

BOARD OF GOVERNORS
BLUEFIELD STATE COLLEGE
February 21, 2019

Conley Hall, Room 201, Boyd Conference Room

MINUTES

Members Present: Garry Moore, Sr., Bob Buzzo, Dr. Norman Mirsky, Chris Jones, Cathy Deeb, Ronnie Hypes, Dr. Deirdre Guyton, and Bill Cole.

President's Staff: Interim President Robin Capehart, John Spencer, John Lewis, Jonette Aughenbaugh, Shelia Johnson, Dr. Guy Sims, Dr. Mariam Dittmann, Jim Nelson, Dr. Jo-Ann Robinson, and Dr. Ted Lewis.

Guests: Dr. Rodney Montague, Shelia Hallman-Warner, Tony Palmer, Dr. Amanda Matoushek, Ergie Smith, Vanessa Godfrey, and Michele Noe.

Call to Order and Chair's Remarks – Garry Moore, Sr., Chair

Chairman Moore called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Chairman Moore stated that the meeting will begin with the Public Comment Period. Dr. Amanda Matoushek was recognized by Chairman Moore to speak during the Public Comment Period. Dr. Matoushek read and submitted a letter to the BSC Board of Governors requesting that the Board expedite the search for a permanent President of Bluefield State College.

Chairman Moore recently spoke to Dr. Jesse Calloway. Dr. Calloway has assured Chairman Moore that he will attend the March meeting of the BSC Board of Governors. Chairman Moore congratulated the Men's and Women's seniors who will be graduating from the basketball teams this year. Last Wednesday, the Women's Basketball Team was playing West Virginia Tech in Beckley. They were behind by 20 points, and came back and won the game. On Saturday, the Men's Basketball Team was behind by 17 points, and they came back and won the game. Chairman Moore congratulated Dr. Kim and Dr. Belaye for the \$43,000 grants they got for their departments. Chairman Moore welcomed President Capehart to Bluefield State.

Appointment of Committees – Garry Moore, Sr., Chair

Chairman Moore distributed a Committee Appointment list to the members of the Board. Chairman Moore provided a brief explanation of the composition of the Committee list. Each person at the top of the list is the Chair of that Committee.

President's Report – Dr. Robin Capehart, President

President Capehart reported that he has suggested the committees to help the Board run more efficiently and effectively. President Capehart stated that he is trying to address some of the more prominent issues BSC has as an institution. President Capehart has developed an interim action plan consisting of three priority objectives:

sound fiscal health, robust enrollment, and engaged university. Strategies for each of these objectives are as follows:

PRIORITY OBJECTIVE: SOUND FISCAL HEALTH

- STRATEGY: Implement a more transparent and more effective budget process.
- STRATEGY: Create a more efficient organization.
- STRATEGY: Revitalize fundraising.
- STRATEGY: Create a market-driven tuition and fee structure.
- STRATEGY: Cut unnecessary expenses.

PRIORITY OBJECTIVE: ROBUST ENROLLMENT

- STRATEGY: Construct on-campus housing.
- STRATEGY: Prioritize resources for student recruitment.
- STRATEGY: Support a more robust campus life.
- STRATEGY: Seek University status.

PRIORITY OBJECTIVE: ENGAGED UNIVERSITY

- STRATEGY: Tell our story.
- STRATEGY: Joint development with the city.
- STRATEGY: Engage alumni through meaningful activities.

President Capehart provided a legislative update for the Board. He was asked to go speak in Charleston today about the community college bill (SB 1). This bill could potentially have the biggest impact on Bluefield State. They are working on a solution. President Capehart requested that they do a fiscal note that would show how the bill would impact the government overall. He provided an update on SB 621. This was the \$10 million that was to be split up between the colleges. President Capehart provided an update on the Blue Ribbon Commission bill (HB 3096). Dr. Mirsky mentioned that faculty are concerned about HB 2367. High schools would cooperate with community colleges to get 60 hours of college credit from 9th grade to 12th grade. Discussion followed.

President Capehart noted the conceal carry bill, and he discussed what has happened with the bill during his time at Bluefield State. Dr. Mirsky stated that the faculty, by a large majority, voted to oppose this bill. Discussion followed.

President Capehart reported that he is looking closely at the Research and Development Corporation. Over the last fifteen to sixteen years, the R&D Corporation has basically become nothing more than a landlord. He has had discussions with the City about a potential partnership to utilize a space for businesses and entrepreneurship that the City already has up and running.

Finance and Budget – Ms. Shelia Johnson

Ms. Johnson provided an update on a couple of facilities projects. The roofing project is complete. Inspectors have been scheduled to come to campus twice. Weather issues have prevented inspection from taking place yet. The inspection visit will be rescheduled. There has been some work with the sidewalk, step, and handrail project, but it has been slow to progress due to weather issues.

Ms. Johnson moved to the report provided in the Board meeting materials packet. Bluefield State has started to draw down on available funds for the sidewalk project. The budget for 2018 did increase. In the last two months, BSC has completed the NCAA financial audit. That audit process is required every four years. Suttle & Stalnaker out of Charleston completed the audit.

We have started looking at the 2020 budget. The Governor's proposed budget would include an increase of \$229,000. Title III has two grants – Title III basis and SAFRA. SAFRA was a ten-year grant that began in 2009. BSC is in its' tenth year. Congress will no longer fund SAFRA. Therefore, beginning October 1st BSC will no longer have the SAFRA grant. BSC has typically received anywhere from \$500,000 - \$750,000 through the SAFRA grant. Discussion followed. There will be three payroll periods in March.

Enrollment – Dr. Jo-Ann Robinson

Dr. Robinson explained that what the Board has in front of them is a copy of a fall 2018 census. The official fall count was 1,275. The spring 2019 count as of yesterday was 1,200 students. Looking at enrollment goals for fall 2019, they are targeting 1,372. They are projecting that about 702 students will return. Out of the 1,200 that are currently here, about 290 will graduate. They have targeted a goal of 240 first year students, 185 readmits, 135 transfer students, and approximately 100 high school students will be engaged in dual enrollment. Funding has been designated for communications and counselor outreach to aid in reaching that goal. BSC is trying to enhance its' visibility. Dr. Robinson distributed samples of brochures that were viewed by the Board. 10,000 brochures will be mailed, and BSC has purchased 22,000 names of adult learners. The plan is to saturate the market with these resources as well as e-mails. There is a new initiative called Alumni referral. They will send out 10,000 letters in coordination with Dr. Guyton. Each of those 10,000 alumni will be asked to refer a student. Once they get that name, they will work through admissions processes to reach out to that student. Dr. Robinson highlighted additional processes that will be used to aid in reaching the target goal. Discussion followed.

Minutes of Meetings of December 13, 2018; December 17, 2018; December 20, 2018; January 18, 2019; January 24, 2019.

The first action item was approval of the minutes from the December 13, 2018, December 17, 2018, December 20, 2018, January 18, 2019, and January 24, 2019 meetings. Dr. Guyton made a motion to approve the minutes from the aforementioned meetings. The motion was seconded by Mr. Buzzo. The motion carried.

Announcements

- March 23, 2019 – An Enchanted Evening Gala at the Bluefield Area Arts Center.
 - End of March/First of April – CIAA campus visit.
- Mr. Lewis provided an explanation of what the CIAA is and what the visit might entail.

Board Members Comments

- Mr. Hypes stated that he is pleased to see moving forward with the structure of the Board and the committee process. It gives an opportunity to actually do more.
- Dr. Guyton mentioned that Classified and Faculty have gotten together to form a beautification committee for the campus.

Adjournment

Mr. Hypes made a motion to adjourn the Board meeting. The motion was seconded by Dr. Guyton. The motion carried. The next regularly scheduled BSC Board of Governors meeting will take place on March 21, 2019. The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Garry Moore, Sr.