

# MINUTES

Regular Meeting  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Vernon College  
April 10, 2024

The Board of Trustees of Vernon College met on Wednesday, April 10, 2024 at 11:30 p.m. in the *Board Room* of the *Osborne Administration Building*, Vernon, Texas with the following present: Mr. Bob Ferguson – Chairman; Mrs. Ann Wilson – Vice-Chairman, and Mrs. Betsy Smith – Secretary. Other board members in attendance were Mr. Irl Holt, Mrs. Jamie Chapman, Mr. James Brock and Mrs. Meg Heatly.

Others present were Dr. Dusty Johnston, President; Mrs. Mindi Flynn, Vice President of Administration; Mrs. Jackie Polk, Director of Human Resources; Ms. Michelle Alexander, Director of Institutional Advancement/Executive Director, Vernon College Foundation; Mrs. Roxie Hill, Director of Student Information System/Special Projects/Chief Information Security Officer; Mr. Jason Jenkins, Athletic Director/Head Athletic Trainer; Mrs. Kristin Harris, Dean of Student Services; Mrs. Jacqueline Bone, Student Success Specialist; Mr. Kevin Holland, Director of Campus Police; and Ms. Mary King, Administrative Secretary to the President. Guests present were Mr. Daryl Wolf, *incoming new Board Member* and Ms. Darby Sparkman of the *Vernon Daily Record*.

Public Comment – Mr. Ferguson commented that this was Mr. Holt’s last meeting as a board member and wanted to extend the college’s appreciation. Dr. Johnston presented Mr. Holt with a plaque for his 12-year service from May 2012 through May 2024. He stated Irl has been an outstanding board member. “I have truly valued his knowledge, insight, focus on students, and support for me and the Vernon College team. He has been a strong supporter of all things Vernon College – student success, athletic programs, drama productions, student organizations, scholarships, and always involved in the annual VC Sports Day activities”.

Mr. Ferguson called the meeting to order at 11:30 a.m.

## Consent Agenda

Mr. Holt made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Smith to approve the Consent Agenda containing the *Minutes of the March 13, 2024 Regular Board Meeting* and the *President’s Monthly Travel Expense Report*. The motion carried unanimously.

## Action Item A

Mrs. Flynn presented the *Financial and Investment Reports as of March 31, 2024*. Mr. Brock made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Chapman to approve the report as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

## Action Item B

Mr. Ferguson, made the recommendation for a *Nominating Committee* consisting of Mr. Brock, Mrs. Chapman and Mrs. Heatly to make recommendations *for a new slate of officers* at the May 8, 2024 Regular Board of Trustees meeting. Mrs. Wilson made the motion to approve the recommendation, seconded by Mr. Holt. The motion carried unanimously.

## Action Item C

Mr. Holt made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Smith, to approve the City of Vernon to Demolish Tax Properties listed: 2501 Bowie Street, 2917 Cumberland Street, 2900 Mesquite Street, 3114 Main Street and 1334 Ross Street. The motion carried unanimously.

## Action Item D

*Tax Resale Deeds* held in Trust by the City of Vernon - *None*

## President’s Report/Board Discussion Items

### Board input/discussion –

The President gave the Board a Braum’s update. The Vernon College property that Braum’s is interested in purchasing has been surveyed and appraised. An ad notice will be in the paper to accept bids and they will be considered at the May 8 meeting.

Budget update – Draft 1 – Dr. Johnston and Mrs. Flynn presented Draft 1 of the Budget for the fiscal year 2024-2025. Dr. J stated that there are four drafts before the final draft in August for the next year. Draft 1 is never close to being balanced. It would be better if the tax revenues were based on actual numbers instead of estimates. The state appropriations will not be known until late May. Mrs. Flynn noted that Draft 1 does include the 1.5% step salary schedule. Mr. Holt stated he would like for that to be more than the 1.5%.

Student Success Data Fact – Mrs. Flynn presented the 2023-2024 Assessment Activity and Reporting Calendar as the Student Success Data Fact in Dr. Brad Beauchamp’s absence. This tool is referred to and updated throughout the year by all components of the college. The glossary developed about 10 years ago to document assessment reports in an organized manner.

King Farm update – Mrs. Flynn gave an update on the King farm stating a new Lessee signed up last year who planted Milo. There was no rain, so the crop didn’t make. The College did not receive a share this time. The Lessee will try again this year with Cotton. She stated we receive \$8,850.00 a year from another Lessee who raises livestock on the other half of the property.

Student Highlight – Mrs. Bone highlighted student Emily Toy. Ms. Toy took college classes after high school in 1999. She was a full-time student but did not take college seriously, failed and withdrew. She returned in the Spring of 2023 as a part-time student. She has now not had below a 3.2 semester GPA. Emily has faced many challenges including working full-time, academic progress, self-doubt and balancing work, school and family life. Her future plans are to obtain an Associate degree in Nursing from Vernon College, obtain a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree and growth in her current profession at Wilbarger General Hospital.

Sport Exploratory Committee report – Mr. Jenkins, Chairperson of the Sport Exploratory Committee, gave a report on the recommendations. The Committee was charged with exploring the possibility of adding a new sport on the Vernon campus. The members included Mrs. Rachel White, Director of the PASS Department and Coordinator of Students with Disabilities; Board members Mr. Brock, and Mrs. Heatly; and Mr. Jason Scheller, History instructor. The committee met over the course of the last six months. After researching colleges in the NJCAA Region V regarding the sports they currently have, scholarships offered, and how many student/athletes. The committee came up with developing the following recommendations:

1. Develop a plan to enhance the aesthetics of the existing dorms
2. Provide an increase in scholarship dollars that would allow each of the existing sports the opportunity to be fully funded with scholarship dollars
3. If an additional sport was considered by the Board, the recommendation would be for Cross Country, Women’s Basketball and/or Tennis. The recommendation from the committee is that no additional new sport should be developed at Vernon College for at least three years in order to give sufficient time for previous recommendations to be addressed and allow for a quality search for staff and student-athletes.

July Board Retreat/Monthly Meeting – Dr. Johnston proposed to have the July 10 Board Retreat at the Skills Training Center. It will begin with a tour of the center, morning agenda, lunch, and followed by the regular board meeting at 1:00 pm.

Residence hall tour - Dr. Johnston stated the tour planned for today will take place in June when the residence hall is empty.

Dr. Johnston presented the Reminder of upcoming college events:

- (1) Vernon College Foundation Board meeting – Thursday, April 18, 2024 – 10:00 a.m. – CCC
- (2) Honors Convocation – Thursday, April 25, 2024 – 6:00 p.m. – MPEC, Wichita Falls
- (3) Sports Banquet – Monday, May 6, 2024 – 6:30 p.m. – Wilbarger Auditorium
- (4) Board of Trustees meeting – Wednesday, May 8, 2024 – 11:30 a.m. Vernon Campus
- (5) Commencement – Thursday, May 9 – 6:00 pm--Kay Yeager Coliseum, Wichita Falls
  - 4:30 p.m. Graduate Check-in – all students
  - 5:30 p.m. Board members, faculty, staff, and students prepare for entrance
  - 6:00 p.m. Graduation – All students
- (6) ADN Pinning – Friday, May 10, 2024 – 10:30 a.m. – Wilbarger Auditorium

Dr. Johnston presented the Philanthropic Report/Outside Grants Report.

(1) Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes

Reminder:

Summer hours for 2024 will begin Monday, May 13 and continue through Thursday, August 1. Operating hours will be Monday through Thursday 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Offices will not be expected to stay open to 6:00 p.m. during summer hours. Vernon College will return to the Monday through Thursday 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and Friday 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon schedule on Monday, August 5, 2024.

Personnel

Mrs. Wilson made the motion, seconded by Mr. Holt, to approve the personnel changes as recommended by Dr. Johnston and detailed on item 6 Personnel Information Sheet. The motion carried.

A. Personnel Changes

1. Employment

- a. No current April new hires

2. Reassignment

- a. Roxanne Hill, reassignment to Vice President of Information Systems and Technology, effective May 1, 2024

3. Resignation

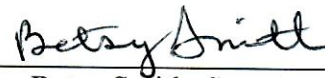
- a. Erica Stolper, Classified II, LVN Faculty Administrative Assistant, effective March 31, 2024

There being no further business Mr. Holt made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Heatly to adjourn the meeting at 1:40 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.



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Bob Ferguson, Chairman



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Mrs. Betsy Smith, Secretary