

## **Athletics Committee Meeting Minutes**

**Date:** Thursday, December 5, 2024

**Time:** 4:00 p.m.

**Location:** Boyd Conference Room

**Members Present:** Anthony Tolley, Chair; Charlie Cole; Tim McKenzie

**Absent:**

**Guests:** Darrin Martin, Interim President; Ryan Bailey, Interim Athletics Director; Felicia Oakes, Assistant Athletic Director for Academic Success and Community Engagement; Ashley Rasnake, Sports Information Director

### **1. Call to Order:**

Mr. Tolley called the meeting to order at 4:08 PM in the Boyd Conference Room and turned the meeting over to Interim AD Bailey.

### **2. Athletic Update – Ryan Bailey**

#### **a. Fall Season Wrap Up:**

- i. Football – 1 – 9
- ii. Volleyball:
  1. CIAA Semifinals.
  2. Lost to Shaw in CIAA Tournament – 3-1
    - a. It was the only set Shaw lost during the CIAA Tournament
- iii. Men's Cross-Country finished 12th at the CIAA Conference Meet Soccer – 2-5-2
- iv. Women's Cross-Country 9th at the CIAA Conference Meet
- v. Women's soccer team went 3-6-3 on the season

#### **b. Winter Sports Update:**

- i. Men's basketball and women's basketball are both off the four and three starts.
- ii. For men's basketball, that's the first time we've had four wins prior to December in the Devin Hearn coaching era.
- iii. Women's wrestling program, we were one and one in duels, which was the first victory in the program history for the women's program.

#### **c. NCAA Probation Update and Reports**

- i. On November 11th, our probation had been lifted and we had been restored to full status members of the NCAA Revenue Generation

**e. Spring Term Retention and Recruitment**

- i. We have put together a pretty aggressive plan for retention. The history of Bluefield State since I've been here has been an 80% retention from fall to spring for student-athletes.
- ii. We have put a plan in that if you lose one, you pick one up.
- iii. Ultimate goal, that would be if we stayed at that 80%, that means we'd have 64 student-athletes that we would lose in between terms.
- iv. Currently, seven student-athletes that they've even asked to go into the transfer portal.
- v. S. Remines:
  - a. Tighten reign on waivers
  - b. Stay within boundaries
    1. Group: mutual agreement on responsibilities and accountability on costs and representations
  - c. Cognizant of costs, benefits, and where we should put our money
  - d. We need to focus on education metrics
  - e. Retention saves us from needing to “reload”
  - f. Need: quality, quality, quality
  - g. Need: coaches who are cognizant of the WV Funding Formulas
  - h. We need to motivate our coaches to recruit local students who want an education and who wish to stay local
    - i. Those who want to wear a uniform, but not be a star
- vi. C. Cole:
  - a. We need to increase our recruiting focus to a 50-mile radius
    - i. That has the best track record for enrollment, retention, graduation, formula-funding, and student success
    - ii. Plus, that best meets our Mission
  - b. R. Bailey will look at the budget to help with the determination of when we expand our Metro rate
  - c. We must believe that we are charging a fair amount for the education they receive.
  - d. We want to turn out students with the education they desire.
  - e. First and foremost, we must be open – which means an attention to costs and expenses.
- vii. President Martin:
  - a. We must focus on traditional students, as well as non-traditional and on-line students
  - b. We need to emphasize and prioritize students who want to be athletes, rather than athletes who want a place to play
  - c. The Athletic Department is proposing significant cuts in waivers

- viii. A. Tolley:
  - a. We also must focus on tuition rates
    - i. Expanding the metro rate will necessarily require a reduction in waivers
  - f. **Volleyball Coach Search**
    - i. Position to be posted
    - ii. Goal is to have a coach in place by late January 2025
  - g. **Women's Wrestling Coach Search**
    - i. Interview with candidates on 12/6/2024

**3. Adjournment:** Meeting was adjourned at 5:15 PM

Minutes submitted by: Jeanne Moricle, Board Liaison