STATE BOARD FOR COMMUNITY COLLEGES AND OCCUPATIONAL EDUCATION

June 14, 2023

TOPIC: Otero College Spending Authority Request for Construction Program Simulators

PRESENTED BY: Tim Alvarez, President

RELATIONSHIP TO THE STRATEGIC PLAN:

Enhance the student experience by developing the student, both academically and personally, is at the heart of Otero's mission. Each student that enrolls at Otero has access to state-of-the-art technology and facilities, all designed with the student experience at the forefront.

EXPLANATION:

Otero College is requesting spending authority and permission to enter into contracts for seated simulators including software along with annual maintenance and support to provide hands on training of heavy equipment operation for students in the Construction Program. The college will be using federals funds provided by HB 21-1264 SLFRF. This program's success is a top priority for Otero College and the community it serves. As a result, Otero is requesting approval for spending authority of $555,174 to allow the college to purchase the necessary simulators, software, hardware, and support to deliver sufficient hands-on instruction on various heavy equipment operations. Below is a brief summary of each and its funding source breakdown.

3-Display Operator Station with motion including steering wheels, grader joysticks, dozer joysticks, and instructor station hardware: $346,244

Otero selected the vendor after an invitation for bid process. The vendor submitted their sealed bid before the April 24, 2023 deadline, which included the requested specifications along with graphics of their simulators. Further, the vendor was able to show their operator station, hardware, and software will provide the real-life effects of using heavy equipment including excavator, wheel loader, backhoe and articulated dump truck necessary for the successful completion of a construction program.

Earth moving training pack, Instructor Station (centralized database), Instructor Station Software, Dozer Software, & Motor Grader Software: $91,445

In order to simulate real-life effects, the operator station requires software to display situations that can occur on a job site for each heavy-duty construction equipment. To monitor these situations, an instructor station that houses the outcomes of various scenarios for grading, training, and learning is also necessary. The same selected vendor was able to provide the requested database to ensure effective monitoring of the student learning experience.

Annual Maintenance & Support: $117,485

Due to the advanced hardware and software of these simulators, annual maintenance and support will be necessary to continue effective instruction. A 3-year package includes: unlimited tech support, hardware warranty, software updates and hardware replacement included at the end of year 3. There will also be onsite installation and training provided.

The highlighted portion of the table below provides a summary of the projected costs and fund source of the project:

Otero College		
HB 21-1264-SLFRF Funds		
Workforce Development Increase Worker Skills- CFDA21027		
Otero College is permitted to use the HB21-1264 funds not to exceed $1,522,920		
	Amount Allowed	**Amount Requested**
Building, Addition/Renovation, and/or Purchase of Land (28,000 sq.ft.)	$ 725,635.00	
Simulation Equipment	$ 582,285.00	$ 555,174.00
Furnishing, Lockers	$ 15,000.00	
Full-Time Faculty/Adjunct Instructors, Student Hourly/Workstudy	$ 200,000.00	
Total	**$ 1,522,920.00**	**$ 555,174.00**

RECOMMENDATION:

Provided all Board and State processes are followed, and requirements met, staff recommends that the Board approve the seated simulators, software, hardware, and annual maintenance and support as outlined above with a do not exceed total amount of $555,174 and delegate signature authority on related documents to the System Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration.