

**Tacoma Community College  
Board of Trustees Special Meeting  
November 28, 2016 – 10:30 a.m.  
Building 12 – Board Room**

**MINUTES**

**Board Members**

Bob Ryan  
Don Dennis  
James Curtis  
Liz Dunbar

**Administrators/Staff**

Sheila Ruhland  
Judy Colarusso  
Rick Brady, AG  
Patty Green  
Will Howard  
Beth Brooks  
Greg Randall  
Yvonne Unnold  
Melissa Houser  
Cathy Brown  
Corrine Jarvis  
Char Gore  
Mary Fox  
Mary Chen Johnson  
Jonathan Eastabrook  
Sue McElrath

Linda VanDoren  
Karen Zediker  
Tamilla Hahn  
Deb Lewis  
Cielito Lane  
Patty Hermosa  
Greg Carter  
Craig Cowden  
Derrick Nunnally  
Kim Lee  
Mike Mixdorf  
Mary Beth McCarthy  
Andrew Cho  
Dave Howard  
Val Morgan Krick  
Sarah Lewandowski

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair **Ryan** called the meeting to order at 10:35 a.m.

**II. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Attendees including approximately 30 people, including Dr. Ruhland, classified staff, exempt staff, faculty members, and Patty Green one of the three authors of the letter to the Board dated November 9, 2016 regarding the performance of President Ruhland. Later in the meeting, Mary Fox and Dave Howard the letter's second and third authors arrived. Chair **Ryan** announced the board would go into executive session for one hour to consider the letter and its contents. All persons were excused except the four attending Board members and AAG, Rick Brady.

**III. RECONVENE INTO OPEN PUBLIC MEETING**

At 11:35 a.m. the board reconvened into open Public Meeting. No action was taken by the board based on matters covered in Executive Session. The Chair announced that the Board would go back into Executive Session for approximately fifteen minutes.

**IV. BOARD ACTION AS A RESULT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At 11:50 a.m. the open board meeting reconvened.

The following comments were made by board members:

**Board member Dunbar:**

The board held a healthy discussion centered on the letter submitted by the faculty. The board would have preferred that the letter had been addressed to Dr. Ruhland. The board understands that all members of the campus community; faculty, staff, administrators and board, care about the students and their success.

**Board member Curtis:**

The board appreciates the importance of the issues that have been raised and the opportunity to hold discussions. It is also important that we take this opportunity to listen to one another as these discussions continue. Everyone here is working for the students. Faculty in particular shape our students. Encouraged faculty to allow the board to continue their discussions.

**Board chair Ryan:**

The board held a robust discussion. The board appreciates the faculty concern and caring for the students and the college. Everyone; faculty, staff, administrators and board are focused on the students. The board takes this matter very seriously and will continue with active discussions, careful thought, and continued work on the issues. Unless there was a motion made by member of the board, there would be no action taken as a result of the Board meeting. There may be additional discussion at the next board meeting.

Board member **Dunbar** concluded by stating that Dr. Ruhland is at TCC because she cares about students and student success. The board intends to work with Dr. Ruhland on issues raised by the faculty.

No action was taken by the board based on matters covered in Executive Session.

**V. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

NOTE: A request to make public comment was made by a member of the audience. Public Comment was not on the meeting agenda and therefore not allowed.



Robert Ryan, Chair