



**STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
TRUSTEES OF BOISE STATE UNIVERSITY
TRUSTEES OF IDAHO STATE UNIVERSITY
TRUSTEES OF LEWIS-CLARK STATE COLLEGE
BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO
STATE BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL-TECHNICAL EDUCATION
TRUSTEES FOR THE IDAHO SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF AND THE BLIND**

**APPROVED MINUTES
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
March 26, 2007
SPECIAL Teleconference Meeting
700 W. State Street, East Conference Room
Boise, Idaho**

A special teleconference meeting of the State Board of Education was held March 26, 2007, originating from the East Conference Room of the J.R. Williams Building at 700 W. State Street, Boise, Idaho. The meeting convened at 1:00 p.m. with President Laird Stone presiding. Members present in person or by phone were:

Laird Stone, President
Blake Hall
Sue Thilo

Paul Agidius, Secretary
Rod Lewis
Tom Luna, State Superintendent

Board President Laird Stone called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. Roll call was taken to ascertain that the Board members were present.

OPEN SESSION

1. Consideration of a Petition to Form a Community College District in Ada and Canyon Counties

Board President Stone announced that the purpose of the special meeting was to consider the petition to form a community college district in Ada and Canyon Counties. He introduced representatives from "Community College YES!", the advocacy organization presenting the petition for the Board's consideration.

Mr. Skip Oppenheimer, "Community College YES!" Co-Chair, discussed the needs of the community and the desires of the group to have a community college established in the Treasure Valley. He noted that the Boise Metropolitan area is currently the largest metropolitan area in the United States, outside of Washington D.C., without its own community college district. He urged the Board to approve the petition so that the item could be placed on the May ballot for vote.

Mary C. Niland, "Community College YES!" CO-Chair, emphasized the great need in the Treasure Valley for affordable education that would serve a wide range of students, interests, needs and purposes. She explained that economic growth would be one of the benefits to the

community and the state if Treasure Valley residents had access to affordable education. She indicated that there was strong support from the citizens of both counties for this effort.

M/S (Luna/Agidius): To approve the petition submitted by “Community College YES!” relating to the formation of a community college district, to be known as the College of Western Idaho District, and the establishment of a community college therein, to be known as the College of Western Idaho, with the written findings and conclusions to be attached and included in the records. A roll call vote was taken; motion carried unanimously.

Board member Lewis commended the parties involved in organizing and forwarding this effort. He noted that the need for a community college in the Treasure Valley has been recognized from many years. He voiced his support for the effort and the motion. Board member Agidius concurred.

Board member Hall expressed his appreciation and thanked the many people involved in bringing this effort to the table. He noted that this effort is consistent with the Board’s position and fits into the overall education goals of the state of Idaho.

State Superintendent Luna noted that by making the motion he had given his support. He urged the supporters of the effort to keep in mind that remediation was something that needed to be addressed while students were still in K-12 and that he hoped the State Department of Education could make forward strides in addressing that issue.

Board member Thilo noted that the community college in northern Idaho served its citizens well and was a vital part of the economic health of the area. She expressed her support for this effort and confidence in the ability of the citizens to move it forward.

Board President Stone thanked the organizers and the many businesses, parents, and students who had underscored the need and expressed a desire for a community college in the Treasure Valley. He recalled that this discussion had been going on for many years, even before he joined the State Board of Education. He commended all those who had worked diligently and with determined focus to finally bring it to the table.

OTHER BUSINESS

There being no further business, a motion was made to adjourn the special meeting.

M/S (Agidius/Stone): To adjourn the meeting at 1:20 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

ATTACHMENT 1 – Notification of Decision

BEFORE THE IDAHO STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

**In Re: Petition to Form a Community)
College District,) NOTIFICATION OF DECISION
COLLEGE OF WESTERN IDAHO)**

This matter came before the Idaho State Board of Education (the "Board") at a special meeting held on March 26, 2007. The Board received and reviewed the petition relating to the formation of a community college district, to be known as the College of Western Idaho District, and the proposal in support of the formation of the district and the establishment of a community college therein, to be known as the College of Western Idaho, submitted by Community College YES, an Idaho nonprofit corporation.

Having reviewed and considered all materials of record, and having been fully apprised of the record and the presents of this matter, the Board hereby makes the following findings and conclusions:

1. The proposed community college district will consist of two counties, specifically Ada County and Canyon County. The proposed district is to be known as the College of Western Idaho District.
2. The proposed district includes the area of at least four (4) or more school districts and the area, or any part thereof, of one (1) or more counties having an aggregate enrollment in grades nine (9) through twelve (12) during the school year next

- preceding the organization of the district (the 2005 – 2006 school year), of not less than two thousand (2000) students. Specifically, Boise School District #1, Meridian School District #2, Kuna School District #3, Nampa School District #131, Caldwell School District #132, Middleton School District #134, and Vallivue School District #139 all had enrollments for the 2005-2006 school year which met this criteria.
3. The proposed district includes property having market value for assessment purposes, as shown by the equalized assessment rolls of real and personal property in both Canyon and Ada Counties for the preceding calendar year, of not less than one hundred million dollars (\$100,000,000). Specifically, the market value of such property in the proposed district for such year exceeded \$35 billion dollars.
 4. The proposal submitted in support of the formation of the community college district contains an estimate of the number of students expected to attend, and a description of the facilities available, or to be made available, for operation of the proposed community college.
 5. There are needs for additional opportunities for education, beyond grade twelve (12), in both Ada and Canyon Counties, which justify the formation of a community college district and the establishment of a new community college.
 6. The proposal submitted in support of the creation of the district demonstrates the financial ability of the district to maintain such community college, and to furnish the standard of education contemplated by Idaho Code title 33, chapter 21, with income from tuition and other sources. The academic courses given, and the instruction provided, at the proposed community college will be of the same standard as are given and taught in the first two (2) years of other Idaho public institutions of higher

education, such that academic credit shall be accepted by such institutions for credit toward a baccalaureate degree.

7. The petitioners have demonstrated a compelling need and justification for the formation of a community college district, and the creation of a community college therein, to be known as the College of Western Idaho.

Based on the findings and conclusions set forth above, the Board hereby APPROVES the proposal. The Board recommends that the petition to form a community college district, to be known as the College of Western Idaho, be submitted to the school district electors of Canyon and Ada Counties in accordance with Idaho Code § 33-2104.

Dated effective the 26th day of March, 2007.

IDAHO STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION:

By: _____
Laird Stone, President

NOTIFICATION OF APPEAL RIGHTS

This is a final order of the agency. Any party may file a motion for reconsideration of this final order within fourteen (14) days of the service date of this order. The agency will dispose of the petition for reconsideration within twenty-one (21) days of its receipt, or the petition will be considered denied by operation of law. *See* Idaho Code § 67-5246(4).

Pursuant to § 67-5270 and § 67-5272, Idaho Code, any party aggrieved by this final order or orders previously issued in this case may appeal this final order and all previously issued orders in this case to district court by filing a petition in the district court of the county in which:

- i. A hearing was held,
- ii. The final agency action was taken,
- iii. The party seeking review of the order resides, or
- iv. The real property or personal property that was the subject of the agency action is located.

An appeal must be filed within twenty-eighty (28) days (a) of the service date of this final order, (b) of an order denying petition for reconsideration, or (c) the failure within twenty-one (21) days to grant or deny a petition for reconsideration, which is later. *See* Idaho Code § 67-5273. The filing of an appeal to district court does not itself stay the effectiveness or enforcement of the order under appeal.