

**COLLEGE OF MICRONESIA-FSM BOARD OF REGENTS**  
**Minutes of the September 24, 2020, Meeting**  
**Zoom Meeting**

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**Present:** Regent Tulensru Waguk, PhD, from Kosrae (chairman); Regent Jesse Salalu from Yap (vice chairman); Regent Pelma J. Mingii representing the National Government (secretary/treasurer); Regent Johannes Berdon from Chuuk; Regent Suzanne Gallen from Pohnpei; and Interim President Karen Simion (*ex officio member*)

**Resources:** Vice President for Administrative Services Joseph Habuchmai; Vice President for Enrollment Management and Student Services Joey Oducado; Vice President for Institutional Effectiveness and Quality Assurance Caroline Kocel; Vice President for Instructional Affairs Karen Simion; Dean of Chuuk Campus Kind Kanto; Dean of Kosrae Campus Nena Mike; Dean of Career and Technical Education Center Grilly Jack; Dean of Yap Campus Lourdes Roboman; Acting Dean of FSM FMI Tioti Teburea; Director of Cooperative Research and Extension Steven Young-Uhk; Comptroller Roselle Togonon; and Director of IT Shaun Suliol

**1. CALL TO ORDER – 2:02 PM**

Chairman Waguk called the meeting to order and requested a moment of silence.

**2. READING OF MISSION STATEMENT**

Everyone recited the mission statement.

**3. ROLL CALL**

Roll was called with Regents Waguk, Berdon, Mingii, Salalu, and Gallen present. A quorum was declared.

**4. REVIEW OF AGENDA**

Salalu/Gallen

*Moved to accept the agenda as presented.*

CARRIED

**5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – June 20, 2020, July 30, 2020, August 6, 2020**

Berdon/Salalu

*Moved to adopt of the minutes of the June 20, 2020, July 30, 2020, and August 6, 2020, meetings as presented.*

CARRIED

**6. COMMUNICATIONS**

a. Letter to President Panuelo informing of approaching expiration of Regent Mingii's term.

**7. REGENTS' REPORTS**

a. **Regent Mingii** expressed her appreciation the Pohnpei still covid-free and for IP Simion and rest of college keeping the college safe, and encouraged all to continue the work in spite of the challenges.

b. **Regent Gallen** expressed hope that things may change with availability of the vaccine

and thanked IP Simion and the staff for navigating the college during this challenging time and following guidelines per public advisory. She will be leaving her position of chief of staff at the governor's office but will continue to help the college. Her report on the presidential search will be given later in the meeting.

- c. **Regent Salalu** thanked the college for the good work in following guidelines and IP Simion and everyone for keeping the college running.
- d. **Regent Berdon** echoed VC Salalu's sentiments and stressed pushing for Chuuk campus.
- e. **Regent Waguk** reported on Kosrae state's preparation effort in case of covid-19, school starting, manpower shortage; and thanked the college for helping students –satellite dish working well.

## 8. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- a. **Interim President** Simion reported that the college is still operating at level 4. The only change is all employees are back at work at their duty station 40 hours per week except for faculty; some are doing on-line classes and only a few doing face-to-face classes. Face masks are mandatory on campus. The college received \$1.8 million from the Cares Act and another \$14,400 grant for minority serving students. College moving to on-line instruction; ACCJC requirement to be discussed later in the meeting. Preparation for the next self-study due in 2022 is underway.
- b. **VPAS Habuchmai** reported on progress of FY 2022 budget development; updates on infrastructure developments projects (national campus student services building and CTEC vocational building out for bid; request for design of Chuuk Campus; national campus teaching clinic; CTEC parking lot and hospitality & tourism management building renovation; Kosrae campus roofing projects; and CTEC generator house); human resources statistics; and supplemental funding request. The comptroller presented the financial status report: waiting on status of FY 2021 budget; FY 2020 expenditures 7% lower than previous year; equity good, able to cover expenditures to end of fiscal year; endowment decreased by 8% and cash reserves by 4% due to worldwide market loss.
- c. **VPIEQA Kocel** reported on results from CCSSE indicating college meeting three of five benchmarks; on-line summit; on-line learning demands; and on-line helpdesk.
- d. **VPIA Simion** highlighted receipt of a \$170,956 National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFS) grant which establishes an Agriculture Corps, similar to Teacher Corps; and how the current situation is bringing the campuses closer and doing things together.

**Kosrae Campus** Dean Mike expressed gratitude for connectivity to Kacific Broadband Satellite at Kosrae campus and for the support toward student success.

**CTEC** Dean Jack reported in line with licensure of students, an MOU with PacTVET-SPC was signed to modify several electronic courses to qualify for four levels of EC PacTVFT certification and provide for needed tools to complete the courses.

**Chuuk Campus** Dean Kanto reported six students in first cohort in BS in elementary education student teaching and scheduled to graduate in December; attended award ceremony at Chuuk state education – best teachers are our graduates.

**Yap Campus** Dean Roboman reported on-line instruction has brought campuses closer;

many challenges but moving forward.

FSM-FMI Acting Dean Teburea reported on shipboard and shore training schedules; meeting with JICA on class 4 master/engineer programs; and remote training on leadership academy conducted by director of student life.

**CRE** Director Young-Uhk reported AES researchers continue to conduct their research projects as indicated in the written report; CES increase in home gardening and in value-added products development projects; and MOU with Pohnpei State Government renewed for next five years for CTEC CES to continue providing extension services to the communities in Pohnpei.

- e. **VPEMSS** Oducado highlighted the drive-thru commencement ceremony to honor national and CTEC graduates of 2020 spring and summer sessuibs; summer enrollment statistics; virtual fall 2020 orientation; fall 2020 enrollment statistics and fall 2020 potential program completers; and 100% eligible students awarded Pell.

## 9. OLD BUSINESS

- a. **Presidential Search.** Regent Gallen, chair of the search committee, reported the work of the search committee is done. A shortlist of six candidates was submitted to the board steering committee: their report will be discussed in executive committee.

## 10. NEW BUSINESS

- a. **Proposed Substantive Change.** The U.S. Department of Education waiver to allow on-line teaching was to expire December 2020. For us to continue offering on-line classes after that we would need to submit a substantive change proposal to the accrediting commission. The college has begun work on the proposal and although the waiver has been extended to the end of spring term, an endorsement from the board for the administration to pursue distance learning would strengthen the proposal.

**SG/JS**

*Moved to endorse the college moving forward in submitting a substantive change proposal to the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior College to offer on-line courses.*

CARRIED

- b. **Board FY 2020 Budget.** At the end of each fiscal year, the board decides what to do with the balance in their budget. In previous years, the endowment fund benefited. The board asked the administration if there was any urgent matter. The upcoming accreditation review and IT enhancement were raised.

Mingii/Gallen

*Moved to approve use of the balance in the board's FY 2020 budget by the administration to prepare for the upcoming accreditation review.*

CARRIED

## 11. NEXT MEETING

The next board meeting is tentatively scheduled for the first week in December

## 12. ADJOURNMENT – September 24, 2020

After words of appreciation for the successful meeting, the meeting adjourned at 4:02 PM.