

**West Liberty University
Board of Governors**

**Minutes
January 31, 2018**

Attendance:

Jack Adams, Adam Croasmun, Les DeFelice, Cindy Fluharty, Jim Haizlett, Rich Lucas, Jim Stultz, Teresa Toriseva, Rhonda Tysk, Kris Williams

Unable to Attend:

Joe Carey, Patrick Ford

Administration/Faculty/Staff:

Scott Cook, Brian Crawford, Mary Ann Edwards, Steve Greiner, David Hanna, Diana Haro, Jason Koegler, Roberta Linger, John McCullough, Joe Montemurro, Gerard NeCastro, Ron Witt, Angie Zambito

I. Call to Order/Roll Call/Quorum and Mission Statement

Chair DeFelice called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. and a quorum was established.

II. Introductions

None.

III. Public Comment

None.

IV. Agenda Order

There were no changes to the agenda order.

V. Approval of Minutes*

A. Minutes of the Full Board November 29, 2017*

On motion by Rich Lucas and seconded by Jim Stultz, it was unanimously adopted by the West Liberty University Board of Governors to approve the minutes of the full Board of November 29, 2017.

B. Minutes of the Executive Committee January 24, 2018*

On motion by Jim Stultz and seconded by Cindy Fluharty, it was unanimously adopted by the West Liberty University Board of Governors to approve the minutes of the Executive Committee of January 24, 2018.

VI. Board Items for Approval*

A. Ashland, Athens, Meigs Counties, Ohio – Metro Rate

Mr. Cook distributed a map of current and proposed Ohio counties encompassed by the metro rate. It was noted that a metro rate proposal for the entire state of Ohio could be presented in the future.

On motion by Jack Adams and seconded by Rhonda Tysk, it was unanimously adopted by the West Liberty University Board of Governors to approve the new Metro Rate counties of Ashland, Athens, and Meigs, Ohio beginning with the 2018-19 academic year as stipulated.

B. Policy 34 – Nepotism – Employment of Relatives*

Ms. Haro is asking that Policy 34 – Nepotism-Employment of Relatives, be rescinded by the Board. Having heard from faculty and staff, along with conversations with the Executive Committee of the Board, in the end it appears it does not need to be a policy required of the BOG. The policy should be rescinded and not replaced, but will be addressed as an operational/day-to-day policy. A discussion followed with regard to the issue.

On motion by Jim Stultz and seconded by Adam Croasmun, it was unanimously adopted by the West Liberty University Board of Governors to approve rescinding Board of Governors Policy 34 – Nepotism – Employment of Relatives.

C. MS Athletic Training Proposal*

Dr. David Hanna noted that at the current BS level, the program has been in good standing as an undergraduate major for Athletic Training. Students continuing in this major need to be at least at a master's level. This is a bona fide health care major, with graduates working hand-in-hand with physicians, athletic teams, hospitals, physical therapy clinics, armed services, among others. They specialize in examination, evaluation, prevention and treatment of injuries, mainly orthopedic, and rehabilitation processes.

On motion by Cindy Fluharty and seconded by Rhonda Tysk, it was unanimously adopted by the West Liberty University Board of Governors to approve the proposal to add the new degree program Master of Science in Athletic Training to be offered within the College of Education and Human Performance.

VII. President's Report

Dr. Greiner noted that members should each have a copy of the updated Institutional Master Plan, University Deferred Maintenance Plan, and the Technology Plan.

A conference call was recently held with college/university presidents regarding current legislation, which would allow anyone with a concealed carry permit to carry firearms on campus. This legislation would supersede the BOG policy, and West Liberty would have no authority to stop individuals with a permit from carrying weapons on campus. This legislation is currently working its way through the state system.

The grand opening for the Downtown Center was held January 26th. The Foundation office is housed at this location, along with the Entrepreneurship Center to work with downtown businesses. A Community University class has already been held at the Center. Dr. Greiner thanked Rich Lucas for his role in getting this specific location for WLU.

For the first time, some money may be released from the State for some of WLU's capital projects. Savings from refinancing bonds will go to fund highest priority safety projects, which would be the replacement and repair of six elevators on campus.

The fleet management contract is almost complete, and vehicles have arrived on campus; we are currently waiting on sedans. This contract will help WLU financially, and employees won't have to take their personal vehicles out and handle the associated paperwork to be reimbursed.

Discussions are taking place with Panhandle Cleaning & Restoration, owners of the apartment building at the foot of the hill next to Domino's Pizza. With 48 units, this agreement would be similar to that of UP I and UP II.

A lighting of the new fire pit in Alumni Park will be held next week with hot chocolate and snacks, followed by West Liberty Idol.

A recent agreement arranged by Dr. Miriam Roth Douglas will expand the study abroad program to Germany. Also, Dr. Joe Horzempa is a finalist for the second consecutive year for the West Virginia Professor of the Year award.

WLU athletes are national finalists for the 2018 NCAA Award of Excellence for recognition of community services. Head Volleyball Coach Kayla Mull, advisor to the WLU Student-Athlete Advisory Committee, was recognized for organizing a fundraiser in Moundsville. In the classroom, 93 of WLU's athletes have made the all-academic or Commissioner's Honor Roll, with football leading the way with 28 scholar athletes.

Jeannette Walls will be the Hughes Lecture Series speaker on March 22, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. in College Hall. Walls book "The Glass Castle" was recently made into a movie.

Dr. Greiner noted that he has been approached for the possible purchase of local property. Discussions will move forward and although price has not been discussed, the University is definitely interested in the property.

There have been ongoing discussions on a performance contract, possible bond issues, etc. The entire state is interested in the performance contract, and WLU is leading the way for such a contract.

VIII. Finance Report

Ms. Linger reported the budget status for the second half of FY18. Half-way through the year, revenue is trending well, having collected approximately 85% of budgeted revenue. Summer courses and the PA Program will have an additional assessment. The expense side has exactly half of payroll in for the year, running at 49%, which may increase with utilities and cold weather issues.

IX. Reports

A. Provost (Crawford)

Dr. Crawford thanked Board members who participated in the site visit for the MS in Dental Hygiene and MA in Clinical Psychology. We will know in a few months if the programs are recommended for approval. The next step would be submission to the U.S. Department of Education for their approval, with an anticipated start date of fall 2019.

Preparations continue for the upcoming overall HLC site visit on March 19 and 20, 2018. The argument is being completed; watch for invitations to participate as we complete the agenda. The BOG will most likely have an opportunity to meet with the site visitors.

Dr. Greiner recently signed an agreement with the WV School of Osteopathic Medicine in conjunction with WLU's new Master of Arts in Biology Program. A WLU student completing the proper paperwork and MA in Biology would be guaranteed admission to the Osteopathic School. Initially we will have five or six students participating, but anticipate 30 or 40 in a year or two.

B. Enrollment Update (Cook)

Mr. Cook distributed Fall 2017 and Spring 2018 enrollment statistics and reviewed with the group. High School enrollment will peak this year, but begin to decline next year.

C. Student Government (Croasmun)

Mr. Croasmun stated that he had attended the State Advisory Council in Huntington, WV; he will be traveling again in a few weeks. Four students graduated from Senate in December, and those seats have been filled. A proposed Constitution change would amend Senate to 24 Senators, with three positions for veterans, an international student, and one more. The change will be voted on by the student body. Spring Fling has been booked at River City, and the SGA is looking into shuttles to campus for student safety. Spring Fling is a celebration held at the end of Greek week, the Friday of dead week. A bus trip has been planned for April 6, 7, and 8th to New York City. West Liberty Idol will start next Wednesday and be held every Wednesday in February. Mr. Croasmun concluded by thanking Dr. Greiner and the Board for their support.

X. Information Gathering

None.

XI. Possible Executive Session

None.

XII. Actions Emanating from Executive Session

None.

XIII. Next Meeting Date – Wednesday, April 4, 2018

XIV. Adjournment

On motion by Teresa Toriseva and seconded by Adam Croasmun, it was unanimously adopted by the West Liberty University Board of Governors to adjourn the meeting at 4:52 p.m.

Leslie DeFelice _____
Chair

James R. Stultz _____
Secretary