



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 Career-Technical Education

**APPROVED MINUTES
IDAHO STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**January 27, 2017
Office of the State Board of Education
Len B. Jordan Building, 3rd Floor
Boise, Idaho**

A special meeting of the State Board of Education was held January 27, 2017 in the large conference room of the Office of the State Board of Education, Len B. Jordan Building, in Boise, Idaho. Board President Emma Atchley presided and called the meeting to order at 11:30 a.m. Mountain Time. A roll call of members was taken.

Present:

Emma Atchley, President
Linda Clark, Vice President
Sherri Ybarra, State Superintendent

Don Soltman
Dave Hill

Absent:

Debbie Critchfield, Secretary
Richard Westerberg
Andy Scoggin

POLICY, PLANNING & GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS (PPGA)

1. Establishment of a Community College District in Bonneville County

BOARD ACTION

M/S (Critchfield/Hill): To approve the Resolution set forth in Attachment 1 recommending the formation of a community college district located in eastern Idaho, the boundaries of

which shall be made up by the boundaries of Bonneville County, and the establishment of a new community college therein to be known as the College of Eastern Idaho. The motion carried unanimously 5-0. Dr. Clark, Mr. Scoggin, and Mr. Westerberg were absent from voting.

Ms. Critchfield introduced the item and provided background on the feasibility for the formation of a community college in eastern Idaho. In early 2016, the formation of a Community College Study Panel (Panel) was announced with the purpose assessing of the possibility a community college in eastern Idaho and how it might look. The Panel unanimously recommended the expansion of Eastern Idaho Technical College (EITC) to a comprehensive community college which would be accomplished through a ballot initiative to establish a community college taxing district. The Panel's findings concluded a need for a community college based on state and national statistics, labor market indicators, and a need for increased education opportunities. Additionally, if EITC transitions to a community college it is expected to grow; and over 900 jobs would be created or sustained and additional economic activity would result. The group concluded a full return on investment would occur after nine years.

Ms. Critchfield indicated state law requires not less than one thousand valid signatures on the petition filed with the Bonneville County Clerk's office. The Bonneville County Clerk's office has transmitted to the Board an affidavit that was dated December 28, 2016, certifying 2,852 signatures were received in support of the petition. At this point, the Board must consider whether to approve the establishment of such community college. If so, it must advise the Bonneville County Board of Commissioners within thirty (30) days after the receipt of the petition and recommend an election be called for the organization of such district. The Board must advise the Bonneville County Board of Commissioners no later than Friday, February 3, 2017 of its decision. Ms. Critchfield reviewed the minimum requirements outlined in Idaho Code for the formation of a community college district, pointing out the requirements have been satisfied.

Dr. Rick Aman, current President of Eastern Idaho Technical College, indicated eastern Idaho expects this to be a very viable enterprise and thanked the Board for its support. Mr. Freeman clarified for the record that attachment 4 to the agenda materials contained a slight revision to the report on page 29. The table on page 29 illustrates how much residents and businesses would pay on a levy rate, and a column was added for the home owner's exemption and how the taxes to homeowners would be affected. There were no concerns regarding that change.

Ms. Atchley commented on how thoughtful and well planned the process was on assessing the viability of a community college in eastern Idaho and thanked all those involved their support. Ms. Critchfield communicated the support of Dr. Linda Clark at her request. Dr. Clark was unable to attend today's meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was entertained.

M/S (Critchfield/Soltman): To adjourn the meeting at 11:43 a.m. The motion carried unanimously 5-0. Dr. Clark, Mr. Scoggin, and Mr. Westerberg were absent from voting.