

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

**March 10, 2021**

Via Zoom

1. Welcome & Introductions: Jesse Murray called the meeting to order at 7:31am. Members present include Jesse Murray, Gigi Chisel, Alan Olive, Dr. Mindy Lokshin, Yanus Nelson, Dan Lofrese, Sean French, Matt Thornton, Ann Silver and Fred Altmann. Ex Officio members present include Gretchen Sawyer, Dr. Karin Hilgersom, Julia Bledsoe, Yevonne Allen and Alyssa Fromelius. Staff and guests include Krystyna Sokowski, Dr. Joan Steinman, Christian Losche, Cameron Tuttle, Ashlyn Moreno, Laura Vargas, Becky Josten and Connie Christiansen.
2. Public comment: None
3. Review December 9, 2020 Foundation Board of Trustees Board Minutes
  - a. Mindy noted that a correction needs to be made to item #14, 2021 Meeting Dates. The meeting date for March should read March 10.
  - b. With corrections made Ann moved to approve the minutes, Yanus second, motion passed.
4. Addressing Student Mental Health Challenges: Dr. Joan Steinman and Cameron Tuttle spoke about mental health and how it has become a bigger concern with the pandemic, isolation and the amount of loss that people are feeling. TMCC's counseling center is looking at things in a more holistic perspective. Students come to the counseling center for issues involving stressors related to school, food insecurities, housing insecurities or for connections to other community resources. The counseling center will help students with a whole array of services and support that they need in order to be successful students. Cameron noted that 60% of students using counseling services are under 24 years of age. We know that 75% of adults with a mental health disorder are between the age of 18 and 24. Counseling has seen an 18% increase in appointments since Fall of 2020 and a 20% increase in the amount of contacts such as outreach, activities and online workshops. They are expecting the number to continue to increase. Another interesting stat is that 50% of students who see a counselor persist Fall to Fall compared to a 37% of other students in general. The counseling center and TMCC participated this past Fall in the Healthy Minds Survey which is a national survey given to college students. The survey was sent out to over 5,000 students and around 400 responded. Some of the data shows that students are experiencing stressors related to finances. Two-thirds are feeling nervous or anxious and have indicated they need help for mental health problems, 72% have had days when they are feeling down or depressed, almost 40% have indicated they are food insecure and 19% have indicated that they have contemplated suicide over the past year. Some positive data indicated that 81% agreed that mental health is a priority on campus and they feel that TMCC has good support system on campus. Cameron added that over the last year, the Counseling Center has had to change the way that they are delivering services and helping students. One of the counselors took a sabbatical on Grief and Loss and a grief resource page has now been created on the Counseling Center's page. Also, the Lizards Lounge has been created inside Canvas for the students where there are weekly discussions and resources. Additionally, the Counseling Center has beefed up its social media accounts. One of the counselors, Erin Frock, has been posting everyday and has been doing a Facebook Live once a week which centers on mental health and well-being. The Counseling Center has gone to a virtual appointment modality. Cameron noted that a lot of students are coming to these virtual appointments and the no show rate has gone down. Some of the other things that counseling is approaching are basic needs, education, case management, outreach and counseling. Joan added that the silver lining of this pandemic has been that we do offer virtual services now and counseling has found that they are now reaching a different student population than they did when everything was in person. To touch on some initiatives

for the upcoming year - Joan and Cameron have both become certified as mental health first aid instructors. This certification helps with skills to recognize when a person is in distress and help bridge the time from when the person is in distress to when that person can get resources and then to follow up with them to make sure that they got the resources. They are hoping to offer the first training session this summer or fall. Joan elaborated on the Educational Partnerships Program which helps certain populations such as students involved with the justice system, students who are homeless, in the foster care system and single parents. This program allows the counseling team to do some leveraging between different programs and resources so that students can be involved with multiple programs that would help meet their needs. Joan adds that they have been accepted into the Seattle Jobs Initiative CTE Academy for this next year. This is taking a student-centered approach to providing these kinds of services. We also have a crisis and victim advocate at campus and on their team. She will have office hours at the various campus sites and is working on putting together a survivor group. We also are putting the crisis call number on the back of our student ID's. The Counseling Center will be moving from the 2nd floor of the RDMT building to the 1st floor. This will make it more visible to students.

5. President Update: Spring term is off to a good start. About half of our full-time employees have been vaccinated. We continue to monitor the effects of Covid-19 and a third survey has gone out to faculty, staff and students. In the fall we will be returning to 80% of our sections taught in person. Also, TMCC has been strategizing with our Nevadaworks and DETR partners to connect with displaced workers in Reno and Sparks with the goal of retraining these residents, particularly those unemployed or underemployed due to the pandemic. We moved forward with several recommendations of the TMCC Budget Reduction Taskforce and we are pleased with the number of voluntary buyout requests that have been approved. FTE's were down 7% in Fall Semester and down 10% in Spring. We project that we will end the year with 8-9% down in FTE and have adjusted our budgets accordingly. The good news to share is that EastView is moving forward. We're working on an animation with script and are also planning to go to the Board of Regents, probably in the summer, and ask for their permission to proceed on a tentative bond assurance. More good news is that the NSHE Board approved the updated Strategic Master Plan which included a new objective and mission statement. The new mission statement is: *Create a future you will love with accessible innovative educational opportunities at TMCC. Together we can make it happen.* Also, the TMCC men's and women's soccer teams will start the scenic west conference schedule in April. Students in the graphic arts program swept the student category for the 2020 Reno Addy Awards. Karin also informed the group that we sent a team of TMCC employees to the Second Nature Virtual Climate Pursuit conference last week. We learned a lot about how to have a college campus that is sustainable. Also, we successfully concluded our search for the next VPAA. Dr. Marie Murgolo is retiring in June and we're bringing on Jeffery Alexander. And finally, we'll be celebrating our 2020 and 2021 graduates with drive through ceremonies at our Dandini campus from May 17<sup>th</sup> to the 21<sup>st</sup>.

Mindy asked if there was interest by our board members to review and update the Foundation's Strategic Master Plan to align with the newly updated College SMP. Yanus, Jesse, Alan and Matt volunteered to join the committee with Mindy. Alan asked Dr. Hilgersom how the board can support the College in the legislative session. Dr. Hilgersom asks that the board advocate for no more than 12% budget reduction. She also asks that the board support the retaining of Capacity Enhancement funds in the budget. And finally, she asks that the board continue to tell the stories of our amazing students at TMCC.

6. Review Gift Report & Financials: Connie gave the highlights, including assets just under \$5mil. This is an increase over last year primarily due to the large gift from Pennington for the Chem Lab renovation. The deferred revenue is just under \$3.7mil. Foundation operations are down from last year about \$28k due to the difference in interest and dividends. For operating expenses, we are within \$3k from last year. Within programs, endowments and scholarship – In Kind donations are down from last year due to the large gifts that were received last year for Athletics and the Applied Tech Center. Scholarships and endowment distributions are up. Special programs are down. Foundation operations compared to budget are up. Ten-thousand of the dividend income is restricted. We are about \$50k under budget in expenses. Overall, our net operating income is in the positive about \$46k. Our unrestricted bank accounts are just over \$4.1mil. Net unrestricted cash is just under \$580k. Transfers to the college are just over \$836k so far this year. Gretchen added that our UFCU CD matured at the end of January and we were fortunate to lock in the 1.7% last February because CD's are now paying barely any interest. We converted the CD to a money market with UFCU. We invested \$750k in the Charles Schwab Treasury Ladder which

will mature in 3-6-9-12 month increments. Turning to the gift reports – we are going to be closing in on \$3mil in gifts for FY21 compared to \$2.1mil in FY20. Some gift highlights include the Pennington gift for \$1.1mil received in December for the renovation of our chemistry lab. We have gifts totaling \$1.6mil in this FY from Pennington alone. Also, we received a new grant from the Windsong Trust. They support K-12 education and are funding \$250k which will help to fund a Diesel instructor, a Manufacturing instructor, tuition for dual credit and marketing. Our scholarship and endowment funding totals \$733k this year. As far as programs go, Summer Bridge is continuing. Last year the virtual format was successful and this year it will be a hybrid format. We continue to get support for the Summer Bridge program from NV Energy, US Bank, Wells Fargo, the Susanne and Gloria Young Foundation and the Redfield Foundation. We received a new donation of \$10k from Alta Skilled Nursing for C.N.A. Scholarships.

- a. Dan moved to approve the gift reports, Alan second, motion passed.
7. Strategic Plan Objectives – Review Goal II, Support Student Success: Becky informed the group that in the fall of 2020, 38% of our students were low income and 78% had received some sort of aid. Our plan from last year was to award \$818k to 515 students and as of right now we've awarded \$953,993 to 656 students. One of things we focused on was to award to as many students as possible. Next year our goal is to increase the awards by 5% and we would need an additional \$40k in revenue to award an additional 33 scholarships. To market scholarships, we've done news stories, social media posts, a few classroom visits, four rounds of text messages to over 7,000 students, posts on canvas and sent two or three different emails.
8. Executive Director Update: Gretchen provided staffing updates: Christian Losche has joined the team as the new Development Officer. Ashlyn Moreno will be going on maternity leave starting March 18<sup>th</sup>. We have a new student worker, Sarah Ann, who will be in the office Monday through Thursday. And our Grants Coordinator, Sarah Rosenbloom, is getting her Masters in Counseling and has accepted a graduate assistant position at UNR. Laura and Gretchen will be helping to fill in on grants. We will be looking to fill the grants coordinator position in the coming months. Turning to Faculty & Staff Innovation Grants – these grants fund faculty and staff who have applied for innovation projects. This year we awarded \$14,600 for four grants. There were fewer applications this year, as expected. These funds come from payroll deductions and parking meter revenue. This year the parking meter revenue has been decimated and we plan to utilize some 1971 funds to help fill the gap. Also, Nevada Promise is continuing and we need mentors. We're hoping for sign-ups by March 15<sup>th</sup>. We have some updates on EastView. We are moving forward with the bond assurance and will be asking for approval in June or September. Once that happens we can move forward with the campaign to reach our \$5mil goal. At that time, we will also need to ask the board for use of unrestricted funds to hire a campaign consultant. Lastly, we have \$20mil in grants under management. The grants team has been doing a great job with the writing, managing, reporting, budget modification and all that goes into managing those grants. CARES funding has totaled \$3.4mil in student aid and \$7.8mil in institution aid to date.
9. Grants Update: Ashlyn reported that we are in full swing with our annual Nevada Department of Education grant application as well as doing additional modifications due to unspent funds from last year. We have about \$150k, which has helped to buy high priority items for our Allied Health programs such as a new truck for our public safety department. We're also buying some beds for the C.N.A. program. We will be applying for the Perkins competitive to build on the Windsong grant. This would help fund a trailer that would become a mobile lab that would be used to expose middle school and high school students to CTE programs and career opportunities at TMCC and in our region. The programs would include computer programming, HVAC, architecture, machining, construction, advanced manufacturing, welding and diesel. Lastly, our Adult Basic Education program is submitting their annual grant for \$1.5mil and we've also been chosen as finalists for a challenge that is held by the U.S. Department of Education which is to develop a pre-apprenticeship program specifically for our ABE students.
10. Development Officer Update – Christian gave the group some highlights of what he has been working on. Christian has taken the first two months to familiarize himself with Raiser's Edge, LiveAlumni, the campus', and our faculty and staff. He will be joining the Academic Advisement meeting where he can introduce himself to the Deans and talk about the Corporate Partnerships program. The 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary microsite should be going live in the near future and Christian is hoping to highlight the 1971 Society on the site. There will also be some alumni highlighted

as well. Christian has been working on updating the marketing material and renewal letters for 1971 Society. Once the renewal letter has gone out he will be following up with phone calls and meetings when appropriate. Christian has also been spending a lot of time working on Corporate Partnerships. Sidney and Christian will be meeting at the end of every month and the Corporate Partners group will be meeting every month as well. Click Bond has renewed their Corporate Partnership.

11. Scholarship Update – Becky reported that our endowment is up and we’ve had \$153k in new contributions. Galena Volunteer Firefighters gave their single largest gift to any organization. We received \$75k from them and they had started their endowment with \$50k. We also have a new endowment, the Gretchen and Tom Sawyer Scholarship Endowment from payroll. Also received from payroll was a large contribution from Cary Groth. We also have \$351k in market returns. New scholarships include the Len and Marva McWilliams scholarship and the Reno Rotary Foundation for Applied Tech scholarships. This year we received 1,244 scholarship applications submitted, a decline from last year. We had 1,365 including the drafted. In 2020 we received 1,484 applications. Becky feels the decline is due to uncertainty in students not knowing if they are going to be able to attend in person. As of February 26, 2021, we’ve awarded 823 scholarships for \$953,993.45 to 656 students. The International Food Executives have been working with us and so we were able to award over \$13k in scholarships from that endowment. Lastly, Becky will be working down at the ATC a few hours a week to have access to the Pennington scholarship students and so to have more of a face to face interaction with those students.

12. Board Members Updates – Tabled

13. Old Business – None

14. New Business – None

15. Public Comment – None

16. Next Meeting Dates

- a. Wednesday, June 16
- b. Wednesday, September 15
- c. Wednesday, December 8

Meeting Adjourned at 9:33am.