

**WEST LIBERTY UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

**Executive Committee
Minutes
January 16, 2019**

Executive Committee Members Present: Jack Adams, Patrick Ford, Kris Williams

WLU Administrators: Scott Cook, Brian Crawford, Stephen Greiner, Diana Harto, Roberta Linger

Others: John McCullough, Rhonda Tysk

1. Chair Ford called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.
2. Mr. Cook gave a brief enrollment report. Enrollment is expected to be down slightly for the year. President Greiner indicated that to be conservative, budget planning for FY20 will assume a decline in enrollment for next year.
3. President Greiner reported on several items:
 - a. There is a meeting scheduled for later today with R&D holdings regarding details of the new construction going on across the street and other possible future development near campus. Other companies have been invited to look at University-owned properties for possible future development.
 - b. There have been several meetings with WLU administrators and the contracted architectural and engineering firm regarding development of the Facilities Master Plan.
 - c. Arnett Hall Phase I renovations will begin over spring break, with the project expected to be completed by the end of the summer.
 - d. Architectural plans for the 4th floor of Campbell Hall are now being developed. There was a discussion of the use of social media to publicize the current construction and other projects.
 - e. The water meter servicing campus was broken 5 to 6 years ago and water bills were estimated from that time forward until the meter was replaced this past August. Since the replacement of the meter, water bills have increased significantly. Approximately 10% of the current operating budget is being withheld to cover these unbudgeted expenses, which could amount to as much as \$500,000 for the fiscal year. Efforts are being made to repair known leaks and find other ways to conserve water. The university has been assured that there will be no bills submitted for actual water use during the time of the meter outage.
 - f. It has been discovered that the planned Energy Savings loan from the HEPC will not be available. This was going to be used to complete Phase II of the Arnett Hall project, but it has been discovered that the project will not meet the criteria for the loan.
 - g. A recent news article explaining the negative impact of the Governor's proposed budget was distributed and discussed. The promised 5% pay raise for state employees is not fully funded, as was the case last year. Also, the proposed PEIA budget offset will result in a significant extra cost to the University. The total potential losses to the University from these two items could approach \$1,000,000. The president will be in communication with the local state legislators regarding these concerns. A large tuition increase could be forced on the University to meet the budget shortfall. Pay raises for employees of the University will almost certainly not come close to 5%.
 - h. The President spoke about a proposed certificate program in Healthcare Management in the MBA program and asked that the Board consider delegating authority for the approval of areas of emphasis, certificate programs, and baccalaureate minors to the President. A motion to delegate this authority was made by Ms. Williams and seconded by Mr. Adams. Motion passed.

- i. The President distributed the latest draft of the updated MOU between WLU and the Foundation. There was discussion of the proposed changes, including having the Executive Director of the Foundation report directly to the President.
4. Ms. Linger distributed and discussed a budget update. Revenue is running about as expected. Utility and payroll expenses were explained as well as the “other” expenses category.
5. Dr. Crawford presented the proposal to approve the reorganization of the College of Liberal arts. This would create a Department of English and Modern Languages, and a Department of Humanities and Social Sciences. The proposal will be on the agenda for the full Board at the January 30 meeting.
6. Dr. Crawford gave an overview of the Compact with the HEPC and Compact Goals. The HEPC has proposed goals related to enrollment, retention and graduation rates. Mr. Cook countered those proposals with numbers that he feels are more reasonable and no response to these has been received from the HEPC. The Board will be asked to approve these goals at the January 30 meeting.
7. Ms. Harto gave a presentation on the staff compensation system that has been in place since 2017 and provided an overview of current employee pay relative to pay grades and the quartiles within each. There was discussion of the overall pay status of WLU staff.
8. Ms. Williams made a motion to move to Executive Session to discuss the staff compensation system and specific personnel matters, seconded by Mr. Adams. Motion passed. The Committee went into Executive Session at 9:15 a.m.
9. The Committee rose from Executive Session at 9:50 a.m. No actions were taken.
10. The meeting adjourned at 9:58 a.m.

Patrick Ford

Chair

Jack Adams

Secretary