

MINUTES

Regular Meeting

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Vernon College

October 16, 2013

The Board of Trustees of Vernon College met on Wednesday, October 16, 2013 at 11:30 a.m. in the *Board Room* of the *Osborne Administration Building*, Vernon, Texas with the following present: Dr. Todd Smith, Chairman, and Mrs. Vicki Pennington, Secretary. Other Board members in attendance were, Mr. Norman Brints, Mr. Irl Holt, and Mrs. Joanie Rogers. Absent was Mr. Bob Ferguson and Mr. Gene Heatly, Vice-Chairman.

Others present were Dr. Dusty R. Johnston, President, and Deans Mr. Joe Hite, and Mr. John Hardin, III. Also present were: Mrs. Betsy Harkey, Director of Institutional Effectiveness; Ms. Shana Munson, Associate Dean, Career & Technical Education; Dr. Karen Gragg, Division Chair of Math & Science; Mr. Chris Bell, Director of Campus Police; Mrs. Roxie Hill, Instructional Designer; Mrs. Christie Lehman, Coordinator of Marketing & Alumni Relations; Mrs. Criquett Lehman, Director of Quality Enhancement; Mrs. Mindi Flynn, General Ledger Accountant; and Ms. Mary King, Administrative Secretary to the President. Guest present was Mr. Daniel Walker, from *The Vernon Daily Record*.

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

Consent Agenda

Mrs. Pennington made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Rogers to approve the Consent Agenda containing the *Minutes of the September 18, 2013 Board of Trustees Regular Meeting* and the *President's Monthly Travel Expense Report*. The motion carried unanimously.

Action Item A

Mrs. Mindi Flynn presented the *Financial and Investment Reports as of September 30, 2013*. Mrs. Rogers made the motion, seconded by Mr. Holt to approve the report as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Action Item B

Mr. Holt made the motion, seconded by Mr. Brints to approve the *Revised Professional Development Policy* as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Action Item C

Mr. Brints made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Pennington to approve the *Philosophy, Vision, Values, Mission, and 2014-2018 Long Term Objectives for Vernon College* as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment – No one was present to make comments.

President's Report/Board Discussion Items

Transfer of endowed Scholarship Funds Report – Dr. Johnston opened the discussion stating that in the last four years the College has supported transferring endowed scholarships from the College endowment fund to the Foundation endowment fund. To date, these transfers have been made at the donors' or their representatives' request. However, there are some older endowed scholarships without current contacts. Some of these scholarships, totaling several hundred thousand dollars, go back more than 20 years drawing very little interest in the College endowment pool. The Foundation has more leeway in their investment strategies and is able to generate more interest for scholarship awards. He asked the board if they would consider approving the transfer of these scholarships into the Vernon College Foundation endowment fund. After discussion, it the board decided to review a list of the scholarships before going forward.

Community College Survey of Student Engagement Results – Ms. Criquett Lehman presented a condensed version of the student engagement survey results. She reported that the Community College Survey of Student Engagement (CCSSE) has been administered by the College since 2004. Beginning in 2009, it is now alternated with the sister survey of entering students. The students who responded have been attending classes for at least one semester. On the survey, they are asked about their Vernon College experience as a whole, including registration and advising, experiences in the classroom, tutoring and service participation throughout the year. She explained it is a pen and paper type of survey handed out in the classrooms.

The completed surveys are mailed to the center and the results are returned in the report she shared and presented to the board. The results are shared with College committees, employees and with the students.

Student Success Data Fact Sheet – Dr. Johnston presented the Completers and Transfer data in comparison with THECCB small college peer group consisting of Clarendon, Frank Phillips, Galveston, Howard, Northeast Texas, Panola, Ranger, Western Texas and Vernon. This data measures first time students entering in the 2006 fall cohort year who transfer to a senior institution within six years. Our completion rate was 54.9% compared Texas Small Community Colleges of 47.5%, and compared to all Texas Community Colleges of 36.1%. This is a good pat on Vernon College's back due to course work, guidance and advising to financial aid; Vernon College has exceeded those groups.

VC NIRA Rodeo – Mr. Hardin commended Coach Chad Smith on the recently held Vernon College Rodeo. He appreciated the attendance and stated it ran very smooth with more than 500 contestants. Mr. Irl Holt commented that the group of students at the rodeo were very nice and offered to help him to his car. He had recently had knee surgery and was having a little trouble getting around.

Dr. Johnston presented the Upcoming College Events:

- (1) Vernon College Foundation Annual Board Meeting, Vernon Campus – October 17, 2013
- (2) Sports Day – Vernon Campus – October 17, 2013
- (3) Texas Association of Community Colleges Quarterly Meeting – October 23, 2013
- (4) THECB Quarterly Meeting – Austin – October 24, 2013
- (5) Vernon College Regular Board Meeting, Vernon Campus – November 20, 2013
- (6) Vernon College Employee Christmas Dinner – Colley Student Center – Friday, December 6, 2013

Dr. Johnston presented the Philanthropic Report/Outside Grants Report

Dr. Johnston presented the Minutes from Faculty/Staff/Student Organizations:

- (1) SGA Meeting Minutes

Personnel –

Mr. Holt made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Rogers to approve the following personnel actions. The motion carried unanimously.

A. Employment

- (1) Gabriela Nesbitt, Administrative Assistant – Counseling, Century City Center, effective September 16, 2013 with an annual salary of \$20,986

B. Re-Assignment

- (1) Gary Dotson, Jr., *from* At-Will Maintenance/Custodial *to* Maintenance Specialist – Century City Center, effective November 1 with an annual salary of \$26,409

Closed Session: Mrs. Pennington 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.

Open Session: Mrs. Rogers made the motion, seconded by Mr. Brints to reconvene at 1:02 p.m. in open session. The motion carried unanimously.

Action – None

There being no further business Chairman Smith adjourned the meeting at 1:05 p.m.



Dr. Todd Smith, Chairman



Mrs. Vicki Pennington, Secretary