enrollment - maxed out in the auto/diesel programs in classrooms and facility. Both shops are full. Looking into getting more trainers. Nevin has cut trucks down and is using engine stands. We’re looking into more trainers - more compact so we can utilize floor space in both areas.

- ACE high school – automotive program that Cliff Bartl runs. When they graduate ACE they will have a certificate from TMCC stating what their skill level is. ACE did really well in Skills competition last weekend.

- Employment – we have a lot of TMCC students working at auto parts stores. Sam suggested doing a small questionnaire to send out to auto shops or part shops to know what kind of skills are needed. Scott mentioned workshops – alighment workshop. We have emission workshops right now – 1G and 2G recerts. Looking at electrical update – six evenings that just deal with electrical concerns – how to run a meter and schematic correctly. Hoping by fall it will be up and running.

- Internship programs in the spring. We do all the testing before to make sure they are capable of the job. They have to do 225 hours in your facility – anything to do with auto or diesel. After 100 hours they have to come to Scott, he calls to make sure they are happy, student gets more money. Has worked out really good – had three last spring, four this spring. Have had positive results from students. If you’d like to have an intern, let us know. We pay them, they need a mentor when they are in your shop.

- Was asked about students knowing different kinds of metals - yes, we go through taps and dies and nuts and bolts. Students need to understand steel. Does the school get into service writing skills – no. Would be a good idea for a work shop – service advisor, shop policy, how things happen in the shop. Rules, law, people skills. Have a class – check power, grounds – electrical class would be very pointed and to the point. Would like to see more differentials, drive trains, gear class, trouble shooting.

- Toyota has a hybrid invertor for us – functioning one.

- Scott thanked everyone for coming.

- Schedule next meeting: Wednesday, May 1, 2013. Would like to have one in September as well.

- Adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Minutes submitted by: Barb Evans