

May 19-20, 2016

INFORMATION ITEM

Reconcile Property Ownership with Butte Silver Bow County – Montana Tech of the University of Montana

THAT

In accordance with Board of regents Policy 1003.7, the Board of Regents of the Montana University System acknowledges this informational item and understands Montana Tech of the University of Montana will be seeking approval at a later date.

Montana Tech seeks to correct public records regarding land ownership on and near the campus in accordance with use and county needs.

EXPLANATION

Montana Tech has within and on the edges of the campus property lines that are inconsistent with the current use by Montana Tech. Specifically, there is land within the interior of the campus, along the edges of the campus boundary, or adjacent to the campus that is either is currently being used by Montana Tech or is sought by Butte Silver Bow (BSB) County. For example, along the southern edge of campus is a walking/bike route that is owned by the city. However, due to the way in which mining claims or subdivision lines, portions of the property owned by BSB is currently being used by Montana Tech for such things as parking lots or roads. Further, a number of old streets or alleys within the interior of the campus are still indicated on tax records or county plats as BSB county land. Montana Tech also owns land north of campus that BSB would like to use as open space for the community. The land owned by Montana Tech is not buildable and is essentially already used for open space (near the Big M). A map is provided as an attachment showing the ownership inconsistencies and proposed land swap concepts. Montana Tech is currently in the process of developing legal property descriptions with the intention to ask for BOR approval to enter into a land swap agreement. The land swap would include no structures. The land swap as we propose would also include BSB vacating small portions of streets and alleys within the interior of the campus. The agreement would need to be approved by both the Board of Regents and the Butte Silver Bow Commissioners. The swap is needed for several reasons, including liability issues both for Tech and BSB and for potential future land uses for the Tech campus.

This information item is provided in order to get BOR feedback on the proposed land swap as we are proceeding with developing the detail and legal descriptions and documents for the project. We would expect to come back to the BOR at the September meeting for consideration. Between this meeting and the September meeting Montana Tech would present the plan to the BSB Commissioners.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment #1 – Map