

MINUTES

Regular Meeting BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Vernon College
September 9, 2020

The Board of Trustees of Vernon College met on Wednesday, September 9, 2020 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. Bob Ferguson – Vice-Chairman. Other board members in attendance were Mr. Irl Holt, Mrs. Vicki Pennington, and Mr. James Brock. Absent were Mrs. Ann Wilson – Secretary and Mrs. Anne Spears.

Others present were Dr. Dusty Johnston, President; Dr. Elizabeth Crandall, Vice President of Instruction; Mr. Garry David, Vice President of Administration; and Dr. James Nordone, Vice President of Student Services/Admissions and Financial Aid; Mr. Kevin Holland, Director of Campus Police; Mrs. Shana Drury, Dean of Instructional Services; Mrs. Amanda Raines, Director of Enrollment Management/Registrar; Mrs. Melissa Elliott, Director of Financial Aid; Ms. Criquett Scott, Student Success Pathway Director; Mrs. Ivy Qwuarels, ERP/SIS/Cybersecurity Director; Mrs. Mindi Flynn, Business Office Manager; and Ms. Mary King, Administrative Secretary to the President. Guests present were Ms. Kathy McClellan of *KVWC* and 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 Mr. Holt to approve the Consent Agenda containing the *Minutes of the August 12, 2020 Regular Board Meeting* – Mrs. Pennington noted a couple of corrections to be made to the minutes, and the *President's Monthly Travel Expense Report*. The motion carried unanimously.

Action Item A

Mr. David presented the *Financial and Investment Reports as of August 31, 2020*. Mr. Holt made the motion, seconded by Mr. Brock, to approve the Vernon College year to date and monthly financial and investment reports. The motion carried unanimously.

Action Item B

Mr. Holt made the motion seconded by Mr. Ferguson to approve setting the *Resolution to Set the 2020 Vernon College Tax Rate* at the no new revenue tax rate of 23.2436 cents per \$100 of appraised property value, as presented by Dr. Johnston and the resolution read publicly by the Chairperson. The motion carried unanimously.

Action Item C

Mrs. Pennington made the motion, seconded by Mr. Ferguson to approve the annual *2019-2020 Wilbarger County Tax Collections* for Vernon College by the Wilbarger County Tax Collector, as presented by Dr. Johnston. The motion carried unanimously.

Action Item D

Mr. Ferguson made the motion, seconded by Mr. Brock to approve the *2020-2021 Vernon College Institutional Effectiveness Plans* presented by Dr. Johnston. The motion carried unanimously.

Action Item E

Mr. Holt made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Pennington to approve to *Declare as a "Special Population" and to offer "Zero" tuition Continuing Education classes/Pre-service/In-service training during 2020-2021 school year* for the following – 1)Vernon Police Department – Continuing Education Classes; 2)Wichita Falls Police Department – Continuing Education Classes; 3)Wichita County Sheriff's Office – In-Service Training; 4)Texas Department of Criminal Justice – Pre-Service and In-Service Training; 5)NORTEX Regional Planning Commission – Continuing Educations Classes; 6)Area Agency on Aging – Continuing Education Classes; 7)Vernon College Nursing IV Therapy – Continuing Education Classes; 8)Vernon College Fire Services – Continuing Education Classes; 9)Ed2Go – Continuing Education Classes. The motion carried unanimously.

Action Item F

Mr. Holt made the motion to approve the *Wilbarger County Appraisal District's 2021 Approved Budget*. The motion failed due to no one seconding the motion. Mr. Ferguson made a second motion, seconded by Mrs. Pennington to NOT approve the *Wilbarger County Appraisal District's 2021 Approved Budget*. The second motion passed three (3) *in favor* (Mr. Ferguson, Mrs. Pennington & Mr. Brock) to (2) two *oppose* (Mr. Holt & Dr. Smith).

Action Item G

Mr. Ferguson made the motion, seconded by Mr. Brock as to NOT approve the *Savion Solar Abatement Application* – Motion failed with two (2) *in favor* (Mr. Ferguson & Mr. Brock) and three (3) *oppose* (Mr. Holt, Dr. Smith & Mrs. Pennington). Mr. Holt made a second motion TO approve the *Savion Solar Abatement Application* as a Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) equal to 55% abatement for the first ten years of the project – the motion passed with three (3) *in favor* (Mr. Holt, Dr. Smith & Mrs. Pennington) and two (2) *oppose* (Mr. Ferguson & Mr. Brock).

Action Item H

No Tax Resale Deeds to Consider

Public Comment – No one was present to make comments.

President's Report/Board Discussion Items - No discussion.

Campus opening/Covid-19 Update – Dr. Johnston stated that two and a half weeks into the semester and the College has only had limited exposure to the virus. Face-to-face, Hybrid and On-line classes including Teams are going well. Signage is everywhere and everyone is following protocol. The students are also being compliant.

Student Success Data Fact – Mrs. Raines presented the student success data fact for this month on the Fall 2020 Enrollment update. She stated this is a preliminary report for the Fall and Fall 1 2019 versus the Fall and Fall 1 2020. Total headcount for all locations went down from 2,933 last year to 2,800 as of today or a decrease of 4.53%. The contact hours were down from 531,760 to 506,016 or a decrease of 4.84%. The count for Internet was up by 41.67% with 747 compared to 513 in 2019. Count Day is today, September 9, so the official numbers will run this evening and tomorrow.

Cyber Security update – Ms. Qwurels presented a handout for the Cybersecurity Update report for the 2019-2020 Academic year. Employees completed the required training. Two Cybersecurity Awareness emails were sent to all students in Fall and Spring as required. Four incidents from emails were reported, investigated and mitigated. Three assessments and scans were completed for intrusions, weaknesses and failures. Ms. Qwurels stated she attended 26 cybersecurity meetings.

POISE- Student Success Technology Enhancements – Ms. Qwurels presented a handout titled Student Information System Update. We are in the fifth year of the Title III grant. We gained permission to purchase five specific programs for providing the systems required to use for intrusive advising which was the goal of the grant. The systems are, Aviso Retention, Softdocs, Parchment, Magnus Health and Comevo. They will be implemented during the 2020-2021 academic year.

TASB 39 Policy Update discussion – Dr. Johnston sent the information to the board and it will be presented at the next meeting.

Dr. Johnston presented the Upcoming College Events:

- (1) VC Sports Day, Vernon Campus – postponed
- (2) Vernon College Regular Board Meeting – October 14, 2020
- (3) Vernon College Foundation Annual Board Meeting, Place TBA – October 15, 2020
- (4) Vernon College Preview Day – Vernon campus – postponed
- (5) 2020-2021 Sports Status/Schedules (Rodeo, Baseball, Volleyball & Softball) – Exhibits

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

Mrs. Pennington made the motion, seconded by Mr. Brock to approve the personnel changes as recommended by Dr. Johnston and detailed on item 6 B Personnel Information Sheet. The motion carried unanimously.

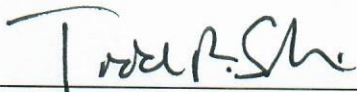
1. Employment
 - a. Jeddediah Fagg, Assistant Baseball Coach/Residence Hall Assistant, effective August 12, 2020 with a salary of \$26,198.
 - b. Colby Winstead, Assistant Rodeo Coach, effective August 19, 2020
 - c. Melissa Williams, Administrative Assistant – Continuing Education – Century City Center, effective August 24, 2020 with a salary of \$22,273.
2. Internal Transfer
 - a. Delilah Fowler, *transfer from* Classified II, Counseling – Century City Center, *transfer to* Admissions/Registrar Specialist, effective August 24, 2020
3. Resignation
 - a. Sherrice Hall, Evening/Saturday PBX Operator– Century City Center, effective January 31, 2021

Closed Session: Mr. Holt made the motion, seconded by Mr. Ferguson, to go into closed session at 12:35 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: Mr. Ferguson made the motion, seconded by Mr. Holt, to reconvene at 1:00 p.m. in open session. The motion carried unanimously.

Action: None

There being no further business Mrs. Pennington made the motion, seconded by Mr. Holt to adjourn the meeting at 1:03 p.m.



Dr. Todd Smith, Chairman



Mrs. Ann Wilson, Secretary