

Minutes
WVSU Classified Staff Council
June 10, 2009

Call to Order:

A meeting of the West Virginia State University Classified Staff Council was held on June 10, 2009 in the Library Conference Room. The meeting was called to order at 10:33 AM. Members present were Selika Henderson, Mary Wickiser, Roger Burdette, Stephen Carpenter, Brenda Camp, Janis Bennett, Lynn Davis, Bill Porterfield, Millie Booker, and Sherri Cox. Guests present included Robert Parker and Lawrence Smith.

Approval of Agenda:

Mrs. Booker asked for approval of the agenda. Mrs. Booker suggested that the agenda be changed to accommodate Mr. Parker, who would be speaking after the Treasurer Report. The motion was made by Mrs. Janis Bennett and seconded by Ms. Brenda Camp. All members approved the change as requested.

Approval of Minutes: Mrs. Booker asked for the minutes to be approved. Mrs. Bennett asked that acronym for Board of Governors (bog) in the second paragraph under the ACCE Report to be changed to uppercase. Mr. Carpenter asked that his name be changed in the first paragraph of the minutes to reflect the proper spelling of his name with a ðphö (Stephen). All staff members were in favor and approved the Minutes with changes.

Treasurer's Report: Classified staff started the year with \$1400. Past expenditures totaled \$105 and current expenditures are \$1149, which leaves a balance of \$146. Current expenses are being used to pay for Mrs. Booker and Mrs. Blankenbuehler to attend the Leadership Conference. The R&D account has a balance of \$367.16 with no current activity.

Guest Speaker: Mr. Bob Parker spoke to Classified Staff concerning the financial position of WVSU. Mr. Parker distributed a memo from the Chancellor's Office that provides an overview of the Fiscal Year 2010 budget bill signed by Governor Manchin on June 5, 2009. As Mr. Parker pointed out, the Operating Budget contains approximately 7.3 million in reductions, including a 3.19% cut for WVSU and a 3.23% cut for WVSU Land Grant.

Mr. Parker expressed concerns that under the final budget, ðOther Post Employee Benefitsö received no funding. Janis Bennett asked what this funding was used for. Mr. Parker gave an example of an employee who leaves WVSU and uses their sick leave to pay for insurance premiums. He stated that this has been left unfunded and is now a huge liability for WVSU. Mr. Porterfield asked if Mr. Parker if he knew if Senate Bill 63 had passed. Mr. Parker said he thought so but was unsure. Mrs. Booker asked Mr. Parker what the University was doing to make up for the budget cuts. Mr. Parker mentioned that the stimulus money would help for now, but this money would only be given for a short time. No stimulus money will be offered in 2012, but the 2011 money should restore the University to base level.

Mrs. Booker asked if the University now has a balanced budget as previously projected for June. Mr. Parker spoke about CTC looking into changing the charge-back system to a fee-for-service contract, which would change the way students pay tuition. This could lead to more students being classified as transient students. Mr. Parker stated that this change along with the tuition increase would help with revenue. Mrs. Booker asked what types of reductions we face and the discussion moved onto the high cost of personnel. Mr. Parker stated that we are currently on a hiring freeze with all new positions implemented only on the approval of Mr. Carter and the Chancellor. Vacant positions would only be refilled with justification. Mrs. Lynn Davis asked if any one department would be targeted for staff reduction. Mr. Parker stated that it was at the discretion of the VPs to decide the budget for their departments and look at personnel and revenue enhancers within.

Mr. Porterfield asked if there were going to be any salary increases. Mr. Parker and Lawrence Smith agreed that there will be no increases. Mr. Porterfield asked if enrollment were to increase would salary increases be likely. Mr. Parker stated that the first objective would be to increase the endowment and that money would not be spent as soon as it is received. Mr. Parker stated that future salary increases would depend upon enrollment management and decreased spending. He mentioned the new initiatives set forth to assist with enrollment efforts. Ms. Camp asked if Classified Staff would be receiving annual salary increments and was told by Mr. Parker that we would.

ACCE Report: Mr. Bill Porterfield mentioned the upcoming leadership conference that Mrs. Booker and Mrs. Blankenbuehler would be attending. Also, Mr. Porterfield stressed the importance of employees coming together to attend PIAs meeting on June 29. PIA is stating that starting in 2010 they will not be able to provide insurance coverage for new hires. They are also planning to increase current policy rates. Mr. Porterfield also mentioned that he would continue to find out the outcome of Senate Bill 63, which was proposed to provide extra money for the budget.

Old Business: No old business to report.

New Business:

No new business to report.

Adjournment: Mr. Porterfield motioned to adjourn and Mrs. Brenda Camp seconded the motion. Meeting was adjourned at 11:36 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sherri L. Cox