

Blue Ridge Community & Technical College
Board of Governor's Meeting

April 4, 2008 at 12:00 noon
Berkeley Business Park
5550 Winchester Avenue
Martinsburg, WV 25401

Present: Dave Blythe, Pete Checkovich, Bill Clark, Maria Lorensen, Bill Lucht, Taylor Perry, Jane Peters, Jim Rodgers, Shirley Tolbert, Margie Ways

Absent: Mellissa Collins

Guests: Trudie Holder, James McDougale, Craig Miller, Marcyanna Millet, George Perry, Carol Plautz, Ann Price, Megan Scott, Leslie See, Ann Shipway, Sandy Sponaugle, Dan Steerman, Kelly Wright.

Additional guests included: Dana Bateman from WRNR radio, Sherree Grebenstein from the Martinsburg Journal, and Matthew Umsted from the Herald Mail.

Representatives from Allegheny Power included: Mark Ferguson, Charles Friddle, Charlene Gilliam, Ronald Kinna, Diane Liska, Benjamin Saylor, Mary Lou Sekeras, and Allen Staggers. Representatives from Shockey Properties included: Wade Johnson, Ralph Shockey, and Thomas Turner.

Call to Order: Jane Peters, Chair, called the meeting to order at 12:25 p.m.

Minutes: Shirley Tolbert moved, Margie Ways seconded and the March 5, 2008 minutes were unanimously approved.

Introduction of Guests: President Checkovich introduced representatives from Allegheny Energy which included: Mark Ferguson, Charles Friddle, Charlene Gilliam, Ronald Kinna, Diane Liska, Benjamin Saylor, Mary Lou Sekeras, and Allen Staggers. He also introduced Wade Johnson, Ralph Shockey, and Thomas Turner from Shockey Properties. President Checkovich recognized the executive staff by introducing each staff member to the guests in the audience. Additionally, President Checkovich introduced Butch Pennington, Secretary of the West Virginia Council for Community & Technical College Education, and he thanked Mr. Pennington for his support of the college.

Lease Signing: President Checkovich, Mr. Dan Steerman, and Mr. Ralph Shockey signed the ten year lease with Shockey Properties at the Berkeley Business Park, which will house new programs including the Electric Distribution Technology Program Partnership. Dr. Checkovich thanked Mr. Nelson Robinson and Chancellor Jim Skidmore for their support and assistance with this partnership.

Electric Distribution Technology Program Partnership: Dan Steerman distributed brochures, flyers and other information outlining the program. Mr. Steerman reported that there the lease includes 23,000 square feet inside and one acre outside. There will be twelve new technology courses, twelve new academic courses, two new math courses, one AMA (American Management Association) class, and three paid internships. He recognized Sandy Sponaugle and Leslie See for their assistance with the marketing plans and activities. Chairwoman Jane Peters commended the efforts of everyone involved with the project.

President's Report: As part of the In the Media report, President Checkovich spoke about an article in the Herald Mail about keeping a presence of Blue Ridge Community and Technical College in downtown Martinsburg; a Martinsburg-Berkeley County Chamber of Commerce advertisement; House Bill 3215 which mandates that all community and technical colleges become independent of the host school; an article from the Charleston Daily Mail regarding tourism; the Blue Ridge Community and Technical College 2008 Career Fair; and a copy of the 2008 Phi Theta Kappa Induction Ceremony program.

In a memo from the WV Higher Education Policy Commission, President Checkovich pointed out the new method of calculating for tuition waivers. The new method does not penalize schools that wish to award more waivers. The waiver allowance will be calculated based on annual tuition fees.

In another memo, President Checkovich explained that Blue Ridge Community and Technical College did not receive a funding increase from the state operating budget. However, the final state budget has been approved and this includes \$5,000,000.00 for Community and Technical College system bonds.

President Checkovich also mentioned funding for Advanced Technology Centers and the allied Health Program Expansion.

Bookstore Policy: Kelly Wright reported that she has received feedback requesting that the bookstore policy be made more specific to Blue Ridge Community and Technical College. This will be reviewed.

Financial Report: Ann Price distributed information regarding a 4.75% increase in tuition and fees.

Leslie See and Ms. Price introduced a Metro Fee for students in the surrounding geographical areas. This Metro Fee plan would make tuition fees more affordable for specific out of state students. While not as low as in-state fees, it would not be as high as out-of-state fees. A request was made for the Board of Governors to consider this.

Two proposed fee changes and one fee addition were also presented.

Margie Ways moved, Jim Rodgers seconded that the tuition increase be approved, motion passed unanimously.

Bill Clark moved, Bill Lucht seconded that the Metro Fee be approved, motion passed unanimously.

Jim Rodgers moved, Maria Lorensen seconded that the fee changes and fee addition be approved, motion passed unanimously.

Ann Price distributed a spreadsheet explaining payroll increases and a discussion ensued. Margie Ways mentioned that in 2006 the increase was 4%, then in 2007 the increase was 3.50% and a 3% was a further decrease, while the cost of living keeps going up; so it seems things are going in the wrong direction.

Maria Lorensen questioned if this was the only increase faculty received. Unless one receives a promotion, this is the only raise.

Bill Clark moved, Jim Rodgers seconded that the Board approve a 3.50% raise, and the motion passed with Margie Ways and Bill Lucht abstaining.

Executive Session: Bill Clark moved, Margie Ways seconded that the Board of Governors move into Executive Session at 1:45 p.m.

Maria Lorensen moved and Taylor Perry seconded that the Board of Governors adjourn the Executive Session at 2:10 p.m. to re-enter the general session.

Upon re-entering the general session, Bill Clark moved, Jim Rodgers seconded that President Checkovich's contract be extended, motion passed unanimously.

A second motion to increase the President's salary by 5% was made by Jim Rodgers, with a second by Dave Blythe, motion passed unanimously.

Bill Clark moved, Dave Blythe seconded that the Board re-enter Executive Session at 2:20 p.m. motion passed unanimously.

Dave Blythe moved, Jim Rodgers seconded that the Board conclude Executive Session at 3:30 p.m. motion passed unanimously.

Bill Lucht moved, Bill Clark seconded, that the meeting be adjourned at 3:35 p.m. unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcyanna Millet
Recording Secretary