

**WEST LIBERTY UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

**Executive Committee
Minutes
August 17, 2022**

Executive Committee Members Present: Jack Adams, Arlene Brantley, Richard Carter, Jamie Evick, Rich Lucas, David McKinley, Stephanie Shaw

WLU Administrators: W. Franklin Evans, Monique Akassi, Stephanie Hooper

Others: Ryan Quinn

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Chair Lucas called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

2. President's Update

Dr. Evans provided various updates.

3. West Rentals Donation of Land

Mr. Gary West has consented to another outright gift donation for the Aquatic Center. The Board of Governors will have to decide if we can accept the donation. He will, however, retain all mineral rights. We have received a \$1.5 million grant for the Aquatic Center and the money will be used for renovations.

4. Sale of Property

The University is still in conversations with the Dollar General and has to give approval to sell the land or property. Discussions were also presented regarding the possibility of selling partial. Currently there are no structures on this area, just for parcels. President Evans is seeking approval.

5. Governor's Salary Enhancements Plan

The Governor's salary enhancement plan will include giving \$449,000 inclusive of benefits. The Vice Chancellor said that this pay enhancement will be added permanently. There are some equity issues with some of the faculty in regard to equity and merit. The money distributed will not be a bonus. Bonuses are prohibited. Instead, this money will go into the base salary. The remaining dollars for staff will be in four quartiles, with those in the first quartile receiving the highest increase. The Governor stated that the money must be used for salaries. There is also a need to increase the minimum wage. The current minimum wage is \$11.00/hour.

6. Higher Education Outcomes Based Funding Formula for WLU

The HEPC and the State of West Virginia have a new funding formula and current allocations and the State have come up with a criterion. Two-Year Colleges have their own model; progression metrics—money for students that earned by the amount of credit hours and graduates. Other programs that will be targeted as well include Teacher Education, pending final Board approval.

- The State of West Virginia came up with the best-case scenario. A Funding Model sets a base model, but then after a year, money is given based on gains made by students and the number of credit hours earned; and the next programs enrolled.
- Only an Associate in Dental Hygiene but the State said to place focus on it, for it is consistent and everything has to add up to load and will require Board's approval for State recommendations. The Executive Committee will make its motion.
- There will be a base at 10% not effected and 30 years can accrue for growth. Increment financing. 50% based on degrees earned. The average number of Liberal and Creative Art degrees are 144 credit hours. However, 120 credit hours is the requirement. West Liberty University's academic programs need to be reviewed to decrease the number of credit hours needed to graduate in order to compete with neighboring colleges and universities.

- HEPC and HLC's recommendation is 120 credit hours to graduate from a program. New programs are requiring 120 credit hours. Some schools were able to grandfather other courses in.
- There is a move towards more Co-Ops and internships.
- Revenue standpoint is at a loss to the students and requires more faculty.
- Newer programs, moving forward, from Academic Affairs—should have 120 credit hours as a requirement for graduating.
- One of the new challenges will be streamlining courses to trim down to 120 credit hours with 50% of the formula.
- There is concern that some faculty from Academic Affairs will resist assessing current academic programs and decreasing credit hour requirements for graduation; and it may be a slow process if left up to the HEPC.

7. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Richard Lucas

Chair

Jamie Evick

Secretary

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Monique L. Akassi