

MINUTES OF THE  
BOARD OF REGENTS OF HIGHER EDUCATION  
MONTANA UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

June 19, 1978  
Helena, Montana

The Board of Regents of Higher Education convened by telephonic conference call on Monday, June 19, 1978 for a discussion respecting the governance of vocational education. In the absence of Ted James, Mary Pace chaired the meeting. Present, in addition to Ms. Pace, were Lewy Evans, Lola Hansen, Jack Peterson and Commissioner Pettit.

Mr. Peterson, Chairman of the Community College and Vocational Education Committee, reported that the committee had met with Bill Lannan last week and considered whether or not the Board should support the proposed governance structure of the postsecondary vocational technical centers as recommended in the report submitted to the Interim Subcommittee some time ago. He explained that some of the directors of the vocational technical centers are reluctant to agree that the centers should be under the jurisdiction of the Board of Regents. Mr. Peterson stated his opinion that the matter should be resolved by the Legislature; that the Board should not actively seek the authority but should let the Legislature know that it is willing to accept the responsibility. Commissioner Pettit remarked that if the Board is given this responsibility the relationship to the vocational technical centers with his office and the Board would be the same as that of the community colleges. He asked if the Board of Public Education had taken a position on this issue. Bill Lannan reported he had talked with the Executive Officer of the Board of Public Education, who said they had not made any statement as yet. Commissioner Pettit indicated that it would make sense to combine all of the postsecondary institutions under the Board of Regents. Some of the problems that could be generated were discussed, but a general consensus was reached that the Board of Regents would not oppose the acceptance of this responsibility but it should not actively seek it.

Mr. Lannan reported that the committees of both boards would be meeting on June 24th to discuss the recommendations.

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Mr. Lewy Evans, Chairman of the Capital Construction Committee, reported that bids received on two construction projects authorized by the Board on December 13, 1976, ran over the authorized amounts. He recommended that the amount for construction of a student auto repair shop approved under Item 15-211-R1276 be increased from \$100,000 to \$125,000. He so moved. The motion carried, with Mr. Peterson voting "no".

Mr. Evans reported that a second project authorized by the Board on December 13, 1976, construction of additional physical education and recreation facilities for Montana State University, was bid at \$35,000 over the authorized amount of \$350,000. He moved that the amount be increased to \$385,000. The motion carried.

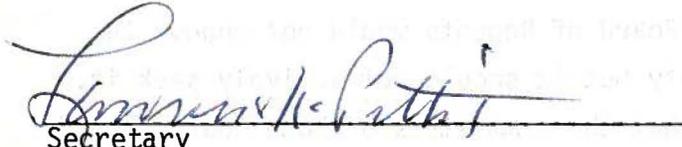
Mr. Evans explained that these projects had been authorized by House-Senate Joint Resolutions 32 and 33, and that funding is available from student building fees beyond debt service and reserve requirements. He said it is the desire of the students that both projects be completed. Dr. Pettit noted that in too many instances by the time building projects are ready to go to bid, costs have risen to the point where the authorized amounts are not sufficient to cover the cost of construction. Mr. Evans suggested that an attempt be made to establish some kind of contingency fund to handle the increased costs.

It was agreed that the next meeting would be held on the statutory date of July 10, 1978.

The meeting adjourned.

APPROVED:

  
Chairman, Regents of Higher Education  
Montana University System

  
Secretary