

**Executive Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**Boyd Conference Room**  
**Thursday, April 17, 2025, 4:00 PM**

**Members Present:** Chair Charlie Cole – virtual; Mr. Shannon Remines; Mr. Mike Hastings; Mr. Bill Cole.

**Guests:** President Darrin Martin; Mr. Brent Benjamin.

**1. Call to Order**

Chair Cole called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

**2. President's Report – Dr. Martin**

a. Employment Update – Dr. Martin reported that Dr. Sarita Rhonemus was selected as Provost; that there are 4 finalists for the Athletic Director position; that Cynthia Higgins-Atwell has increased her duties and is now BSU's Master Controller; that 40 applications have been received to date for BSU's open men's basketball coach position; and that he has appointed Keith Olson to the Interim Director of Communications position.

b. Admissions and Enrollment Services Update – Dr. Martin provided an update on recruiting and enrollment. He also indicated that, in coordination with Dr. Ed Toman, BSU will have a Mercer County Day on 05/08 and 05/09/25.

c. Athletics Update - Dr. Martin reviewed the recent successes of BSU athletics, including winning the CIAA in Men's Golf, and achieving the runner-up position in the CIAA and an invitation to the regional NCAA Tournament in Men's Basketball. Dr. Martin also reviewed the status of athletics and recruiting, advising that he expects rosters to be full with student-athletes. He stressed that there is a focus for West Virginia recruits.

d. Development Update – Dr. Martin recounted the success of the recent 2025 Day of Giving, reviewing with the Committee the fund-raising numbers and demographics reported earlier in the day to the Development Committee. Chair Cole stressed the importance of publicizing the effort and in reporting the demographical breakdown of contributions to better understand donation patterns.

e. Housing Update – Dr. Martin explained that we are still seeking a fulltime Housing Director. He provided projections for housing needs and reviewed some of the potential ways in which such needs could be met in the short term. Opportunities with the Student Freedom Initiative and with the Bowen Foundation were discussed.

f. HLC Update and Status – Dr. Martin provided a brief update on the status of the recent HLC Focused Visit and next year's Standard Pathways Visit.

g. Deferred Maintenance – Dr. Martin provided a brief update on deferred maintenance and Mr. Benjamin provided a brief update on funding aspects and the recent legislative session.

h. Strategic Plan – Dr. Martin reported that the process is entering its final stages, and that the Plan should be finished when the faculty returns in the Fall. He stressed the importance of having this Plan, and the need for both quantitative and qualitative measurements and benchmarks for assessments.

i. Commencement – Dr. Martin reminded the Members that Commencement will be at 10:00 a.m., on May 17, 2025, at the Armory. The speaker will be Mr. Marvin Woody, of Conn-Weld Industries LLC.

j. 2025 Summer BOG Retreat – Dr. Martin recommended that the Board consider a short Retreat over the Summer. A general discussion ensued. Bill Cole suggested that this would be a good opportunity for the Board to evaluate itself.

### **3. Executive Session – Chair Cole**

Chair Cole moved to enter Executive Session, which was seconded by Mr. Remines. The Executive Committee went into Executive Session at 4:30 p.m., to discuss a financial matter. The Committee came out of Executive Session at 4:36 p.m. Chair Cole advised that there would be no action coming forth from this Executive Session.

### **4. Adjournment**

Chair Cole adjourned the meeting at approximately 4:41 p.m..