

MINUTES

WEST VIRGINIA HIGHER EDUCATION POLICY COMMISSION

November 17, 2017

I. Call to Order

Chairman Michael J. Farrell convened a meeting of the Higher Education Policy Commission at 9:00 a.m. in the David K. Hendrickson Conference Center of the West Virginia Regional Technology Park, 2000 Union Carbide Drive, South Charleston, West Virginia. The following Commissioners were present: Jenny Allen, James W. Dailey, Michael J. Farrell, Diane Lewis, Dale Lowther, Gayle C. Manchin, and Steven L. Paine. Absent were Robert L. Brown and Andrew A. Payne. Also in attendance were Chancellor Paul L. Hill, institutional presidents, higher education staff, and others.

II. Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Lowther moved to approve the minutes of the meetings held on August 2, and August 11, and requested that the minutes of the September 25, 2017 meeting be amended to include his participation. Commissioner Lewis seconded the motion. Motion passed.

III. Chairman's Report

Chairman Farrell welcomed Commission members and the audience to the meeting. He announced a change in the format of the Policy Commission's future meetings. The meetings will be of more substance, allowing commissioners the opportunity to interact, to explore problems and provide input to solve those problems. As for his role as chair, his efforts will be oriented toward individual issues and to an increased relation with the campuses.

Chairman Farrell shared his experience after visiting with students at Cabell Midland High School and Herbert Hoover High School at the beginning of November. He is asking the Policy Commission staff to further educate high school counselors in all the resources that are available to students so they can pursue a college education.

A. Nominating Committee Report and Election of Officers

Commissioner Allen, Chair, reported that Chairman Farrell formed a Nominating Committee for the purpose of electing the Policy Commission's officers for fiscal year 2017-2018. The Committee included Commissioners Lewis and Manchin. Chair Allen presented the slate of officers for consideration:

Michael J. Farrell, Chair
Jenny Allen, Vice Chair
Andrew A. Payne, Secretary

Commissioner Lewis moved approval of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission elects the slate of officers for Fiscal Year 2017-2018 as proposed by the Nominating Committee.

Commissioner Paine seconded the motion. Motion passed.

B. Appointment to the West Virginia Educational Broadcasting Authority

Chairman Farrell announced that with the departure of Commissioner Bruce Berry whose term expired on June 30, 2017, the Commission must appoint a member to serve on the West Virginia Educational Broadcasting Authority, in accordance with House Bill 2891, passed in the 2005 legislative session.

Commissioner Allen moved approval of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission, appoints Chairman Michael J. Farrell to serve on the West Virginia Educational Broadcasting Authority.

Commissioner Manchin seconded the motion. Motion passed.

IV. Chancellor's Report

Dr. Paul Hill, Chancellor, reported on recent events coordinated by the Higher Education Policy Commission such as visits by staff from the Division of Student Affairs to schools to promote a college-going culture, and hosting the Student Leadership Conference; the Division of Financial Aid opening of financial aid programs; and the Division of Policy and Planning organization of meetings with institutional presidents and NCHEMS consultants to prepare the higher education sustainability report for Governor Justice. Further, he and staff made presentations to various legislative committees at their interim meetings. Chancellor Hill reported on the presidential search at the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine and the inauguration ceremony of Dr. Tracy Pellett as President of Glenville State College, which he attended.

V. Council of Presidents' Report

Dr. Anthony L. Jenkins, President of West Virginia State University, reported on behalf of the Council of Presidents. President Jenkins stated that the presidents are interested in learning how the tuition-free community colleges will affect their

four-year institutions, as well as the effect of the proposed funding model. He further stated that the presidents continue to meet with members of the legislature to inform them of the positive impact their institutions have on the state's economy, and it is working with Policy Commission staff on a final budget to present to the Legislature at the upcoming session.

VI. Updates from Constituent Groups

A. Advisory Council of Classified Employees

Ms. Amy Pitzer, Chair of the Advisory Council of Classified Employees, reported on the concerns of classified staff regarding the new classification and compensation rule, Series 55. She conveyed the Council's disappointment with the workgroup for not including classified staff comment while drafting the rule, and stated that the process lacked accountability and transparency. The Council is asking the Policy Commission to delay approval of Series 55.

B. Advisory Council of Faculty

Dr. Marybeth Beller, Chair of the Advisory Council of Faculty, reported that the Council continues to arrange legislative visits to their institutions. The Council is requesting that the Commission add to faculty salary data the median income for their particular college division; currently it is reported by tier only. Further, the Council is asking the Policy Commission to be a voice for faculty, particularly as health insurance premiums under PEIA continue to rise. Dr. Beller stated that as benefits decrease, it is important that legislators understand what the faculty salaries are. It also hopes the Legislature restores funds for faculty development programs to allow them to be well informed at the national and international levels.

C. Advisory Council of Students

The Council did not present a report.

VII. Update on Strategic Course Scheduling and Resource Allocation Pilot Project

Dr. Christopher Treadway, Senior Director of Research and Policy, presented a report on the strategic course scheduling and resource allocation pilot project. He introduced Sarah Collins, a consultant with Ad Astra Information Systems, with whom the Policy Commission has contracted to lead the project. Ms. Collins explained that Ad Astra partners with institutions of higher education to align their finite resources to accelerate student completions. She added that by aligning faculty and academic space to meet student needs, an institution or state system can create data-informed, conflict-free pathways to both extend the effective capacity of its resources, and improve velocity to completion. She proceeded to

elaborate on the results achieved at other institutions of higher education.

VIII. Access

A. Approval of Appointment to the Higher Education Student Financial Aid Advisory Board

Mr. Brian Weingart, Senior Director of Financial Aid, provided an overview of the proposed appointment.

Commissioner Lowther moved approval of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission approves the appointment of Candance Frazier to the Higher Education Student Financial Aid Advisory Board.

Commissioner Allen seconded the motion. Motion passed.

B. Approval of Master of Science in Computer Science

Dr. Corley Dennison, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, provided an overview of the proposed degree program.

Commissioner Lowther moved approval of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission approves the Master of Science in Computer Science program at West Virginia State University for implementation in fall of 2018, with the understanding that an additional faculty member with the appropriate terminal degree will be hired by fall of 2019. This approval expires two years from the date of Commission approval if the program is not fully implemented at that time.

Commissioner Allen seconded the motion. Motion passed.

C. Approval of Bachelor of Science in Cybersecurity

Vice Chancellor Dennison provided an overview of the proposed program.

Commissioner Lewis moved approval of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission approves Valley College to begin offering bachelor degree programs with the implementation of the Bachelor of Science in Cybersecurity in fall of 2018. This approval expires two years from the date of Commission approval if the program is not fully implemented at that time.

Commissioner Lowther seconded the motion. Motion passed.

D. Approval of Revisions to Series 11, Procedural Rule, Submission of Proposals for Academic Programs at Public Regional Institutions and the Monitoring and Discontinuance of Existing Programs

Vice Chancellor Dennison provided an overview of the proposed revisions to the procedural rule.

Commissioner Lowther moved approval of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission approves the revisions to Series 11, Procedural Rule, Submission of Proposals for Academic Programs at Public Regional Institutions and the Monitoring and Discontinuance of Existing Programs to be filed with the Secretary of State for the thirty-day public comment period and if no substantive comments are received, the Commission extends its final approval.

Commissioner Paine seconded the motion. Motion passed.

E. Approval of Revisions to Series 22, Procedural Rule, Grade Point Average for Associate and Baccalaureate Degree Students

Vice Chancellor Dennison provided an overview of the proposed revisions to the procedural rule.

Commissioner Lewis moved approval of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission approves the revisions to Series 22, Procedural Rule, Grade Point Average for Associate and Baccalaureate Degrees to be filed with the Secretary of State for the thirty-day public comment period and if no substantive comments are received, the Commission extends its final approval.

Commissioner Manchin seconded the motion. Motion passed.

F. Report on Textbook Affordability

Vice Chancellor Dennison reported that in 2014 and 2015, the Commission convened a regulatory workgroup to assess the necessity for a variety of statutorily and commission-required reports. One of the recommendations of the workgroup was to streamline the textbook affordability report. In response, the Commission created a simplified, one-page form to gather the information required by Series 51, due November 1 of each year. Institutions were asked to identify specific ways in which they are working to reduce textbook costs for their students. Vice Chancellor Dennison provided a summary of the

institutional reports.

IX. Success

A. Fall 2017 Enrollment Report

Dr. Christopher Treadway, Senior Director of Research and Policy, presented a report on trend enrollment data through fall 2017 for the state's public four-year institutions. The report detailed statistics for national enrollment trends, graduate projections for West Virginia schools, the college-going rate among high school graduates in West Virginia, total head-count enrollment at the institutional and system-wide levels, total dual enrollment at high schools, freshmen enrollment, full-time equivalent enrollment, undergraduate enrollment, in-state enrollment and out-of-state enrollment.

X. Impact

A. Statewide College Access and Success Initiatives Report

Dr. Adam Green, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, reported on recent and upcoming college access and student initiatives that staff coordinates aimed at assisting students in navigating college processes and pathways. These include the College Foundation of West Virginia, College Application and Exploration Week, financial aid awareness and assistance, College Decision Day, the GEAR UP Federal Grant, College Counseling Via Text Message, the Student Leadership Conference and the Veterans 5 Star Challenge Campaign.

XI. Expansion of the West Virginia Regional Technology Park Board of Directors Membership

Dr. Paul Hill, Chancellor, provided an overview of the proposed membership expansion for the West Virginia Regional Technology Park Board of Directors.

Commissioner Dailey moved approval of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission directs the West Virginia Regional Technology Park Board of Directors to amend its by-laws to allow for up to twelve directors.

Further Resolved, That the West Virginia Regional Technology Park Board shall establish a Tenant Advisory Committee.

Commissioner Manchin seconded the motion. Motion passed.

XII. Approval of Appointments to the West Virginia Regional Technology Park Board of Directors

Chancellor Paul Hill gave a summary of the proposed appointments.

Commissioner Allen moved approval of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission approves the following appointments to the West Virginia Regional Technology Park Board of Directors:

Appointed for a term ending June 30, 2018:

Georgette George
David Hendrickson
Steve Hedrick
Kevin DiGregorio

Appointed for a term ending June 30, 2019:

Jack Rossi
Anne Cavalier
Matt Ballard
Retired Judge Ron Pearson

Appointed for a term ending June 30, 2020:

Diane Lewis Jackson
Michael J. Farrell
Retired Admiral Joseph Lopez

Commissioner Manchin seconded the motion. Motion passed.

XIII. Approval of Revisions to Series 33, Interpretive Rule, Anatomical Board

Ms. Laura Boone, Senior Director of Health Sciences, provided an overview of the proposed revisions to the interpretive rule.

Commissioner Lowther moved approval of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission approves the revisions to Series 33, Interpretive Rule, Anatomical Board, to be filed with the Secretary of State for a thirty-day public comment period and if no substantive comments are received, the Commission extends its final approval.

Commissioner Lewis seconded the motion. Motion passed.

XIV. Approval of Revisions to Series 12, Legislative Rule, Capital Project Management

Dr. Edward Magee, Vice Chancellor for Finance, provided an overview of the proposed revisions to the legislative rule.

Commissioner Lowther moved approval of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission approves the revisions to Series 12, Legislative Rule, Capital Project Management to be filed with the Secretary of State for the thirty-day comment period.

Further Resolved, That staff is instructed to forward the legislative rule to the Legislative Oversight Commission on Education Accountability for approval and further legislative action at the conclusion of the comment period if no substantive comments are received.

Commissioner Dailey seconded the motion. Motion passed.

XV. Approval of the System Capital Development Oversight Policy

Vice Chancellor Magee provided an overview of the proposed policy.

Commissioner Lewis moved approval of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission approves the System Capital Development Oversight Policy if no substantive comments are received at the end of a thirty-day comment period.

Commissioner Lowther seconded the motion. Motion passed.

XVI. Approval of Fiscal Year 2018 Capital Project Priorities

Vice Chancellor Magee provided an overview of the proposed capital project priorities for fiscal year 2018.

Commissioner Lowther moved approval of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission approves the prioritized capital project list for Fiscal Year 2018 and directs staff to report the capital project priorities to the Legislative Oversight Commission on Education Accountability in January as statutorily required.

Commissioner Lewis seconded the motion. Motion passed.

XVII. Approval of Revisions to Series 32, Legislative Rule, Tuition and Fee Policy

Vice Chancellor Magee, provided an overview of the proposed revisions to the legislative rule.

Commissioner Dailey moved approval of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission approves the revisions to Series 32, Legislative Rule, Tuition and Fee Policy to be filed with the Secretary of State for the thirty-day public comment period.

Further Resolved, That staff is instructed to forward the legislative rule to the Legislative Oversight Commission on Education Accountability for approval and further legislative action at the conclusion of the comment period if no substantive comments are received.

Commissioner Manchin seconded the motion. Motion passed.

XVIII. Fiscal Year 2017 Consolidated Audit Presentation

Vice chancellor Magee provided a summary of the consolidated audit.

Commissioner Lowther moved approval of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission accepts the audited financial report for the Higher Education Fund for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2017.

Commissioner Lewis seconded the motion. Motion passed.

XIX. Approval of Series 55, Legislative Rule, Human Resources Administration

Ms. Patricia Humphries, Vice Chancellor for Human Resources, provided a summary of the proposed legislative rule.

Commissioner Paine moved approval of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission approves Series 55, Legislative Rule, Human Resources Administration to be filed with the Secretary of State for a thirty-day public comment period.

Further Resolved, That staff is instructed to forward the legislative rule to the Legislative Oversight Commission on Education Accountability for approval and further legislative action at the conclusion of the comment period if no substantive comments are received.

Commissioner Manchin seconded the motion. Motion passed.

XX. Executive Session under the Authority of West Virginia Code §6-9A-4 to Discuss Personnel Issues

Commissioner Dailey moved to convene in Executive Session under the authority of West Virginia Code §6-9A-4 to discuss personnel issues. Commissioner Allen seconded the motion. Motion passed.

After deliberations, Commissioner Allen moved to raise from Executive Session. Commissioner Lowther seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Chairman Farrell stated that no decisions were made or actions taken during Executive Session.

XXI. Additional Board Action and Comment

Chancellor Hill provided an overview of the proposed presidential contract approvals.

A. Approval of Presidential Contract at West Liberty University

Commissioner Allen moved approval of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission confirms the reappointment by the West Liberty University Board of Governors of Dr. Stephen G. Greiner as President of West Liberty University and approves the contract entered into between Dr. Greiner and the Board of Governors.

Commissioner Lewis seconded the motion. Motion passed.

B. Approval of Presidential Contract at Fairmont State University

Commissioner Allen moved approval of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission confirms the appointment by the Fairmont State University Board of Governors of Dr. Mirta Martin as President of Fairmont State University and approves the contract entered into between Dr. Martin and the Board of Governors. Language in numeral six of the contract has been changed to read: In addition to your base compensation, you will be provided a courtesy vehicle through the Foundation other means....


Commissioner Lewis seconded the motion. Motion passed.

XXII. Adjournment

There being no further business, Commissioner Lowther moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Allen seconded the motion. Motion passed.



Michael J. Farrell, Chairman



Andrew A. Payne, Secretary