

Board of Governors

Meeting Minutes

Date: Thursday, January 4, 2024

Time: 4:00 p.m.

Location: Boyd Conference Room

Members Present: Mr. Charlie Cole, Chair; Mr. Shannon Remines, Mr. Anthony Tolley; Mr. Tim McKenzie; Mr. Jack Sheffler; Ms. Cathy Deeb, Mr. Bill Cole, Mrs. Rebecca Peterson – via phone; Mr. Mike Hastings, Mr. Gabriel Nesmith, Mr. Randy Price

Guests: Interim President Darrin Martin; Mr. Brent Benjamin, EVP; Mr. Ronnie Hypes, CFO; Sarita Rhonemus, Interim Provost; Mrs. Angie Lambert; Mrs. Julie Orr, Faculty President; Mrs. Carolyn Jamkhandi; Mr. Sudhakar Jamkhandi; Mrs. Vanessa Godfrey; Mrs. Sandra Wynn; Mrs. Sherri Williams; Mrs. Carol Cofer; Mrs. Michelle Taylor

Welcome, Chair's Remarks, and Call to Order: Mr. Charlie Cole:

Chair Cole welcomed all in attendance and introduced Carolyn Long, our consultant assisting with the HLC items.

Chair Cole determined that a quorum was established, then he called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM in the Boyd Conference Room. He welcomed attendees at the meeting.

New Board Member:

Chair Cole presented Tim McKenzie with the Oath of Office. Mr. McKenzie is the new Board of Governors Staff Representative.

Acceptance of Meeting Minutes: Chair Cole received confirmation that Board members had reviewed minutes of the Board's meeting held on Regular Meeting held on November 2, 2023/Special Meeting held on November 20, 2023 with a revision to the December 21st date of President's resignation changed to December 31st. Hearing no other requests to correct or revise the minutes, the minutes of the November meeting minutes meeting were accepted by assent of the Board.

Board Committee Reports: Chair Cole confirmed that Board members had reviewed reports of the most recent Executive Committee report. Hearing no requests to correct or revise the minutes, the minutes of the December reports was accepted by assent of the Board. The Housing and Athletics committees didn't meet in December. The following committee reports were submitted – Student Life – 12/7; Academic Affairs – 12/14; Development – 12/14 and Executive – 11/2; 11/14 and 12/14. Hearing no other requests to correct or revise the committee reports, the committee reports listed above were accepted by assent of the Board.

Board of Governors

Interim President's Report:

Interim President Martin thanked all that were present for the Board for the opportunity to be representing BSU. And the Faculty for welcoming him.

- **HLC Update:**
 - Rescinding Executive Orders
 - Amending policies
 - Re-establishing the University Council
 - Organizational charts revised
 - Faculty Assembly establishing an Executive Committee
- **Recruiting:**
 - 2 recruiters as of today
 - Interviews being conducted to hire more
 - New CRM system
 - Staff being trained on how to utilize
 - Mining Engineer Technology
 - Submitted to HEPC for approval – week of 12/20
 - Operational Fall of 2024 once approved
 - Retention Specialist search began and will close at the end of the month
- **Heritage Park:**
 - Rendering from Alumni Park were displayed for concept visual
 - Clean up will begin soon
 - Money available from donor and monies received from Cole Foundation
- **Housing:**
 - MEC will have vacancies
 - Architect going to review the MEC to explain other options
 - Give us the best workable solution and possible use of 'unused' space
 - 216 beds not including cottages

Standing Reports:

- **Academic Affairs:** Dr. Sarita Rhonemus, Interim Provost
 - Academic Calendar Overview
 - Back to Pre-Covid schedule
 - Begins August 19
 - Commencement 5/17
 - Final exams August 8
 - Spring 2024 Registration
 - Overall total – Spring 2024 – 1086 down -60

Board of Governors

Meeting Minutes Continued

- **Financial & Administrative Affair:** Ronnie Hypes, CFO

- Budget Overview

Expenses through December 31, 2024	13,696,153.88	Utilized \$1.5 million of YE 2023 surplus
Original 2024 Budget	35,854,781.00	
% of original budget	38.20%	
Target for amended 2024 Budget	30,000,000.00	Approximately 20% reduction from original budget submission
% of Target amended 2024 Budget	45.65%	
Target for 2nd Half 2024 Budget	13,196,153.88	To utilize remaining \$1.0 million of YE 2023 surplus
Resulting amended 2024 Budget	26,892,307.76	
Reduction from original budget	-25.00%	

- Audit was completed with a clean opinion, will visit to present at future board meeting.
- Single Audit is underway, there will be findings, but fixable
- Staffing is evaluated at every departure
- Title III funds are fungible. But, projects involving personnel have to be designed to become self-sustaining.
- Several projects out for bid right now, security, food service, vending, softball field.
- Two contracts for HVAC projects at MEC and Dickason Hall
- 2nd Floor MEC for Allied Health instruction build out. Architects are preparing bid specs and on full go after our meeting with HEPC.
- Deferred maintenance funds approved – 11.7 million

- **Safety and Security:** Brent Benjamin, EVP

- **MEC Security**

- All cameras are operational
- Security guards are in place
- New cameral being installed on campus in blind-spots

Board of Governors

Meeting Minutes Continued

Faculty Representative Update: Jack Sheffler, Faculty Representative

- Faculty Workload Proposal
 - Moved off agenda – Academic related – not board related
 - Move it through University Council

Staff Representative Update: Tim McKenzie, Staff Representative

- Staff Council Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, 1/16
 - Officers to be voted in
 - By-Laws to be reviewed
 - Dr. Guyton attending for meeting for a review
 -

Student Representative Update: Gabriel Nesmith, Student Representative

- Students returning to campus – Monday, January 8th
- Funded two more student organizations for SGA

Special Orders: None

Unfinished Business: None

New Business:

- Executive Order 23-005 – Brent Benjamin, EVP
 - Rescinded Executive Order 23-004- Reorganization of Academic Units
- HEPC Presentation and Response – Dr. Martin/Mr. Hypes
 - Well received by all
 - Reviewed 2nd floor MEC Allied Health Build Out
- BSU Organizational Chart – Dr. Martin
 - Present all updates
 - Chair Cole brought forth the matter to vote on the acceptance on updated BSU Organizational Chart. Mr. Sheffler motioned the acceptance, Mr. Price seconded. A majority of the members present and voting having voted in the affirmative. All were in favor. The motion carried.
- University Council: Brent Benjamin, EVP
 - Became stagnant in 2019
 - Reestablishing via Executive Order 24-002
 - Chair Cole brought forth the matter to vote on the acceptance Executive Order 24-002 – Establishment of University Council. Mr. Sheffler motioned the acceptance, Mr. Price seconded. A majority of the members present and voting having voted in the affirmative. All were in favor. The motion carried.
- Immunizations
 - Moved to the February Special Meeting – 2/8

Board of Governors

Meeting Minutes Continued

New Business continued:

- Hiring Policy Update: Brent Benjamin, EVP
 - Policy updated to reflect old policy that was amended in May
 - Chair Cole brought forth the matter to vote on the Hiring Policy Updates. Policy to be posted for a 30-day comment period effective 1/5/2024. Mr. Remines motioned the acceptance, Mr. Tolley seconded. A majority of the members present and voting having voted in the affirmative. All were in favor. The motion carried.
- Post Tenure Review Policy: Brent Benjamin, EVP
 - Suspend the policy for one year and post for comment
 - Chair Cole brought forth the matter to vote on the **acceptance Post Tenure Review policy being suspended for one-year and posted for review effective 1/5/2024. Mr. Sheffler motioned the acceptance, Mr. Price seconded.** A majority of the members present and voting having voted in the affirmative. All were in favor. The motion carried.
- Faculty Assembly By-Laws: Brent Benjamin, EVP
 - Establish an Executive Committee within the Faculty Assembly
 - Faculty voted and passed the by -laws
 - Chair Cole brought forth the matter to vote on the Faculty By-Laws. By-Laws to be posted for a 30-day comment period effective 1/5/2024. Mr. Remines motioned the acceptance, Mr. Tolley seconded. A majority of the members present and voting having voted in the affirmative. All were in favor. The motion carried.
- February Meeting Date: Brent Benjamin, EVP
 - Proposed date for special BOG meeting – Thursday, 2/8/2024
 - Review all comments and vote on policies/by-laws that were posted

Announcements: None:

Comments:

Board Members: None

Public Comments: None submitted

Board of Governors

Meeting Minutes Continued

Executive Session:

- Mr. Bill Cole made a motion to move into executive session – Mr. Hastings seconded the motion, board of governors meeting moved into executive session at 5:25 PM.
- Mr. Charlie made a motion to exit executive session at 5:55 PM – Mr. Remines motioned and Mr. Hastings second.

Adjournment:

Chair Cole made a motion to adjourn the Board meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Remines. The motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 6:00 PM

The next regularly scheduled BSU Board of Governors meeting will take place on Thursday, February 29, 2024 – with a special meeting being held on Thursday, February 8, 2024.

Minutes submitted by: Jeanne Moricle, Board Liaison