

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE  
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
140 WEST PINE STREET  
MISSOULA MONTANA  
APRIL 25, 2012, 3:05 PM**

**Members present:** Marilyn Marler, President; Bob Jaffe, Vice President; Ed Childers, Caitlin Copple, Dick Haines, Adam Hertz, Mike O'Herron, Alex Taft, Jon Wilkins, Cynthia Wolken, Jason Wiener

**Members absent:** Dave Strohmaier

**Others present:** Barry Good

**I. Administrative Business**

Approve minutes dated the following:

- [February 15, 2012](#) Joint with BCC meeting
- [February 15, 2012](#)
- [March 5, 2012](#)
- [March 7, 2012 AM](#)
- [March 7, 2012 PM](#)
- [March 14, 2012](#)
- [March 21, 2012 Joint with BCC meeting](#)
- [April 9, 2012](#)

The minutes were approved unanimously.

**II. Public Comment on items not listed on the agenda**

None

**III. Regular Agenda**

1. Invite Dr. Barry Good, Dean of the UM College of Technology to update the committee on current plans and programs of the COT. (Memo) – Regular Agenda (Mike O'Herron) (Referred to Committee: 02/13/12) (REMOVE FROM AGENDA)

Mr. O'Herron introduced Dr. Barry Good, Dean of the UM College of Technology (COT) and noted Mr. Good will inform the committee with changes the school system is planning. Mr. Good has been the COT Dean for five years and briefly mentioned his background.

Mr. Good said the U.S. is currently ranking 4<sup>th</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup> place in the world for higher education and that is not acceptable and the school systems are changing. Two year colleges are beginning to receive attention and research reports half of the students who are seeking a higher education are attending two year colleges. Unfortunately Montana is low on the list and shows only 25% of students are attending two year colleges.

Montana's two year colleges are affordable, accessible, and offer high quality schooling, but they are not being utilized and they seem to be misunderstood. The research reports only eighteen percent of the students who earn a two degree continue higher education.

The COT is based on five areas which include the Department of Applied Arts & Sciences, Applied Computer & Electronics, Business Technologies, Industrial Technologies and the health professions. Attendance is growing in Missoula and in 2005 the COT schooled 1200 students and attendance has steadily increased to 2803 in 2011.

The COT building was designed for 700 to 800 students, so the school is currently crowded. He noted there is not a science wet lab available and they are leasing space at the MonTec building until other arrangements can be made.

The COT offers AAS degrees and certificates of Applied Science which are career oriented fields. They offer an Associate of Arts degree which is not career oriented but transfers to a four year college, and he noted they are becoming more popular. The COT does not offer an Associates of Science degree at this time, but it is being discussed and considered for the future.

The COT is striving to eliminate the public's assumption that the school is a Vocational Technical Center (Vo-Tech) with low quality programs and facility. The COT is part of the University system with excellent programs and staff. He noted a Vo-Tech offers courses that do not allow credits to transfer to a four year college.

Montana has five COT facilities throughout the state and they are located in Missoula, Butte, Billings, Helena and Great Falls. The Board of Regents discussed and agrees the COTs will eventually offer the full community college opportunities. Currently the COT offers some transferable courses and they are striving to add more. They will be offering the same transferable 100 & 200 course levels as the main campus.

In the fall, the COT will be offering Anthropology and Biology and each year additional courses will be offered. They are considering Engineering Technology, Bio-technology & technicians, and Flash f Nano courses are a few that are being addressed. They are also taking into consideration to offer on-line, evenings & weekend studies.

Mr. Good noted the College of Technology will be renamed in the near future to eliminate the idea that they are vocational schools.

The committee discussed the two and four year colleges and made comments.

**IV. Held in committee**

1. Updates from Council representatives on the Health Board, Community Forum, Transportation Policy Coordinating Committee, other boards and commissions as necessary. – (Ongoing in Committee)
2. Joint meeting of the Mayor, City Council and County Commission; a facilitated quarterly OPG review as directed in the [Interlocal Agreement](#)—Ongoing (Mayor Engen)
3. Examination of Office Planning and Grants ([memo](#))—Regular Agenda (Lyn Hellegaard) (Referred to committee: 09/08/08)
4. Discuss OPG reorganization proposal with Department Heads. ([memo](#))—Regular Agenda (Marilyn Marler) (Referred to committee: 02/06/12)
5. Propose the City Council be a member unit of the Missoula Chamber of Commerce. ([memo](#))—Regular Agenda (Dick Haines) (Referred to committee: 03/26/12)

**V. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 1:00 pm

Respectfully submitted,

*Kelly Elam*

Kelly Elam  
City Clerk Office