

MINUTES

Regular Meeting

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Vernon College

February 15, 2017

The Board of Trustees of Vernon College met on Wednesday, February 15, 2017, at 11:30 a.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, and Mrs. Anne Spears. Absent was Mrs. Joanie Rogers.

Others present were Dr. Dusty R. Johnston, President and Deans Garry David, Dr. Gary Don Harkey, Joe Hite, and Jim Nordone. Also present were Mrs. Betsy Harkey, Director of Institutional Effectiveness; Mr. Kevin Holland, Director of Campus Police; Mrs. Holly Scheller, Coordinator of Marketing and Community Relations; 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

Mr. Ferguson made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Pennington, to approve the Consent Agenda containing the *Minutes of the January 31, 2017 Regular Board Meeting* and the *President's Monthly Travel Expense Report*. The motion carried unanimously.

Action Item A – Dean David presented the *Financial and Investment Reports as of January 31, 2017*. Mr. Brints made the motion, seconded by Mr. Holt, to approve the report as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Action Item B – Mr. Ferguson made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Spears, to approve *Edgin, Parkman, Fleming, and Fleming, PC* as the *Independent Auditor to Conduct the Annual Audit for the Year Ending August 31, 2017*. The motion carried unanimously.

Action Item C – Mr. Holt made the motion, seconded by Mr. Brints, to approve the *Proposed Room and Board Rates for 2017-2018* as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Action Item D – Mrs. Spears made the motion, seconded by Mr. Ferguson, to approve the *Proposed Tuition and Fee rates for 2017-2018* as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Action Item E – Mr. Ferguson made the motion, seconded by Mr. Brints, to approve the *2017-2018 Academic Calendar* as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Action Item F – No action was taken on the *Abatement Request/Payment in lieu of Taxes Proposal with Lockett Windfarm, LLC/Lincoln Clean Energy, LLC*.

Public Comment – No one was present to make comments.

President's Report/Board Discussion Items

Board Comments/Discussion – Dr. Smith reported on the Vernon College Foundation Quarterly Meeting held January 19, 2017. He stated not enough members were present for a quorum, so voting was conducted electronically. The board awarded a \$25,000 Catching the Future Scholarship grant to the College's Dual Credit program; this is a \$5,000 increase over previous grants to this scholarship program. Dr. Johnston presented his report on Enrollment, Tuition and Fees, the Title III grant, the Skills Training Center lease, and Campus Carry. Michelle Alexander presented the philanthropic report and reminded everyone about the on-line auction on March 7– 9 and Dean David gave the financial year-to-date report.

Enrollment update – Dean Hite presented the enrollment report for Fall II/Spring 2016 vs Fall II/Spring 2017. The report showed total headcount for all locations including the Dec Mini-Term, Spring 16-week, and Spring I 8-week at 3,096, an increase of 1.61%.

Concealed Carry on Campus policy recommendations update – Dr. Johnston stated he obtained new information from his trip to the TASB Legal seminar in Austin. He gave the information to the Campus Carry Task Force for consideration to add to the policy.

Police/Safety/Security proposal – Dr. Johnston sent the Board a proposal from the Student Services department for discussion regarding a different approach to police and safety security personnel at the three primary locations - Vernon Campus, Century City Center, and Skills Training Center. Over the last ten years, the College has paid more for coverage in order to make everyone feel comfortable. This proposal states how to make this more effective. The reasons for this proposal are to re-allocate dollars currently being spent with a third party vendor for security services; to increase the number of licensed police officers; and to bring security to in-house training. He will follow up with Dean Nordone and Kevin Holland, Director of Campus Police, for a more complete working document to present to the Board.

Student Success Data Fact – Mrs. Harkey presented the Assessment Activity/Report Calendar and Glossary for 2016-2017, List of Acronyms, and the Count Day Snapshot for 2017 Spring and Spring I as the Student Success Data fact for February.

Athletic Student GPA Report – Dr. Johnston presented the Athletic Student GPA report. He stated the GPAs for Baseball, Softball, Volleyball, Rodeo, and Athletic Training for Fall 2016 were moderate. Dr. Johnston also informed the Board that the College would move forward with purchasing a policy to cover all athletic students, dorm students, athletic director, coaches, and assistant coaches for AirEvac, a helicopter medical service.

Dr. Johnston presented the Reminder of Upcoming Events –

- (1) TCCTA Conference – February 23-25, 2017 – Austin, TX
- (2) Foundation Auction Update – *The Vernon College On-Line Auction* – March 7-9, 2017
- (3) March Board of Trustees meeting – Thursday, March 9, 2017
- (4) Spring Break – March 13-18, 2017

Dr. Johnston reminded the Board and the public that the March meeting is on Thursday instead of the regular Wednesday, due to a conflict with legislative meetings in Austin. He also noted that by Board member consensus, beginning in April, the monthly Board of Trustees meetings are going to the *second* Wednesday of every month instead of the *third* Wednesday, also due to conflicts with future legislative meetings in Austin.

Dr. Johnston presented the Philanthropic Report/Outside Grants Report and the Minutes from the Faculty Senate Meeting.

Mrs. Pennington made the motion, seconded by Mr. Holt, to approve the Vernon College Personnel Action Items A and B as recommended by the president. The motion carried unanimously.

A. Internal Transfer

- (1) Criquett Lehman, *from* Director of Quality Enhancement *to* Student Success Pathway Director, effective February 1, 2017 with no change in salary.

B. Consider Extension of Deans' and Associate Deans' Contracts (September 1, 2017 – August 31, 2019)

Dr. Gary Don Harkey - Dean of Instructional Services
Mr. James Nordone - Dean of Student Services
Mr. Joe Hite - Dean of Admissions and Financial Aid/Registrar
Mr. Garry David - Dean of Administrative Services
Mrs. Kristin Harris - Associate Dean of Student Services
Mrs. Shana Drury - Associate Dean of Instructional Services

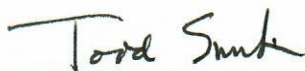
Closed Session: Mr. Ferguson made the motion, seconded by Mr. Holt to go into closed session at 12:55 p.m. in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code, Subchapter 551.074, to discuss personnel or other items under this section of the Texas Government Code, Texas Open Meetings Act. The motion carried unanimously.

C. Conduct Evaluation of College President and Consider Extending Contract for one additional year (September 1, 2017 - August 31, 2020).

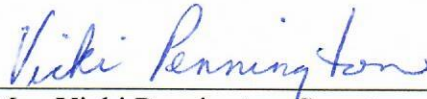
Open Session: Mrs. Pennington made the motion, seconded by Mr. Ferguson, to reconvene at 1:25 p.m. in open session. The motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Pennington made the motion, seconded by Mr. Ferguson, to approve the president's contract for Dr. Dusty R. Johnston for one year for a three-year contract dated September 1, 2017 – August 31, 2020. The motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business, Dr. Smith adjourned the meeting at 1:28 p.m.



Dr. Todd Smith, Chairman



Mrs. Vicki Pennington, Secretary