



**THE DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF VALENCIA COLLEGE**

WORKSHOP

Minutes

August 8, 2024

Osceola Campus, Building 1, Room 123

and

Zoom Meeting

Members Present

Trustee Michael Sasso, Chair

Trustee John Davis, Vice Chair

Trustee Blair Bradley

Trustee Shawn Hindle (via Zoom)

Trustee Belinda Kirkegard

Trustee John Martinez

Trustee Tracey Stockwell

Dr. Kathleen Plinske, Secretary to the Board and President of the College

Call to Order

Chair Sasso called the Workshop meeting of the District Board of Trustees of Valencia College to order at 9:49 a.m.

**Approval of
Minutes, June 20,
2024 Regular
Meeting**

Trustee Stockwell moved to approve the meeting minutes of the June 20, 2024, Regular Meeting, as presented. Trustee Martinez seconded the motion, and the motion was approved unanimously.

New Business

- 1. Award of ITB #2024-33, Construction of Robotics Lab at Osceola Campus:** Mr. Oscar Cristancho Mercado, Chief Financial Officer, presented the report, which was distributed to the Board. Mr. Cristancho Mercado stated that this Invitation to Bid (ITB) #2024-33, as issued to the annually prequalified pool of General Contractors., will provide for the renovation of approximately 5,500 square feet on the first floor of the Center for Accelerated Training on the Osceola Campus to accommodate the expansion of the Robotics Lab. Funding for this project is sourced

from Valencia's grant award received through Florida Department of Education's Workforce Development Capitalization Incentive (CAP) Grant Program.

Mr. Cristancho Mercado explained that bids submitted in response to the ITB were received and opened on July 24, 2024. The following six (6) qualified firms submitted bids in response to the solicitation: CIC Construction Group USA, LLC, Construct Two Construction Managers, Inc., DPR Construction, Skanska USA Building Inc., The Robins & Morton Group, and Votum Construction.

Following a discussion, Trustee Martinez moved to authorize the College to award ITB #2024-33 to Construct Two Construction Managers, Inc., at a price of \$880,785, as presented. Should the College not be able to negotiate a mutually agreeable contract with Construct Two Construction Managers, Inc, negotiations will cease, and negotiations will commence with the second-ranked bidder and so on until a fair, competitive, and reasonable agreement is reached. Trustee Stockwell seconded the motion, and the motion was approved unanimously.

- 2. Inclusion of 2025 Health Insurance Costs in Proposed Fund Balance Spending Plan:** Dr. Plinske stated that HB 5101, which became law on June 12, 2024, amended Sec. 110.123 F.S. to authorize and mandate the participation of Florida College System (FCS) institutions in the State Group Health Insurance Program (SGHIP). The SGHIP administers health, life, dental, vision, disability, and other supplemental insurance benefits. As the FCS collaborates with the Florida Department of Management Services (DMS) on planning and implementing the transition of the colleges from their current health insurance programs to the SGHIP, the determination of employer contributions to be paid by the colleges to DMS is being finalized. Presently, it appears that Valencia will be required to pay an amount estimated to be between \$6.95 million and \$8.35 million to cover employer costs for the Program period January 1, 2025 – June 30, 2025, based on current assumptions regarding employee Program enrollment choices. Dr. Plinske indicated that, if approved, the College's final proposed spending plan will include this item, among others, and will be presented to the Board at the September 5, 2024 Regular Board meeting, for consideration and approval.

Following discussion, Trustee Davis moved to authorize the College to include in its proposed fund balance spending plan the cost of employer contributions due to the State for Valencia's participation in the State of Florida's Group Health Insurance Program, for the Program period January 1, 2025 – June 30, 2025. Trustee Kirkegard seconded the motion, and the motion was approved unanimously.

- 3. Approval of President's Contract of Employment, 2024-2028:** Dr. William MULLOWNEY, Vice President for Policy and General Counsel,

presented the proposed 2024-2028 Contract of Employment for the President of the College. He explained the process that was followed in developing the draft agreement, and the Board's long-term practice of bringing it forward for Board review, consideration, and update on at least an annual basis.

A full discussion ensued. Following discussion, Trustee Martinez moved to approve the President's Contract of Employment, 2024-2028, as proposed and presented. Trustee Stockwell seconded the motion, and the motion was approved unanimously.

The Board praised Dr. Plinske for her great work.

Dr. Plinske thanked the Board for their continued support.

Discussion Topics

- **Board Self-Evaluation – 2023-24:** A summary of the results of the 2023-2024 Board Self-Evaluation was distributed to the Board and presented by Dr. Plinske and Chair Sasso. The Board engaged in a full discussion with respect to this topic, including highlighting how committed the Board is to the College's mission, how well the Board understands its governance role related to policy and strategy, and how the Board fully embraces its fiduciary responsibilities.
- **President's Goals for 2024-25:** Dr. Plinske presented her goals for 2024-25, which were distributed to the Board. Dr. Plinske shared that while she expects to make significant progress toward each of her goals in 2024-25, work on many will continue into 2025-26 and beyond, serving as a framework for her leadership for the next three to five years.

A full discussion ensued with respect to this topic.

- **"Who We Serve":** Dr. Plinske, and Dr. Lesley Frederick, Vice President, Student Affairs, presented the report, which was distributed to the Board. The presentation included highlighted student demographics, program type enrollment data, credit full-time equivalent (FTE) enrollment data, credit programs by type, age, gender, race/ethnicity, county and race/ethnicity, and enrollment status.

A full discussion ensued with respect to this topic.

The Board recessed at 11:28am.

The Board reconvened at 12:08pm.

- **Overview of State Funding for Florida College System:** Dr. Plinske introduced Mr. Rob Bradley, from Oak Strategies. Dr. Plinske shared that

Mr. Bradley has managed a successful law firm representing numerous local governments in a general counsel role. Mr. Bradley also served as a county commissioner and state senator and chaired the Florida Senate Appropriations Committee from 2017-2020. Governor DeSantis appointed Mr. Bradley to serve on the St. Johns Water Management District, which he now chairs. Mr. Bradley manages the operations of Oak Strategies and specializes in creating policy ideas and changes to meet clients' needs. Mr. Bradley provided a summary of unique insights regarding the legislature budgetary process.

A full discussion ensued with respect to this topic.

- **Facilities Strategic Planning:** Dr. Plinske presented the report, which was distributed to the Board. The report included a summary of the College's current geographic locations and facilities, programs, and services present and offered each respective location.

The following two topics were presented for discussion:

- Potential for revenue generation from some of the College's existing real estate capital assets.
- Deferred maintenance, renovations, and remodeling projects expenditures anticipated in the future.

A full discussion ensued with respect to facilities strategic planning.

The Board thanked Dr. Plinske, and the Senior team for their continued great work.

Adjournment

Chair Sasso adjourned the Board Workshop at 2:26pm.

Secretary

Chair