

**West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine  
Board of Governors – Regular Meeting  
Friday, November 7, 2025  
Location: John Manchin, II, D.O. Conference Center, Room #2  
Clinical Evaluation Center**

**I. Call to Order, Roll Call/Quorum, and Mission Statement**

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by the Board Chair, Dr. Morgan. The Board Secretary, Dr. Santer, conducted a roll call and confirmed that a quorum was present. The WVSOM Mission Statement was read by Dr. Muscari.

**Members Present:**

Frederick Morgan, D.O., Chair	Raymond Joseph
Caitlyn Santer, D.O., Secretary	Scott Maxwell (teleconference)
Jacob Bartlett, OMS-III	Michael Muscari, D.O.
Dewayne Duncan	Gary Poling, D.O. (teleconference)
Courtney Eleazer, Ph.D.	Norman Wood Jr, D.O.
Ryan Fitzwater, D.O. (teleconference)	

**Members Absent:**

Randall Belt, D.O.

**Others in Attendance:**

James W. Nemitz, Ph.D., President	Debbie Green, Scribe/Board Liaison
Brian Lutz, J.D., General Counsel	

**II. Introductions**

Chair Morgan asked President Nemitz to make any introductions. President Nemitz welcomed Mr. Ray Joseph as a newly appointed member of the Board of Governors. Mr. Joseph was appointed by Governor Patrick Morrissey on October 14, 2025, succeeding Ms. Sharon Hall, whose term concluded on June 30, 2025. The President expressed appreciation for Ms. Hall's years of service and her leadership on the Finance Committee.

**III. Public Comment**

Chair Morgan opened the floor for public comment. Mr. Jake Logan, Creative Manager in WVSOM's Audiovisual Production Department, addressed the Board regarding the recent announcement that Greenbrier Valley Medical Center (GVMC) will discontinue labor and delivery services. Mr. Logan emphasized the significant impact this decision will have on rural health care access, noting that the nearest hospital providing maternity care will be over an hour away. He expressed concern for WVSOM students with young families and the broader community, urging the Board to explore options for establishing an osteopathic-led birthing center or other solutions to address this critical need. Chair Morgan thanked Mr. Logan for his comments.

**IV. Approval of Minutes**

A. September 26, 2025

It was moved and seconded (Muscari/Santer) to approve the meeting minutes from September 26, 2025, as presented. Motion Carried

**V. Agenda Order**

There were no changes to the agenda order.

**VI. Rules**

B. GA-23: Emergencies and Adverse Weather (*revised*). Mr. Duncan, Chair of the Institutional Policy Committee, stated that the committee reviewed the proposed policy GA-23: Emergencies and Adverse Weather. The policy was posted for a 30-day comment period, during which one comment was received. An administrative opinion was provided by the Office of General Counsel, but no changes were made to the policy. The committee recommended the revised policy to the full board for approval.

It was moved and seconded (Duncan/Muscari) to adopt the revisions to policy GA-23: Emergencies and Adverse Weather, as presented. Motion Carried

**VII. Reports**

A. Chair of the Board of Governors.

1. Committee Reports.

- a. Academic Committee. Dr. Santer stated that the Academic Committee did not meet today.
- b. Finance and Audit Committee. Dr. Muscari, Chair of the Finance and Audit Committee, reported positive financial trends.
- c. Institutional Policy Committee. Mr. Duncan had no additional updates beyond the policy revisions.

B. President of WVSOM.

1. Administration.

- a. President's Update. The full report was placed in the Board's Microsoft Teams account.

President Nemitz provided highlights of his report and acknowledged concerns raised during public comment regarding the discontinuation of obstetric services at GVMC. He explained that WVSOM was not involved in the decision-making process, which was undertaken by Charleston Area Medical Center (CAMC) and Vandalia Health at the corporate level. The President emphasized WVSOM's commitment to advocating for community needs and noted that discussions with CAMC leadership were scheduled for the following week.

President Nemitz then provided an update on legislative engagement, stating that WVSOM would present to the Joint Interim Committee on Education on December 7, 2025. Governor Morrissey invited President Nemitz to participate in feedback on the Rural Transformation Grant application, and the President appreciated the opportunity to contribute to this important project.

Additional highlights from the President's Report included updates on the Dean search, fundraising initiatives, the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs, and developments within the Information Technology Department.

- b. **Dean's Update.** President Nemitz asked Dr. Linda Boyd, Vice President of Academic Affairs, Dean and Chief Academic Officer, to address the Board, marking her final meeting before retirement. President Nemitz commended Dr. Boyd for her transformative leadership, highlighting the establishment of the Master of Science in Biomedical Sciences program, the new D.O. curriculum, and her strategic planning initiatives aimed at addressing challenges in clinical education and student recruitment.

Dr. Boyd presented the Board of Governors with a national perspective on osteopathic medical education, providing a detailed analysis of challenges, trends, tuition structures, and curriculum innovations. She expressed pride in WVSOM's progress and optimism for continued success under new leadership. Questions and discussion followed.

- c. **Statewide Campus Update.** President Nemitz asked Dr. Art Rubin, Associate Dean of Predoctoral Clinical Education, to address the Board, marking his final meeting before retirement. Dr. Rubin provided an extensive overview of statewide campus operations, including rotation scheduling, faculty and curriculum development, review of outcomes, and residency placement success. Questions and discussion followed.

## 2. Finance.

- a. **FY26 Financial Status as of September 30, 2025.** Mr. Justin McAllister, Vice President of Finance and Facilities and Chief Financial Officer, reviewed income and expenditures as of September 30, 2025. Year-to-date actual revenues were \$23,384,332, and total expenses were \$13,173,437. Cash at the state treasury totaled \$42,482,761, and funds invested in WVSOM's account with Morgan Stanley totaled \$55,189,545. Mr. McAllister stated WVSOM is in a strong financial position and trending in the right direction.
- b. **Financial Dashboard.** A sample financial dashboard was presented to the Board of Governors and will soon be launched for use by the Board and the broader campus community.
- c. **Facilities Update.** Mr. McAllister provided updates on several capital projects, including the Science Building and initiatives for deferred maintenance. There were no questions or discussion.
  - i. Science Building Project.
  - ii. Deferred Maintenance Projects.
  - iii. Student Housing.

## VIII. Board Items

- A. **Election of Officers.** Since Sharon Hall is no longer a Board member, Chair Morgan opened the floor for nominations of Board Vice Chair. Dr. Muscari nominated Dr. Santer for Board Vice Chair, and she accepted the nomination.

It was moved and seconded (Muscari/Morgan) to elect Dr. Santer as Board Vice Chair.  
Motion Carried

Chair Morgan opened the floor for nominations of Board Secretary. Dr. Muscari nominated Dr. Eleazer for Board Secretary, and she accepted the nomination.

It was moved and seconded (Muscari/Morgan) to elect Dr. Eleazer as Board Secretary.  
Motion Carried

- B. Annual Faculty Report. Brian Griffith, Ph.D., Faculty Council Chair, presented the Annual Faculty Report, titled *"The Heartbeat of WVSOM: Faculty Leading the Way in Education, Mentorship, Research, and Service."* His presentation celebrated faculty achievements in curriculum innovation, classroom and extracurricular accomplishments, research, and scholarly activity.

One-quarter hour of board education will be submitted for this report to the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission toward the training credit hours required for the Board of Governors.

**IX. Information Gathering**

No items were brought forth.

**X. Next Meeting Date**

The next board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 29, 2026, in Charleston, WV.

**XI. Adjournment**

It was moved and seconded (Muscari/Santer) to adjourn. The motion carried, and the Board adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Approved on January 29, 2026

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Courtney Eleazer, Ph.D., Secretary

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