

# MINUTES

## Regular Meeting BOARD OF TRUSTEES

### Vernon College

March 20, 2013

The Board of Trustees of Vernon College met on Wednesday, March 20, 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 Mr. Gene Heatly, Vice-Chairman, and Mrs. Vicki Pennington, Secretary. Other board members in attendance were Mr. Bob Ferguson, Mr. Norman Brints, Mr. Irl Holt, and Mrs. Joanie Rogers.

Others present were Dr. Dusty R. Johnston, President, and Deans: Mr. Garry David, Mr. Joe Hite, Mr. John Hardin, III, and Dr. Gary Don Harkey. Also present were: Mrs. Betsy Harkey, Director of Institutional Effectiveness; Mrs. Haven David, Director of Human Resources; Mrs. Shana Munson, Associate Dean, Career & Technical Education; Mrs. Melissa Elliott, Director of Financial Aid; Mr. Chris Bell, Director of Campus Police; Mrs. Mindi Flynn, General Ledger Accountant; Mrs. Criquett Lehman, Director of Quality Enhancement; and Ms. Mary King, Administrative Secretary to the President. Guest present was Ms. Noelle Wiehe, from *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 Mr. Heatly for the approval of the *Minutes of the February 20, 2013 Regular Board Meeting* and the *President's Monthly Travel Expense Report*. The motion carried unanimously.

#### Action Item A

Mr. Garry David presented the *Financial and Investment Reports as of February 28, 2013*. Mrs. Pennington made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Rogers to accept the report as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

#### Action Item B

Mr. Brints made the motion, seconded by Mr. Heatly to approve the *Room and Board Rates for 2013-2014*. The motion carried unanimously.

#### Action Item C

Mr. Heatly made the motion, seconded by Mr. Ferguson to approve Motion 1 - *Proposed Tuition and Fee rates for 2013-2014* as presented, and Motion 2 – \$10 per SCH waiver for Dual credit high school students for all courses. The motions carried unanimously.

#### Action Item D

Mrs. Pennington made the motion, seconded by Mr. Brints to approve the *Spring 2013 Continuing Education Schedule and Fees and authorize the Associate Dean of Career and Technical Education to set fees for Other Courses that might be offered during this time period*. The motion carried unanimously.

#### Action Item E

Mrs. Pennington made the motion, seconded by Mr. Heatly to NOT Approve the *Tax Abatement request from Vernon Real Estate, LLC*. The motion carried unanimously.

#### Action Item F

Mr. Holt made the motion, seconded by Mr. Ferguson to approve the *Resale Bids and Quitclaim Deeds of Properties Held in Trust by the City of Vernon located at 2024 Wanderer and 1112 Maiden in Vernon, TX*. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment – No one was present to make comments.

#### President's Report/Board Discussion Items

Dr. Johnston opened the discussion on a recommendation from the Vernon College Faculty Senate for Modification of Bereavement Policy. During Senate meetings and discussions among faculty, it was suggested that the Bereavement Policy be expanded to reflect the reality of our blended families in society today. Vernon College is generous to include almost all members of a traditional family with the exception of aunts and uncles. The Senate supports that the definition of immediate family be expanded to include family members such as aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, or other person who occupies a position of similar significance in the family of the employee. Dr. Johnston will ask for a more definite description of significance and will list the recommendation as an agenda item in the next board meeting.

Dr. Johnston gave an update on the 83<sup>rd</sup> Texas Legislative Session. The Senate and House approved their versions of the appropriations bills. The bills are now with the conference committee and will be voted on within the next two weeks. In general, community colleges came out good from where we were last session and where we started this session. Vernon College will be down around \$50,000 in state appropriations compared to the \$600,000 we were going to be down when SB1 first came out. The state will pick up 50% of the insurance and retirement and we will pick up the other 50%, which should help us gain around \$100,000.

Budget Update – Dr. Johnston stated the first draft of the budget would be available in April.

Dr. Johnston reported that the bids for the entryways will be sent out to the public and should be received and opened prior to the next meeting at which time the board will approve the construction project. The parking lot project has continued to grow. The original estimate was \$650,000 and the last one was \$850,000 so we are discussing on how to budget this project. One possibility is to budget half in May of 2014 and the other half in May of 2015. He stated the bid process will continue to determine what the real numbers are.

The Foundation On-line Auction was very successful and we were able to get rid of some excess gym equipment.

Dr. Johnston presented the upcoming College Events:

- (1) Easter Extravaganza – Thursday, March 28, 2013 – 5:30 p.m. Vernon Campus
- (2) Vernon College Foundation Board meeting – Thursday, April 18, 2013 – 10:00 a.m. Century City Center
- (3) Scholarship Banquet – Tuesday, April 23, 2013 – 5:30 p.m. Colley Student Center
- (4) Honors Convocation – Thursday, April 25, 2013 – 6:30 p.m. Wilbarger Auditorium
- (5) Vernon College Vocal Ensemble and the Community Chorus – Spring Concert – Tuesday, April 30, 2013 – 7:00 p.m. Presbyterian Church
- (6) Vernon College Theatre Ensemble Spring production, “Alabama Rain” May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 p.m. Auditorium – Osborne Administration Building
- (7) Sports Banquet – Monday, May 6, 2013 – 7:00 p.m. Wilbarger Auditorium
- (8) Commencement – Saturday, May 11, 2013 – 10:30 a.m. Wilbarger Auditorium
- (9) RN Pinning – Saturday, May 11, 2013 – 2:00 p.m. Wilbarger Auditorium

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

Dr. Johnston presented the minutes from the Vernon College Faculty/Staff/Student Organizations – Exhibits

- (1) Administrative Staff Association

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

A. Employment

- (1) Gary Dotson, Jr., Maintenance/Custodial – Century City Center, effective February 18, 2013 with an annual salary of \$21,600
- (2) Lyle Bonner, Maintenance Supervisor – Vernon Campus, effective March 4, 2013 with an annual salary of \$35,992
- (3) Christina Feldman, Coordinator of Community/Recreational Services – Century City Center, effective March 4, 2013 with an annual salary of \$35,460

B. Resignation

- (1) Larry D. Jordan, American Government Instructor, Vernon Campus, effective August 1, 2013

C. Retirement

- (1) Sarah Davenport, Assistant Registrar, Vernon Campus, effective August 30, 2013
- (2) Gene Nessel, Welding Instructor, Vernon Campus, effective August 30, 2013

D. Consider Reappointment of Faculty for 2013-2014

E. Consider reappointment and/or Extension of Administrative Staff and Classified Staff for 2013-2014

- (1) Administrative Reappointments
- (2) Classified Staff
- (3) Classified Staff (pending completion of probationary period)

Closed Session: Mr. Ferguson made the motion, seconded by Mr. Heatly to go into closed session at 12:25 p.m. in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code, Subchapter 551.074 to discuss personnel and 551.072 – Real Estate. The motion carried unanimously.

Open Session: Mrs. Pennington made the motion, seconded by Mr. Heatly to reconvene at 1:00 p.m. in open session. The motion carried unanimously.

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

Todd R. Smith  
Dr. Todd Smith, Chairman

Vicki Pennington  
Mrs. Vicki Pennington, Secretary