

Meeting Minutes
West Virginia State University Board of Governors
Full Board
134/135 James C. Wilson University Union
June 17, 2021
2:00 p.m.

I. Call to Order

Mr. Jones called the meeting to order at 2:01 p.m.

II. Roll Call

The clerk called the roll. Members present were Mr. Buchanan, Mr. Flores, Mr. Jones, Mr. Kelley, Mr. Payne, Mrs. Pitchford, Dr. Smith, and Dr. Vaughan. Members absent were Mr. Davis, Mr. Gray, Ms. Harper, and Mr. Raines.

III. Verification of Appropriate Notice of Public Meeting

Mr. Jones verified the Appropriate Notice of Public Meeting.

IV. Approval of April 23, 2021 and April 30, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Mrs. Pitchford motioned for approval of the minutes of the April 23, 2021 and April 30, 2021 meetings. Dr. Smith seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

V. Report from the Board Chair

Mr. Jones recognized Mrs Pitchford, who was featured in West Virginia Executive Magazine as a “Sharp Shooter.”

Mr. Jones called for a motion to approve the Board of Governors meeting dates for FY2021-22 as proposed in the meeting materials. The meeting dates are September 23, 2021, November 11, 2021, December 16, 2021, February 10, 2022, April 14, 2022, and June 16, 2022. Mr. Flores moved for approval of the proposed meeting dates. Mr. Buchanan seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Mr. Jones opened the floor for nominations for officers. Dr. Smith nominated Mr. Jones to serve as chair. There being no other nominations, the floor was closed. Dr. Vaughan seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Mr. Jones opened the floor for nominations for vice chair. Dr. Vaughan nominated Mr. Kelley to serve as vice chair. There being no other nominations, the floor was closed. Dr. Smith seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Mr. Jones opened the floor for nominations for secretary. Mr. Buchanan nominated Mr. Flores to serve as secretary. Mr. Flores declined the nomination due to other obligations. Dr. Smith nominated Mrs. Pitchford to serve as secretary. There being no other nominations, the floor was closed. Dr. Vaughan seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Dr. Smith asked for a point of privilege. She said as the longest tenured member on the board, she feels it is important to talk about roles and responsibilities of board members. She encouraged the officers to have that conversation so the board understands the importance of their active role and the impact it has on moving the university forward.

VI. Report from the University President

President Pride stated that the university provides access and opportunity through innovative teaching and interdisciplinary research, and continues to extend its reach throughout the Kanawha Valley, Mountain State and the region through its land-grant mission and initiatives. She welcomed Dr. Ami Smith, Associate Vice President of Public Service and Director of Extension, to provide an overview of how the Economic Development Center carries out the entrepreneurial spirit and access that will assist in driving our vision and mission for the institution.

VII. Reports from Board Committees

Endowment Committee

Mrs. Pitchford reported that she was elected as committee chair. She provided an executive summary on the agenda items that were discussed.

University Affairs Committee

Mr. Jones reported that action items were tabled because a quorum was not present for the committee meeting. He provided an executive summary on the informational items that were discussed.

Although the proposed Minors on Campus policy did not go through committee, Mr. Kelley moved that the policy be brought before the full board as it was listed as an action item on the full board agenda. Mrs. Pitchford seconded the motion, and the motion carried. Dr. Cook presented information on the proposed policy and gave an overview on the purpose. The policy outlines expectations for safeguarding the health and safety of minors who are on campus. The policy also includes rules and guidelines for reporting child abuse. It is mandatory to report and document child abuse to any of the entities listed in the policies. The various categories of minors under 18 are defined in the policy. Background checks are also required for anyone working with minors on campus. This policy would supersede all former policies related to minors. Mrs. Pitchford moved that the board approve the proposed Minors on Campus policy as presented. Mr. Payne seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Advancement and External Affairs Committee

Dr. Smith reported that she was elected as committee chair. She provided an executive summary on the agenda items that were discussed. The committee recommended three proposed policies to the full board.

The proposed Alumni and Donor Privacy informs alumni, donors, and prospective donors of the way their information is used by the university and describes the process for requesting that their information be removed from the Advancement database if they desire to do so. On behalf of the Advancement and External Affairs Committee, Dr. Smith moved for approval of the policy. Mrs. Pitchford seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

The proposed Fundraising Guidelines for University Units, Organizations and Affiliated Entities policy outlines how fundraisers by these units and organizations are to be coordinated with the university and provides guidelines for those wishing to conduct them. On behalf of the Advancement and External Affairs Committee, Dr. Smith moved for approval of the policy. Mrs. Pitchford seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

The proposed Procedure for Requesting a Memorial Resolution, Citation or Tribute policy establishes guidelines for the type of recognition the university provides for alumni and other members of the university community when they die, and the procedures that will be followed to coordinate the university's response to requests for memorial resolutions, citations, and tributes.

On behalf of the Advancement and External Affairs Committee, Dr. Smith moved for approval of the policy. Mr. Flores seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Governance Committee

Mr. Jones reported that Mr. Raines was elected as committee chair, but he was unable to attend the full board meeting. Mr. Jones provided an executive summary on the agenda items that were discussed.

Business Affairs Committee

Dr. Smith reported that action items were tabled because a quorum was not present for the committee meeting. She provided an executive summary on the informational items that were discussed.

Risk Management

Mr. Payne reported that he was elected as committee chair. He provided an executive summary on the items that were discussed.

VIII. Possible Executive Session under the Authority of West Virginia Code §6-9A-4 to Discuss Legal, Personnel, and Property Matters

Mr. Buchanan motioned for approval to go into Executive Session under the authority of West Virginia Code §6-9A-4 to discuss legal, personnel, and property matters. Dr. Smith seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Mrs. Pitchford motioned to arise from the executive session and reconvene into the regular session, and Mr. Payne seconded the motion. The motion carried. Mr. Jones asked for the record to reflect that the board only discussed items related to the topics listed, that no decisions or motions were made in executive session, and no votes were taken.

IX. Adjournment

With there being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


E. Gail Pitchford, Secretary

Approved:


Charles E. Jones, Chair