

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF WESTERN CAROLINA UNIVERSITY

Room 510, H.F. Robinson Building

July 11, 2016

The Board of Trustees of Western Carolina University met by telephone in a special session on July 11, 2016 in Room 510 of the H. F. Robinson Building. The meeting was called to order at 12:00 p.m. by Chairman Broadwell.

ATTENDANCE

The following members of the Board were present: Mrs. Kaemmerling, Mr. Broadwell, Mrs. Battle, Mr. Kinney, Ms. Dugan, Mr. Messer, Mr. Townsend, Mr. Lupoli

The following members of the Board were absent: Mr. Drake, Mrs. Coward, Mr. Fetzer

Others present: Chancellor Belcher; Vice Chancellor Byers; Mr. Chancey, Chief Compliance Officer; Mr. Browning, Associate General Counsel; Mr. Eaton, Director of Athletics; Dr. Starnes, Dean of Arts and Sciences; Mr. Walker, Associate Vice Chancellor for Facilities Management; Mrs. Collins, Assistant to the Chancellor; Ms. Welch, Assistant Secretary to the Board.

ROLL CALL

Ms. Welch called the roll of the Board members in attendance. A quorum of the Board was present.

ETHICS STATEMENT

Mr. Broadwell: "As Chair of the Board of Trustees, it is my responsibility to remind all members of the Board of their duty under the State Government Ethics Act to avoid conflicts of interest and appearances of conflict of interest as required by this Act. Each member has received the agenda and related information for this Board of Trustees' meeting. If any Board member knows of any conflict or interest or appearance of conflict with respect to any matter coming before the Board of Trustees at this meeting, the conflict or appearance of conflict should be identified at this time."

There were no conflicts disclosed.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Chairman Broadwell explained that following the retirement of Ms. Welch, the Board needs to elect a new Assistant Secretary to the Board, Claire Collins. **Mrs. Kaemmerling moved to elect Mrs. Collins as new Assistant Secretary to the Board, effective August 1. Mrs. Battle seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.**

STEM BUILDING DESIGNER APPROVAL

Chairman Broadwell asked Chancellor Belcher and Mr. Byers to explain the STEM building designer selection approval item. Mr. Byers explained the designer selection process for the new Natural Science (STEM) building. A project committee met and narrowed the proposals to four finalists. The Audit and Finance committee then interviewed the four firms and submitted their preferences. The preferred firm was Lord, Aeck & Sargent, the second preferred was Cooper Carry, the third preferred was Page Southerland Page, and the fourth preferred was Jenkins Peer Architects. Mr. Byers put forward a recommendation to select these four firms in the order presented. **Mr. Townsend moved to select these four firms, Mr. Lupoli seconded the motion. It was approved unanimously.**

MEDICAL OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. Broadwell asked Mr. Byers to explain the Medical Office building site and design approval item. (SLIDE PRESENTATION IN MINUTES MATERIALS). Mr. Byers stated that he needed board approval for the siting and design of a new medical building on the Millennial campus. Two locations on site were shown. Discussion followed. The Master plan was not detailed in specific sites, but additional planning needs to be done for future projects. The site recommended today leaves open most possibilities. 80% of gross square footage should be used to get net. This will be a 30,000 square foot building.

Mrs. Kaemmerling moved that the Board approve this design and site for the Medical Office Building. Mr. Lupoli seconded the motion; it was approved unanimously.

CLOSED SESSION

Mrs. Kaemmerling moved that the Board go into closed session to consider the competence, performance, character, fitness, conditions of appointment, or conditions of initial appointment, of a public officer or employee or prospective public officer or employee. Ms. Dugan seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

Chancellor Belcher asked that Mr. Eaton, Mr. Browning and Mr. Chancey stay for the closed session.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

Mrs. Battle moved that the Board return to Open Session. Ms. Dugan seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

NORTH CAROLINA PROMISE

Chancellor Belcher presented information about feedback we have been receiving from alumni and friends about the North Carolina Promise legislation. Faculty and Staff are supportive and there are still some concerns, but conversations are good and thoughtful. Parents are interested in knowing how soon can this go into effect. There are some alumni and friends who do not know what is happening, some who are supportive and some who are not. There is a small vocal group who is very angry. Discussion followed. Chancellor Belcher stated that he has spoken to the Catamount Club and the Alumni board. These have been wonderful conversations and have shown support. We are planning to continue monitoring conversations. There will be a debriefing with the Chancellor's Executive Council and Public Relations about this. Catamount Club will reach out to their members.

Mr. Kinney moved that the meeting be adjourned. Mrs. Kaemmerling seconded the motion; and the meeting was adjourned at 1:26 pm.