

ISOTHERMAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE
MEETING OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES
JUNE 27, 1995

A Called Meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on Tuesday, June 27, 1995, in the Management Seminar Room of the Business Education Building. The following trustees were present: William Page, Chairman; Gordon Scott, Frances Spratt, C. W. McCall, Charles Tucker, Vivian Watson, Theressa Calhoun, Walter Dalton, Jervis Arledge, Joe Miller, James Hutchins and Crystal Hoppes, Student Government Association President. Staff members present were: Willard Lewis, Dillard Morrow, Catherine Jolley, Robert Harrison, Bruce Waddingham, Helyn Lowery, Nancy Womack and Scott Scheer. Amy Revis from The Daily Courier and 15 visitors from the community were also present. Chairman Page called the meeting to order at 5 pm.

Chairman Page welcomed the visitors and outlined the format for the called meeting. Mr. Page stated that President Lewis would make a presentation on the budget adaptations that must be implemented in the face of County Commissioners' budget reductions. Following the presentation, President Lewis would entertain questions from board members and then Dr. Lou Gadol, spokesperson for the visitors, would present their case.

Budget Reductions

President Lewis stated that the County Commissioners denied the college's request for a budget increase for fiscal year 1995-96. Dr. Lewis further stated that the Commissioners' actions reduced the budget the college received last year by 16.5% or a total of \$214,232. The net effect on the college's budget for the upcoming year is a reduction of \$164,232 in the college's operating budget. Dr. Lewis stated that there is no way in which the college could absorb a loss of that magnitude without significant changes in operations. There is no way in which we could affect these operational changes without a commensurate reduction in services.

President Lewis outlined the following steps the college has initiated in order to accommodate the changes mandated by a reduced budget:

1. The elimination of part-time security and grounds personnel (\$24,803).
2. The elimination of part-time switchboard and clerical personnel (\$9,568).
3. Full-time staff reduction, including salary and benefits (\$97,018). One security, two custodial, one skilled craftsman, and one unfilled position.

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4. Closure of the swimming pool for energy conservation (\$10,000). One custodial position was deleted in addition to the savings noted here for a projected total savings in excess of \$30,000.*
5. Compressed work week and week-end closure for summer quarter (\$8,000 - \$10,000). Increased utility efficiency - unknown.*
6. Reduction in supplies, contractual services, and replacement of equipment (\$12,843). Actual reduction in these areas was considerably greater and exceed \$40,000. Additional "savings" from these area was applied to other budget lines which required an increase.

Dr. Lewis stated that none of the steps outlined above can be taken without serious impact on the institution and the service it provides to this community. This is particularly unfortunate in light of the fact that the most valued resources of this institution are its personnel and it is deeply regrettable that more than \$130,000 of the cuts that are outlined impact on our colleagues.

Dr. Lou Gadol, spokesperson for the group, introduced the swimmers and explained what the pool meant to each of them. Dr. Gadol expressed concern that if the college closes the pool, even for a short time, the facility will begin to suffer damage. Dr. Gadol stated that groups such as Girl Scouts, Red Cross, and the county's five swim teams use the pool on a regular basis. If the pool is closed, hundreds of patrons will be affected. Dr. Gadol distributed letters from a doctor, physical therapist, and parents of swim team members stating the benefits of the pool and requesting that it remain open.

President Lewis stated that it should be clear to all involved that the college has no interest in closing the pool and does not choose to do so. The value of the pool as a preventative health measure and its therapeutic value is highly regarded as is the fact that we provide competitive swimming opportunities for those in our local school system. Dr. Lewis stated, however, that the closure of the pool is attractive due to the fact that it is not central to the academic mission of the institution and clearly falls in the realm of public service. Dr. Lewis further stated that the pool is the only identifiable area of the college wherein a service is isolated in one locale and where closure can affect a change both in custodial staff and in energy conservation.

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President Lewis stated that the college is currently studying ways in which the pool can remain open and are looking with particular interest in developing a proposal whereby the pool can be opened on a self-sustaining basis. Dr. Lewis stated that surveys are being circulated to swimmers who take classes to determine if they would be willing to pay a higher user fee. Dr. Lewis further stated that he was in the process of discussing with the county schools the possibility of the swim teams sharing the cost of using our facilities. (Attachments 1-6)

Report From The Nominating Committee

Mr. Walter Dalton, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, stated that the Nominating Committee met briefly prior to the trustees' meeting but did not have time to complete their business. Mr. Dalton stated that the committee will meet at a later date and the committee will keep the board advised of what the Nominating Committee recommends.

Dam Inspection

President Lewis announced that he had received notification from the Department of Environment, Health and Natural Resources that a recent inspection of the college dam revealed several items that required engineering study. Dr. Lewis stated that an engineering firm examined the dam and presented an estimate of \$10,600 for engineering fees. In addition to the engineering fees, renovation costs could range between \$50,000 - \$80,000 depending on whether or not there are stability problems. Because of the estimated costs for engineering services, the college has contacted the Soil Conservation Service to ask if they could help with the engineering work. Dr. Lewis reported that a letter received on June 16, 1995, indicated that the Soil Conservation Department could probably help us but that the project is still being discussed. Dr. Lewis stated if the Soil Conservation Service can not do the engineering study, the college will need to seek the necessary funds to conduct the engineering study. Once the study is completed, a request will need to be presented to the County Commissioners for the funds to renovate the dam.

The meeting adjourned at 6:15 pm.

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William J. Page

CHAIRMAN

Francis H. Sparr

SECRETARY