

Trustees narrow down list

Allan Hopeful to be One of Final Five Candidates to Replace O'Hearn

July 2, 2013

BY JOSE QUINTERO

STAFF WRITER

VICTORVILLE — The Victor Valley College Board of Trustees held a special meeting Monday to narrow down the list of candidates for the college's interim president/superintendent.

After a lengthy closed-session meeting, the trustees reported their list of candidates was cut to five after reviewing 11 applicants.

Peter Allan, acting president/superintendent of the college, previously said he would apply for the position. Board President Lorrie Denson said she was unable to say if Allan was among the remaining applicants.

Allan said he feels he meets all the requirements of the position and believes those requirements should be the driving force behind who gets the job.

Allan has been working with faculty and staff to meet nine recommendation standards set forth by the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges over the past two years. He said nobody is more familiar with the college's accreditation issues than him.

Monday would have marked the first day of retirement for Allan, but he decided to come back on a short-term contract and apply for the interim president/superintendent position.

"I love this college, my heart and soul is in this college," Allan said. "I'm here to help the college get to where it should be...I wouldn't even be here today if I felt like I couldn't do that. I would be at home playing golf. That's why I applied for the position, not for me, but because I think this college needs somebody who has the consistency of being here over 20 years."

Denson felt there was progress made toward naming the interim president/superintendent during the meeting. Denson was glad the board had the meeting and is looking forward to "good things."

Denson said that during next week's board meeting, the board will discuss the next steps toward setting up interviews with the five candidates.

The replacement of former trustee Michael Krause also will be discussed during closed session at the board meeting, Denson said.

Trustee Joseph W. Brady hopes the selection of the interim will be made soon.

"I think the board recognizes the urgency for having continuity in our leadership," Brady said after the meeting. "It was unfortunate that trustee (Dennis) Henderson couldn't be here, but I think the three of us understand that it's real important to make a decision as soon as possible. And most importantly that there's some continuity here at the college about leadership. We need strong leadership, that's one thing we all agree on." Henderson was not able to attend the meeting due to car issues.

Jose Quintero can be reached at 760-951-6232 or [JQuintero@ VVDailyPress.com](mailto:JQuintero@VVDailyPress.com) .



Peter Allan