BMCC cuts administrator position

By JADE MCDOWELL STAFF WRITER

Blue Mountain Community College has eliminated the position of vice president of college relations as the college continues to work to balance its budget.

The position was held by Casey White-Zollman, who confirmed her last day is July 9, said the move had come as a surprise to her when she was notified on June 12.



Fougnier she said.

BMCC President Dennis Bailey-Fougnier said the decision to eliminate one of the college's administrative positions was made to help fill the col-

"I'm dis-

appointed,

because I

love BMCC

and I will

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lege's budget shortfall that preceded the pandemic. The college announced in April it needed to cut \$2.8 million, and Bailey-Fougnier said the cut "puts us right at \$2.7 million."

BMCC had previously announced on May 27 that it was eliminating 23 positions from its 2020-21 budget, including 11 layoffs and 12 vacant positions that would not be Bailey-Fougnier filled. said the vice president decision came later because he wanted to discuss it with members of BMCC's board.

Many of White-Zollman's previous duties, including public relations and supervising positions overseeing marketing and the college's foundation, will move to Bailey-Fougnier.

He said the college will now "take a pause" on more cuts while they wait to receive word from the state on what legislative funding for community colleges will look like next year. They also won't have a good idea of enrollment numbers until after August.

Colleges and universities received guidance from the state on June 12 for how they will need to conduct in-person classes in the fall. The rules are similar to what the state had already given K-12 administrators, including spacing students 6 feet apart, with no more than

25 people to a room for Phase 1 counties and 50 people during Phase 2.

Bailey-Fougnier said now that the college has that guidance, administrators will be putting together plans to reopen some things on campus. He said the biggest challenge will be figuring out how to safely provide career technical education classes.

"It's easier to have a sociology class remotely than welding," he said.



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New Office Hours

Our office hours have changed to allow our staff flexibility to meet with our members in their place of business.

Monday 9:00am - 3:00pm Tuesday 9:30am - 3:00pm Wednesday 9:00am - 3:00pm Thursday 9:00am - 3:00pm 9:00am - 3:00pm Friday

> We can also be reached at 541-567-6151

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BUSINESS RESOURCE CENTER

UEC Business Resource Center Pairs with Hermiston Chamber for Membership Visits

The Umatilla Electric Cooperative Business Resource Center and the Hermiston Chamber of Commerce have paired together to visit local businesses. Emily Cecil of the UEC BRC joined Kim Nevil, Director of the Chamber as she visited members of the Chamber this week.

The UEC Business Resource Center offers a variety of services to businesses in the area including:

Free and confidential business counseling

We offer free and confidential one-on-one advising appointments for all UEC members! At these appointments, we offer advice on starting a new business, expanding an existing business, marketing for an existing business, and so much more.

Money for your business

The Umatilla Electric Cooperative Revolving Loan Fund is a flexible loan that has a fixed interest rate of 3.25%. If you would like to schedule a one-on-one meeting with our Executive Advisor, email uecrlf@gmail.com or give us a call at 541-289-3000.

Every Thursday on the UEC BRC Facebook page (@uecbrc), we post a Small Business Highlight, where we promote a business in the UEC service area. If you would like your business to be the next SBH, please fill out the Small Business Highlight request form.

Please email Kim or call the Chamber office to schedule a meeting with Emily and Kim to drop by your office! For more information about the UEC Business Resource Center, contact Emily at UECBRC@gmail.com

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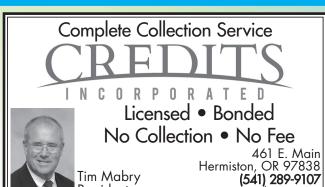












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