

**BREVARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SPECIAL MEETING**

November 8, 2001
4:00 p.m.

Administration Building #2, Board Room #231
Cocoa Campus

PRESENT: Mrs. Miriam E. Martinez, Chair; Mr. James W. Handley, Vice Chair;
Mr. Eugene C. Johnson; Mr. C. R. "Rick" McCotter III;
Dr. Alexandra M. Penn Williams, Mr. Joe D. Matheny, Attorney;
Dr. Thomas E. Gamble, Secretary

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Mrs. Martinez, Chair, called the meeting to order.

2. BUDGET CUTS PROPOSAL - Dr. Gamble:

Dr. Gamble reported BCC is subject to any revisions in State funding, which have been underway for several months. The special session of the Florida Legislature, last month, did not resolve how the State is going to meet the shortfall in revenues. Another special session has been called immediately following the Thanksgiving holiday. Dr. Gamble reported there has been sufficient information from the Division of Community Colleges for BCC to anticipate what the nature of the cuts will be for BCC. He reported BCC is anticipating a cut of approximately \$2 million over the next 18 months. The college administration has developed a series of budget-cutting scenarios up to a total of ten percent. BCC has focused upon minimizing the impact on its core mission of student teaching and learning.

Dr. Gamble reported he has directed that open positions throughout the college not be filled. In addition, justification, to Dr. Gamble's satisfaction, is required to fill any position, which comes open. Dr. Gamble has strongly encouraged the transfer of qualified BCC staff to fill critical vacancies. Dr. Gamble reported the operation of the Astronaut Memorial Planetarium be significantly reduced beginning January 1, 2002, to include the reduction in staff from ten employees to two. The Planetarium will continue to offer the K-12 educational programs.

Dr. Gamble reported the administration is also proposing to close the Cocoa Campus swimming pool, effective January 1, 2002. BCC has not had a swim team for many years and the pool is in need of costly repairs. The pool has been utilized primarily by the community, during the summer months, and by a swim club activity. BCC does not foresee current sources of revenue able to meet the costs of repairing and maintaining the pool.

Dr. Gamble reported, because of terrorism, Patrick Air Force Base (PAFB) has had to implement security measures, which directly affect the college's programs on the base. The college has established a partnership with the Brevard County School Board to permit moving some of the class offerings to Satellite High School and DeLaura Middle School, which are convenient to Patrick. Dr. Gamble reported he has had conversations with Brigadier General Pettit regarding BCC's continuing presence at PAFB, and it has been concluded the need is not there in light of the new circumstances. College courses will continue to be marketed on PAFB and BCC will continue the contract support of DEOMI training. It is the administration's intent to vacate the PAFB offices and classrooms by December 1, 2001. Most of the admissions and advising staff have been relocated to the Melbourne and Palm Bay Campuses. Ms. Alison Pittman, the Dean at Patrick, is being reassigned as Dean of Collegewide Enrollment Management and Director of the Moore Multi-Cultural Center.

Dr. Gamble reported the administration is proposing the college discontinue participation in all intercollegiate sports effective July 1, 2002. There are currently 95 students, 51 of whom come from Brevard County. Federal Title IX restrictions require that BCC maintain equal status between men's and women's athletics, thus limiting the options in closing the program.

Dr. Gamble reported the college is ready to work with outside organizations interested in providing the necessary funds to continue any of these activities.

3. CITIZEN'S PRESENTATION:

The following community members spoke on behalf of keeping the BCC Cocoa Campus swimming pool:

Mr. Stan Heinricher, President of the Brevard Swim Association Club (BSA)
Mr. Al Barrett, Brevard County citizen
Mr. Roger Dobson, former BCC Board of Trustees member and Chairman of the Tourist Development Council (TDC)
Ms. Deborah Green, General Manager of the Hilton in Cocoa Beach

The following community members spoke on behalf of continuing BCC athletic programs:

Mr. Rusty Buchanan, Executive Director, Space Coast Sports Commission
Mr. Dave Spain, Owner of the Comfort Inn and Suites in Cocoa Beach
Mr. Tom Williamson, Manager of the Hampton Inn and Marriott Courtyard in Cocoa Beach
Coach Don Smith, BCC Athletic Director
Mr. Clarence Rowe, President, Central Brevard NAACP
Mr. Dick Blake, Brevard County resident

4. BUDGET CUTS DESCRIPTION – Mr. Little:

Mr. Al Little, Vice President for Finance and Administrative Services, reported on the details of the financial aspects of the areas being recommended for cuts.

Dr. Gamble reported the Board of Trustees' action, at this meeting, will offer the opportunity to allow what has been requested by the community members during the citizen's presentations. The amount of funds provided by the community to support the BCC athletic programs has been small compared to the costs to operate the programs. He reported the Board of Trustees members need to make it clear that if BCC does not receive outside funding, action will have to be taken. BCC is open to any overtures from any organization in the Brevard County community. BCC is willing to facilitate meetings and other activities that will facilitate the support needed to keep the activities, which are proposed to be cut.

Mrs. Martinez asked Mr. Rusty Buchanan, Mr. Stan Heinricher, and Mr. Dick Blake to commit to working with the college and community to prepare a plan to keep these college programs open. Mr. Buchanan, Mr. Heinricher, and Mr. Blake all agreed to commit to helping the college. Mrs. Martinez also recommended one or more Board of Trustees members work to look for potential avenues to make the Planetarium become self-sufficient. Mr. Handley and Dr. Penn Williams volunteered to work in this area. Dr. Gamble recommended approval of providing a chance to the community to assist with funding solutions; however, if that is not attained within 60 days, the college will proceed with reducing the staff at the Planetarium, closing the Cocoa Campus pool, and the elimination of the intercollegiate sports.

Mr. McCotter moved approval of the recommendation and budget amendment with the following conditions: 1) A Board Workshop be conducted at 3:00 p.m. prior to the December 17 Board of Trustees meeting for the pool issue; 2) A Board Workshop be conducted at 3:00 p.m. prior to the January 28 Board of Trustees meeting for the athletic program issue; and 3) A committee be formed to serve to determine ways for the Planetarium to become self-sustaining. Mr. Johnson seconded the motion. All those voting in favor of the motion - Johnson, Handley, Penn Williams, McCotter, Martinez; opposed - none. Motion unanimously approved.

5. **ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting adjourned at 5:25 p.m.

APPROVED: _____
Chairman, District Board of Trustees

ATTESTED: _____
Secretary, District Board of Trustees