

**DRAFT**

**New River Community College Board  
(Region 10)  
Meeting Number Three Hundred Sixty-Four**

***MINUTES***

**June 3, 2024**

Meeting number three hundred sixty-four of the New River Community College Board was held on Monday, June 3, 2024, at NRCC, Christiansburg.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

Mr. Christopher (Chris) Calfee (Radford City)  
Mr. Craig Chancellor (Floyd County)  
Mr. Richard Chidester (Giles County)  
Mr. William (Bill) Cunningham (Pulaski County)  
Dr. Margaret (Peggy) Dewald-Link (Floyd County)  
Mr. Eric Johnsen (Montgomery County)  
Ms. Tosha Mosier (Radford City)  
Ms. Bobbie Potter (Montgomery County)  
Mr. Jonathan Sweet (Pulaski County)

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT**

Ms. Jessica Littlejohn (Montgomery County)  
Mr. Chris McKlarney (Giles County)  
Mr. Cameron Peel (Pulaski County)

**STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT**

Ms. Stephanie Addikis, Adult Career Coach and Community Outreach Specialist  
Dr. Peter Anderson, Vice President for Instruction and Student Services  
Ms. Grace Bocchino, FastForward/G3 Career Coach  
Ms. Angie F. Covey, Executive Director NRCC Educational Foundation  
Dr. Patricia B. Huber, President  
Mr. Tim Jones, Director of Information Technology and Facilities Services  
Dr. Deborah Kennedy, Dean of Student Services  
Ms. Lori Mitchell, Dean of Business and Technologies  
Ms. Kathy T. Ridpath, Administrative Assistant, President's Office  
Dr. Mark C. Rowh, Vice President for Workforce Development and External Relations  
Dr. Fritz M. Streff, Director of Institutional Effectiveness and Research  
Dr. Jeanne Symanoskie, Coordinator, Montgomery County Workforce Training

**AGENDA ITEMS**

**1. Call to Order**

Mr. Bill Cunningham, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. A quorum was present and due notice had been mailed and published.

## 2. Welcome and Introductions

Mr. Cunningham welcomed everyone in attendance. He recognized Ms. Bobbie Potter for her reappointment to the Board.

## 3. Agenda for Approval

Mr. Cunningham asked for a motion to approve the agenda.

**Motion:** Dr. Peggy Dewald-Link made a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Chris Calfee seconded the motion.

**Action:** The motion was unanimously approved.

## 4. Minutes for Approval

The minutes of meeting number three hundred sixty-three, held on Monday, March 4, 2024, were disseminated in the meeting packet. No questions were posed. Mr. Cunningham asked for a motion to approve the minutes.

**Motion:** Mr. Eric Johnsen made a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Richard Chidester seconded the motion. Mr. Craig Chancellor abstained due to being absent from the previous meeting.

**Action:** The motion was unanimously approved.

## 5. President's Report

Dr. Huber welcomed everyone in attendance.

Dr. Huber provided a report on commencement ceremonies held in May. She expressed appreciation to the board members who were able to attend. Highlights included:

- Three large ceremonies (full capacity at each ceremony)
- Update on the number of certified graduates for the 2023-2024 academic year
  - Spring semester – 430 individual graduates with 563 awards
  - Fall semester – 175 individual graduates with 302 awards
  - Summer '24 will be 100 – 150 individual graduates (applications are still coming in for Summer)
  - Total – 750 individual graduates with approximately 1000 awards for the year

Dr. Huber expressed appreciation to Carilion Clinic for providing pins for the nursing graduates for the pinning ceremony. She noted that Mr. Bill Flattery, CEO, serves on the Foundation Board. On another note, Dr. Huber informed the Board that the Financial Aid Office recently sent out 718 financial aid offers to students. G3 offers will come separately.

Dr. Huber provided personnel updates that included:

- Resignations (full-time) – these positions will be filled:
  - Mr. Dave Filer, Professor, Computer Science (relocating)
  - Ms. Katie Pruett, Nursing Administrative/Admissions Specialist

- New Hire (full-time)
  - Ms. Amy Carden, Information Technology Specialist and IT HelpDesk
- Searches/Summer Hirings (full-time)
  - Computer Science/IT Faculty
  - Automotive Faculty (open position from retirement last year)
  - Business Faculty (open position from retirement last year)
  - Nursing Administrative/Admissions Specialist

Dr. Huber reported that the college is entering the third week of the summer semester with most of the enrollment online. On another note, Dr. Huber stated that the college is busy with the financial close-out of the fiscal year and with other projects in the college.

Dr. Huber provided a brief update on tuition. The State Board recently approved the following increases:

- \$4.79 per credit-hour increase in the tuition rate for in-state students.
- \$19.29 per credit-hour increase for out-of-state students effective fall 2024 semester (\$16.79-tuition + \$2.50 capital fee).

Dr. Huber informed the Board that the General Assembly approved a 3 percent salary increase for state employees.

Dr. Huber introduced Ms. Stephanie Addikis, NRCC Adult Career Coach and Community Outreach Specialist; Ms. Grace Bocchino, FastForward/G3 Career Coach; and Dr. Jeanne Symanoskie, Coordinator for Workforce Development, who provided an overview of the Credit for Prior Learning (CPL) program. CPL is the process of awarding a student credit for competency in subject matter that has been achieved through previous academic study or occupational experience. Questions were posed and discussed.

## 6. Instruction and Student Services

### Industrial Advisory Committees

Proposed membership lists for all industrial advisory committees for the Career Technical Education programs (exhibit B) were distributed in the meeting packet. The committees consist of educational and industrial members. Dr. Anderson stated that these committees are vital to the work of the college. The committees formally meet with faculty in September of each year to discuss the direction of the programs and informally during the year. Mr. Cunningham asked for a motion and second to approve the Industrial Advisory Committees. Questions were posed and discussed.

**Motion:** Mr. Chancellor made a motion to approve the advisory committees. Mr. Chidester seconded the motion. The motion was amended to also include the suggestion to send notes of appreciation from the board to the advisory committee members.

**Action:** The motion with amendment was unanimously approved.

## 7. Director of Institutional Effectiveness and Research

Dr. Fritz Streff provided a report on enrollment. There was a 6.4 percent increase in FTEs and a 6.2 percent increase in headcount for the spring semester. The college was seventh overall in FTE change in the VCCS for the spring semester. Enrollment shows an increase

of 9 percent in FTEs and an increase of 5 percent in headcount over last year for the summer semester. At this point, the fall semester shows an enrollment increase of 5 percent in FTEs and a 4 percent increase in headcount. Dr. Streff stated that at this point, there is an increase of about 3.4 percent in returning students and an increase of 7 percent in new student enrollment for the fall semester. He noted that the final count of enrollment for new students will not be known until later in the summer. A communication will be sent to the Board to show final numbers of new student enrollment after finalized (per the Board's request).

## **8. Workforce Development and External Relations**

Dr. Rowh provided an update on activities of the General Assembly as it pertains to the VCCS. Highlights included:

- \$20 million over two years for affordable access, retention and degree production.
- \$14.6 million added back to the VCCS' base that was separated and available only through performance requirements in the introduced budget.
- \$9.2 million additional funds for FastForward programs, bringing the annual amounts to \$22,450,000.
- 3 percent salary increase for employees.

Dr. Rowh noted that the college staff continue to work with legislative representatives throughout the year.

## **9. NRCC Educational Foundation**

Ms. Angie Covey informed the board that the VCCS Philanthropist of the Year for NRCC was awarded to Mr. Gary Hancock at an event in Richmond in April. Mr. Hancock has given considerably to the college financially and through service for many years. Mr. Cunningham suggested a letter of appreciation be sent to Mr. Hancock from the Board (board approved the suggestion).

Ms. Covey provided an update on scholarships that included:

- Dr. David Bradley endowed an additional scholarship (given a total of five scholarships).
- The scholarship endowment award amount will be increased to \$30,000 beginning January 1 (previously \$25,000).
- The scholarship award for students per year has been increased to \$1,700 (previously \$1,500) beginning fall semester.

Ms. Covey provided a report on the "Watch Party" for the PBS special featuring ACCE. Approximately 200 attended the event. She noted that the Foundation received several donations after the event.

Ms. Covey informed the Board that enrollment for ACCE students has not been finalized for the fall semester.

## **10. Schedule of Meetings for 2024-2025**

The schedule of meetings for 2024-2025 was presented in the Board packets that were previously disseminated. Mr. Cunningham asked for a motion and second to approve the schedule.

**Motion:** Mr. Chancellor made a motion to approve the schedule. Mr. Jonathan Sweet seconded the motion.

**Action:** The motion was unanimously approved.

**11. Report of the Nominations Committee**

On the recommendation of the Nominations Committee, Mr. Chidester nominated Mr. Cunningham as Chair and Mr. Chris Calfee as Vice-Chair for the upcoming year.

**Action:** The recommendation was approved unanimously.

**12. Report of the Personnel Committee – Evaluation of the President**

Mr. Cunningham informed the Board that he, along with Mr. Calfee and Mr. Chidester, served on the Personnel Committee for the evaluation of the president. He referred to a copy of the letter that was written and sent to the Chancellor along with supporting information (exhibit D). No questions were posed about the evaluation process.

**14. Open Discussion/Q&A Session**

Mr. Calfee expressed appreciation to the Board for his reappointment as vice-chair. Mr. Cunningham also expressed appreciation to the Board for the board's willingness to serve for his reappointment. There was no further discussion.

The next regular meeting of the New River Community College Board is scheduled for Monday, September 9, 2024, at the Christiansburg site. The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mr. Bill Cunningham, Chair

Dr. Patricia B. Huber, Secretary

Attachments