

**WEST VIRGINIA SCHOOL OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE
BOARD OF GOVERNORS
MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23, 2005 – 12:00 NOON
TELEPHONIC**

Members Present:

Dr. David Nicholas	Valeria Barfield	Lance Faber
David Fryson	Dr. John Lackey	Sharon Rowe
Dr. Marlene Wager		

Members Absent:

Dr. Jeffrey DeBord	Dr. Lewis Whaley
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Staff/Guest:

Dr. Olen Jones	Dr. Michael Adelman	Brentz Thompson
Larry Kelley		
Chris DeWeese, Suttle & Stalnaker CPA		

The March 23, 2005 meeting of the WVSOM Board of Governors was called to order. Sharon Rowe chaired the meeting due to Dr. Nicholas needing to depart at some time during the meeting.

Approval of December 15, 2004 Minutes

Dr. John Lackey moved to approve the minutes of December 15, 2004 as distributed. A second was made by Dr. David Nicholas. Motion carried.

Action Items

4.1 Approval of Purchasing Performance and Compliance Audit 2003-2004

Larry Kelley introduced Mr. Chris DeWeese of Suttle & Stalnaker. He made a presentation on the Purchasing Performance and Compliance Audit recently conducted at WVSOM. He stated Amy Willard was the individual who had completed the audit and was with him on the phone. He appreciated the work that had been done reporting and commented that it was a smooth audit. Mr. DeWeese reviewed the audit report pointing out that Suttle & Stalnaker had been engaged by the Higher Education Policy Commission to look at all colleges and universities in West Virginia. He reviewed the minor comments made in the audit. Mr. DeWeese answered questions by David Fryson and Brentz Thompson.

Mr. Kelley thanked Mr. DeWeese and stated that WVSOM's purchasing office ranks with the best in the state if not the top office.

A motion was made by Dr. Marlene Wager with a second by Lance Faber to approve the Purchasing Performance and Compliance Audit 2003-2004 as submitted. Motion carried.

4.2 Approval of Deloitte & Touche Independent Auditors' Reports of Financial Statements for the Years ended June 30, 2004 and 2003

Larry Kelley reminded the Board that Dennis Juran made the presentation at the last meeting and the statements and footnotes from the Foundation were now inserted in the report.

A motion was made by Dr. John Lackey to approve the auditor's report as submitted. A second was made by Dr. David Nicholas. Motion carried.

4.3 Naming of New Geriatric Addition of Robert C. Byrd Clinic

Dr. Olen Jones reported that the Board of Directors of the Robert C. Byrd Clinic has submitted a proposal to name the new geriatric addition after Senator Robert C. Byrd's wife, Erma Byrd. Dr. Jones pointed out that Senator Byrd has provided every dollar for the construction of the clinic which amounts to nearly \$12 million.

Dr. Marlene Wager moved to approve the proposal to name the geriatric addition after Erma Byrd with a second by Valeria Barfield. Motion carried.

4.4 Honorary Degree

Dr. Jones reported that he would like to present to Dr. Jane Johnson an honorary degree at commencement. Dr. Johnson has been a dedicated supporter of the school and an outstanding Board member. The faculty has approved of this honorary degree. Dr. Jones also reported our commencement speaker will be Dr. Donald Newell, Jr. because the invited speaker, Governor Manchin, will be visiting Japan during that time period.

Dr. David Nicholas moved to approve an honorary degree for Dr. Jane Johnson. A second was made by Dr. Marlene Wager. Motion carried.

Informational Items

5.1 Faculty Recruiting Update

Dr. Jones stated faculty recruiting is going well. Several contracts are pending at this time. We will try to bring certain disciplines to campus earlier than anticipated so we do not lose these candidates.

5.2 Possible Purchase of Properties

Dr. Jones reported on the possible purchase of property located at 309 Greenbrier Road. The house is currently occupied by students. The owner contacted this office regarding the sale of the property. We have received two appraisals and offered her the price of the average of the appraisals. The owner is considering this offer. She also owns another home two doors up and may anticipate selling in the future.

Dr. Jones reported he has talked about the elementary school for 7 or 8 years. He is working with Superintendent John Curry and in the near future may be at a point where we could sign a letter of intent. We would have to do an assessment of the buildings to see if they can be used and at what level. Dr. Jones is optimistic. He plans to let the public know how the process worked regarding the appraisals, the value of the elementary school and what WVSOM paid for the property.

5.3 AOA COCA Meeting

Dr. Jones reported that he and Dr. Adelman will be attending another meeting of the Commission on College Accreditation (COCA) late next month regarding the enrollment increase. We anticipate approval.

5.4 Status of Construction Projects

Dr. Jones reported all of the projects are on schedule.

5.5 Commencement Speaker

Dr. Jones had already reported the commencement speaker will be Dr. Donald Newell, Jr. Graduation is schedule for 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, May 28, 2005.

5.6 Legislative Report

Dr. Jones reported that there should be some money to restore budgets. He also discussed the higher education reform bill which is a 3-year pilot project for the 2 universities. Nothing changes for our school.

Dr. Jones reported on the increment pay for faculty stating this has a strong chance of going through. Dr. Jones also stated we will recommend to the Board of Governors at the May meeting to give employees a 5% pay increase to be distributed in the same manner as in previous years.

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We have determined that a 7.5% increase in tuition will be recommended to the WVSOM Board of Governors for approval in May. Dr. Jones reviewed the schedule of tuition increase stating we can anticipate decreasing the rate of increase in tuition in the future once enrollment increases. Board members expressed their concerns of higher tuition. Valeria Barfield reported some colleges are tacking on numerous fees instead of increasing actual tuition. Dr. Lackey stated that quality of education has to be maintained but keep the tuition as low as we can.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Dr. John Lackey with a second by Dr. Marlene Wager to adjourn. Motion carried.

Cheryl Baker
Executive Secretary to the President

/ccb