CALL TO ORDER
Vice-Chair David Bridgham called the session to order at 5:34 p.m.

RECESS INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION
The Board recessed into Executive Session under ORS 192.660 (2) from 5:34 to 5:47 p.m.:
• (d) Labor Negotiations – Updates on arbitrations and grievances.
• (e) Property – Updates on properties, including potential property agreements.
• (i) Personnel – Updates on personnel issues- Written reports containing confidential personnel issues will be provided to the Board, but not included in the public packet.

RECONVENE
Vice-Chair Bridgham reconvened the open session at 6:00 p.m.

AGENDA CHANGES
None presented.

INTRODUCTIONS
NEW EMPLOYEES, Exhibit # 5 A
The following new employees were introduced to the Board:
• Jemiah Wassman, CASE Grant Coach
• Lynne Whitley, OCCI Recruiting, Advising and Retention Specialist (not in attendance)
• Honora Remak, Upward Bound Specialist

PRESENTATIONS
OCCA
Andrea Henderson, Executive Director of OCCA, addressed the Board. She reported on the budget, capital construction, changes in the statewide structure of post-secondary education, and the efforts of the colleges to revamp the community college funding formula.

Budget – The Governor placed $428 million in his budget for community colleges, as did the Co-Chairs. Efforts are underway to lobby for additional funding. The $428 proposed means tuition increases, layoffs and budget cuts for the majority of the community colleges. Funding has to be for all of education if we are serious about 40-40-20 goal by 2025. A minimum of $510 million is actually needed to meet this goal. The final budget number isn’t expected until mid-June. OCCA is pushing for $510 million.
Capital Construction – OCCA is pushing for all 16 projects to be funded - not just the ones included in the Governor’s budget.

Post-Secondary Structure – Discussions have been occurring statewide on restructuring of how post-secondary decisions are made. There is a general expectation that there will be institutional boards for some universities. She explained that the Higher Education Coordinating Commission’s (HECC) role is to oversee the coordination of the universities. Part of the conversation has been the proposal to move the coordination for community colleges to the HECC. She expects that the movement of community colleges over to the HECC will occur this legislative session. She’s currently writing a statute in a way that works for community colleges. What we have now works for community colleges – it’s very collaborative. Community colleges share the same mission and purpose. She wants to ensure that as these changes are made at the state level, that partnerships and collaboration continue. OCCA is reserving the right to reject the statute if the language doesn’t work for community colleges in the future.

Bridgham shared that the boards want to preserve as much local control as possible. Henderson stated that she was working hard to make sure that local governance is protected. She announced that CCWD Commissioner Cam Preus took a position as President at Blue Mountain Community College.

Funding Model – The current model is based on FTE. The proposed model is tied to student success and completion.

FINANCIAL AID
Avena Singh, Financial Aid Director, reported that they were caught up and can now award (process) financial aid requests when received. She added that the number of FASFA’s had increased by 300 over the prior year. Due to the new rules and the sequestration, they started processing the 13-14 academic year a little later than last year. The PELL grant amount has increased by $90. She noted that the new PowerFAides software was working well.

Singh announced that the College’s default rate had dropped. In the fall, she reported that we were at 30.7. They prepared the required plan of action and contracted with a company that calls students. As a result, our default rate decreased to 21.1.

Discussion occurred on PELL Grants and the changes that go into effect on July 1. Students will not be eligible for a PELL grant their third year. Therefore, it is extremely important that they are advised accordingly. It’s recommended that students not use their PELL grant to obtain two associate’s degrees if their goal is to get a bachelor’s.

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION
Laurie Potts, Family Center Director, conducted a short PPT presentation on the Southwestern Community Partnership Family Center and Childhood Education & Family Studies Program. She mentioned that there were four articulated transfer options for students wishing to pursue higher degrees in this field; two with Eastern Oregon University, one with Portland State, and one with Southern Oregon. All of the Center’s certificate programs roll into the AAS in Childhood Education and Family Studies.

In addition to these educational offerings and numerous activities for students, the Center offers parenting education and other support to nurture and strengthen families.

BOARD REPORTS/INFORMATION

IMPORTANT DATES
The Board reviewed numerous upcoming events.
BOARD OPERATIONS

OCCA Report
None made.

COLLEGE REPORTS

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

Budget - President Scott shared that she disseminated a plea to the staff to contact legislators about the budget and reiterated that need from all staff as well as the Board. The community college budget is scheduled to be on the docket in Salem on April 1-4 (830-10 am), with public comments (three minutes) taken on April 4 (830-10 am). She stressed the importance of filling the gallery.

Funding at $510 million for community colleges is what’s needed to make progress on 40-40-20. To be in line with the increases that K-12 received, $453 million is needed. It was noted that all levels of 40-40-20 are impacted by community colleges. Community colleges help high school students stay in school and graduate or get their GED, help community college students get their two year degrees or certificates, and help other students transfer on for advanced degrees. She reiterated that, at the proposed $428 million for community colleges, the College was struggling to balance the budget without impacting positions.

VP of Instruction – Three candidates will be on campus on April 11, 12 and 15.

Achievement Compact – It has to be tied to the budget that the Board will review in June. At the state level, they are moving toward a regional compact. The theory is to take the information and set seamless goals to progress as a district.

PERS Bills – It was noted that there were a number of PERS bills that are troublesome to many.

Capital Construction – Funding will probably happen at the end of the session so we will testify at a later date. SWOCC’s project is for a new Health and Science building.

FINANCIAL REPORTS, Exhibits # 8 B 1 - 5
Copies of the financial reports were included in the meeting materials. Business Manager Ron Olson briefed the Board on the reports.

CONSENT AGENDA

CONSENT AGENDA, Exhibit # 9 A
Copies of the item were included in the meeting materials.

M03/13-1
Susan Anderson’s motion to approve the Consent Agenda, as presented, was seconded by Julie Kremers. Upon call for the vote, the MOTION PASSED unanimously.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of Southwestern Oregon Community College District approved the meeting minutes dated February 25, 2013, Exhibit # 9 A.

OLD BUSINESS
None was presented.

PUBLIC COMMENT
None heard.

NEW BUSINESS

CCWD GRANT FOR MOBILE WELDING LAB, EXHIBIT # 12 A
Copies of the resolution were included in the meeting materials.

M03/13-2
Rick Howell’s motion to accept a grant in the amount of $75,000 from the Department of Community College and Workforce Development for the Mobile Welding Lab, in accordance with Administrative Policy #3.006, External Funding, Grants and Contracts and authorize the adjustments to the Special Fund budget was seconded by Susan Anderson. Upon call for the vote, the MOTION PASSED unanimously.
NURTURING CENTER, EXHIBIT # 12 B
Copies of the resolution were included in the meeting materials.

M03/13-3
Susan Anderson’s motion to **approve Contract # 141332 from the Department of Human Services to develop and operate the Nurturing Center on the Coos SWOCC campus, in the Family Center building** was seconded by Rick Howell. Upon call for the vote, the **MOTION PASSED** unanimously.

HEALTH START HEALTHY FAMILIES, EXHIBIT # 12 C
Copies of the resolution were included in the meeting materials.

M03/13-4
Susan Anderson’s motion to **approve the Letter of Agreement between the Coos County Commission on Children & Families and Southwestern Oregon Community College** was seconded by Julie Kremers. Upon call for the vote, the **MOTION PASSED** unanimously.

FEES, EXHIBIT # 12 D
Copies of the resolution were included in the meeting materials.

M03/13-5
Rick Howell’s motion to **approve changes in the Fee Schedule, as presented, for the 2013-2014 academic year, effective summer term 2013** was seconded by David Bridgham. Discussion occurred on the actual costs of the tests that the College administers. Concern was expressed over the increase in costs. Chair Howell shared that in his discussion with legislators he learned that community colleges didn’t receive the same increase in funding as K-12 because community colleges have the ability to raise their fees whereas K-12 do not.

Dean of Students Tim Dailey indicated that in many cases the College had been losing money when administering tests the College purchases as they weren’t charging enough to even cover the cost of the test. He shared that their hope was that individuals testing would have a greater testing strategy due to the costs and take them more seriously. Julie Kremers expressed frustration with the lack of test costs being incorporated into the resolution. Discussion occurred on timing due to the budget process.

A friendly amendment was made to **pull out fees associated with testing and to act solely on the proposed per credit incidental fee, per course registration fee, distance education per course surcharge, EMT – Basic fee per course, and Paramedic fee per course increases**.

Upon call for the vote, the **MOTION PASSED** unanimously.

The proposed increases in fees associated with testing will return to the Board in April and will include the actual costs of the tests purchased by the College.

TUITION, EXHIBIT # 12 E
Copies of the resolution were included in the meeting materials.

M03/13-6
Rick Howell’s motion to **approve an increase in the Tuition Per Credit Rate from $82 to $85 per credit, effective summer term 2013** was seconded by David Bridgham. Upon call for the vote, the **MOTION FAILED**, with Howell, Bridgham and May-Lopez in favor; Kremers and Anderson opposed.

Vice-Chair Bridgham inquired as to the impact on the current budget process. President Scott indicated that the process would include the determination of what positions could be cut/eliminated. Bridgham reiterated for the record that he, Howell, and May-Lopez were in favor of the increase and Kremers and Anderson were opposed.

EX-OFFICIO REPORTS
Copies of the written reports were included in the meeting materials or distributed at the meeting.
Susan Anderson applauded the Senate for their efforts to raise the reading score to that which is required at the high school as it helps with students’ progression.

Executive Director Karen Pringle reported that Bill Lansing resigned and that officer elections would be held in June. The Foundation received a $100,000 donation from First Presbyterian Church in Coos Bay. The College’s Website now includes information on the Foundation’s new Superhero Scholarship Campaign. She added that the Coquille Tribe, Peter Hansen, and Brenda Brecke had become Superhero donors recently.

UNIT REPORTS
Copies of the written reports were included in the meeting materials.

TUITION CONT’D
(See Exhibit 12 E)
Julie Kremers commented on fees and tuition. She stated that she felt it was ‘inappropriate and appalling’ that the first thing stated when the motion failed was about staff layoffs without even looking for other options.

President Scott responded by explaining that work on the budget had been occurring since January and all options were being considered. Work is being done to eliminate all expenses possible, including reducing expenses by eliminating vacant positions and cutting supplies, travel, and other non-fixed expenses. Revenues need to be raised in order to save positions and keep the workforce whole. However, a $200,000 gap remains.

Susan Anderson asked about the impact to the College if the legislature were to raise the budget to $453. President Scott explained that SWOCC receives just under 3% of the funding that goes to community colleges, which translates to approximately a $400,000 increase to SWOCC over the proposed $428 million.

M03/13-7
Susan Anderson’s motion to approve an increase in the Tuition Per Credit Rate from $82 to $85 per credit if funding comes in at $428 million; if at $440 million or higher, it would remain the same ($82), effective summer term 2013 was seconded by Rick Howell. Upon call for the vote, the MOTION PASSED unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE
None was included.

ADJOURNMENT
Vice-Chair Bridgham adjourned the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David Bridgham, Board Vice-Chair
Patty Scott, Clerk

Deb Nicholls, Recording Secretary