

MINUTES

Regular Meeting BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Vernon College
February 12, 2020

The Board of Trustees of Vernon College met on Wednesday, February 12, 2020 at 11:30 p.m. in the *Board Room* of the *Osborne Administration Building*, Vernon, Texas with the following present: Dr. Todd Smith, Chairman, Mr. Norman Brints, Vice-Chairman, and Mrs. Vicki Pennington, Secretary. Other board members in attendance were Mr. Bob Ferguson, Mr. Irl Holt, Mrs. Anne Spears and Mrs. Ann Wilson.

Others present were Dr. Dusty R. Johnston, President; Dr. Elizabeth Crandall, Vice President of Instruction; Dr. James Nordone, Vice President of Student Services/Admissions and Financial Aid; Ms. Michelle A. Alexander, Director of Institutional Advancement/Executive Director, Vernon College Foundation; Mrs. Shana Drury, Dean of Instructional Services; Ms. Betsy Harkey, Director of Institutional Effectiveness; Mrs. Kristin Harris, Dean of Student Services/Director of Counseling; Ms. Ivy Qwuarels, ERP/SIS/Cybersecurity Director/Electronic Information Accessibility Coordinator; Mrs. Holly Scheller, Coordinator of Marketing and Community Relations; Ms. Melissa Elliott, Director of Financial Aid; Mrs. Mindi Flynn, Business Office Manager; Mr. Kevin Holland, Director of Campus Police; and Ms. Mary King, Administrative Secretary to the President. Guest present was Mr. Daniel Walker of the *Vernon Daily Record*.

Chairman Smith called the meeting to order at 11:30 a.m.

Consent Agenda

Mrs. Wilson made the motion, seconded by Mr. Holt to approve the Consent Agenda containing the *Minutes of the January 8, 2020 Regular Board Meeting* and the *President's Monthly Travel Expense Report*. The motion carried unanimously.

Action Item A

Mrs. Flynn presented the *Financial and Investment Reports as of January 31, 2020*. Mr. Brints made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Spears, to approve the report as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Action Item B

Mr. Holt made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Pennington to approve the *Independent Auditor to Conduct the Annual Audit for the Year Ending August 31, 2020* presented by Dr. Johnston. The motion carried unanimously.

Action Item C

Mr. Ferguson made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Wilson to approve the *Proposed Room and Board Rates for 2020-2021* as presented by Dr. Johnston. The motion carried unanimously.

Action Item D

Mr. Brints made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Spears to approve the *Proposed Tuition and Fee rates for 2020-2021* as presented by Dr. Johnston. The motion carried unanimously.

Action Item E

Mr. Ferguson made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Pennington to approve the *2020-2021 Academic Calendar* as presented by Dr. Crandall. The motion carried unanimously.

Action Item F

Mr. Holt made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Wilson to approve the *2020-2024 Strategic Plan* as presented by Ms. Harkey. The motion carried unanimously.

Action Item G

Mrs. Spears made the motion, seconded by Mr. Holt made the motion to approve the *TASB UPDATE 37 Local Policies* as presented by Dr. Johnston. The motion carried unanimously.

Action Item H

Mrs. Pennington made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Wilson to approve the *Tax Resale Deeds* as presented by Dr. Johnston. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment – No one was present to make comments.

President's Report/Board Discussion Items – Dr. Smith stated he wanted to bring to everyone's mind the loss of Mr. Gene Gooch, past Dean of Administrative Services, and that his wife Susan and family were in our thoughts.

VC Foundation meeting update – Dr. Smith reported on the Vernon College Foundation Quarterly Meeting held January 16, 2020. The Foundation reviewed the College Foundation audit and the 990. The Foundation continued the spend rate for the Foundation scholarships at 5%. The Foundation also approved \$25,000 for Catching the Future Dual Credit Scholarships. Also ratified the appointment of Stephen Brantley as a member of the Vernon College Foundation Investment Committee. Mr. Eric Robb presented an overview of our investments. Dr. Johnston presented his report. Michelle Alexander presented the philanthropic report and Vice President Garry David reviewed the financial reports.

Student Success Data Fact Update – Enrollment Update – Dr. Nordone presented the Preliminary Enrollment report as the Student Success Data Fact for February. It shows the comparison for Spring 2019 versus Spring 2020. It includes Spring (16 week) and Spring 1 (8 week). He stated that generally speaking, when we look at our retention and recruiting efforts, we are not down that much. The report shows where we are up and down at each location. The total for all locations is down -1.31%. The contact hours are up. Dual Credit continues to be strong. There are other variables we look at, a nationwide decrease in high school graduates, the strong economy, the inverse relationship between college enrollment and the strong economy. Dr. Nordone stated he was satisfied with the total change based on the other variables.

Athletic Student GPA report – Dr. Johnston presented the Athletic Student GPA report and the good news they are on an upward trend. The goal is for all sports to be over 3.0 and this is the closest they have come in a number of years.

Dr. Johnston presented the Reminder of upcoming events:

- (1) TCCTA Conference – February 28-29, 2020 – Frisco, TX
- (2) Vernon College Foundation Online Auction – March 10-12, 2020
- (3) March Board of Trustees meeting – Wednesday, March 11, 2020
- (4) Spring Break – March 16-20, 2020

Dr. Johnston presented the Philanthropic Report/Outside Grants Report.

Dr. Johnston presented the Minutes from the Faculty Senate meeting of January 13, 2020.

Personnel –

Motion # 1 – Mr. Ferguson made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Spears to approve the Vernon College Personnel Action Item A as recommended by the president. The motion carried unanimously.

A. Employment

1. Robert Fannin, Assistant Baseball Coach/Residence Hall Assistant, effective January 6, 2020 with a salary of \$26,198.80

Motion # 2 – Mrs. Wilson made the motion, seconded by Mr. Ferguson to approve the Vernon College Personnel Action Items B as recommended by the president. The motion carried unanimously.

- B. Consider approval of the extension of the following Vice President and Dean Contracts for one year for a two year contract dated September 1, 2020 - August 31, 2022

Dr. Elizabeth Crandall – Vice-President of Instructional Services

Dr. James Nordone – Vice-President of Student Services

Mr. Garry David – Vice-President of Administrative Services

Ms. Kristin Harris – Dean of Student Services

Ms. Shana Drury – Dean of Instructional Services

Closed Session: Mr. Ferguson made the motion, seconded by Mr. Holt to go into closed session at 12:27 p.m. in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code, Subchapter 551.074, to discuss personnel or other items under this section of the Texas Government Code, Texas Open Meetings Act. The motion carried unanimously.

C. Conduct Evaluation of College President and Consider Extending Contract for one additional year (September 1, 2020-August 31, 2023)


Open Session: Mrs. Wilson made the motion, seconded by Mr. Ferguson, to reconvene at 1:24 p.m. in open session. The motion carried unanimously.

Motion # 3 – Mr. Brints made the motion, seconded by Mr. Holt to approve the president’s contract for Dr. Dusty R. Johnston for one year for a three-year contract dated September 1, 2020 – August 31, 2023. The motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business Mrs. Spears made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Wilson to adjourn the meeting at 1:28 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.



Dr. Todd Smith, Chairman



Mrs. Vicki Pennington, Secretary