

MINUTES

Regular Meeting
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Vernon College
November 13, 2024

The Board of Trustees of Vernon College met on Wednesday, November 13, 2024 at 11:30 a.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. James Brock, Mrs. Jamie Chapman, Mrs. Meg Heatly and Mr. Daryl Wolf.

Others present were Dr. Dusty Johnston, President; Mrs. Mindi Flynn, Vice President of Administration; Dr. Roxanne Hill, Vice President of Information Systems and Technology/Chief Information Security Officer; Ms. Michelle A. Alexander, Director of Institutional Advancement/Executive Director, Vernon College Foundation; Mrs. Kristin Harris, Dean of Student Services; Mrs. Jackie Polk, Director of Human Resources; Mrs. Holly Scheller, Coordinator of Marketing and Community Relations; Mrs. Jeanne Ballard, Director of Financial Aid; Ms. Melissa Moore, Student Success Specialist; Mr. Kevin Holland, Director of Campus Police; Mr. Jeff Hass, Vernon Campus Police Officer; and Ms. Mary King, Administrative Secretary to the President. Guests present were Mr. Mike Chacanaca of the *Vernon Daily Record*, and Mr. Rick Sims, President/Principal and Senior Project Manager from *BYSParchitect*.

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

Consent Agenda

Mrs. Wilson made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Chapman, to approve the Consent Agenda containing the *Minutes of the October 9, 2024 Regular Board Meeting* and the *President's Monthly Travel Expense Report*. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment – No one was present to make comments.

Action Item A

Mrs. Mindi Flynn presented the *Financial and Investment Reports as of October 31, 2024*. Mrs. Chapman made the motion, seconded by Mr. Brock, to approve the Vernon College year to date and monthly financial and investment reports. The motion carried unanimously.

Action Item B

Mrs. Wilson made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Smith, to approve the *2025 Spring Continuing Education Schedule* with proposed tuition and fees, and authorize the Dean of Instructional Services to set tuition and fees for any additional classes that may develop during the spring term as presented by Dr. Johnston. The motion carried unanimously.

Action Item C

Mrs. Smith made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Wilson, to approve of *Directing the College President to Investigate the Madison Crossing Apartments* tax status issue and have authority to utilize legal representation if necessary up to \$10,000 for our part. Mr. Ferguson requested an investigation of the apartments reason for not paying taxes. He checked with the other entities and they were also interested, but not sure if they have proceeded. Dr. Johnston stated he will act as requested and will contact legal representation to investigate the misinformation pertaining to the issue, if the motion passes. The motion carried unanimously.

Action Item D

Mr. Wolf made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Heatly, to approve the consideration of *Softdocs Proposal* as presented by Dr. Johnston and Dr. Roxie Hill at the following cost: Year 1 – 67,241.76; Year 2 – 78,007.05; Year 3 – 80,347.26; Year 4 - 82,757.41; and Year 5 – 85,240.41. The motion carried unanimously.

Action Item E

Mrs. Chapman made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Wilson to approve to enter the agreement with *Ferrilli Consulting* as presented by Dr. Johnston and Dr. Hill at an estimated cost of \$60,000. The motion carried unanimously.

Action Item F

After a continued and lengthy discussion which included:

- Financial analysis of the addition of a sports team
- Available room in the current residence halls
- Aspects of the impact of the new community college funding methodology focusing on completion
- Questions regarding which sport to add

Mr. Brock made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Heatly, to approve *Adding and Funding an Additional Sports Team to begin Competition in Fall 2027*. After a lengthy discussion and all the considerations, the motion failed 2 to 4.

Action Item G

No *Tax Resale Deeds* were received to approve.

President's Report/Board Discussion Items – No items to discuss.

Foundation meeting report –

Mr. Ferguson gave an update of the Vernon College Foundation Annual Board Meeting held on October 17, 2024 in the Board Room of the Osborne Administration building on the Vernon campus. He stated the Directors reelected the same officers from last year: Helen Willingham, Chairman, Joni Streit, Vice Chairman; and Brent Hillery, Secretary-Treasurer.

They approved the following:

- Spend rate of 5% for 2025-2026 Vernon College Foundation Scholarships.
- A new grant of \$10,000 to the Vernon College Distance Education Department for Faculty Exemplary Online Course Development Grants.
- Three (3) Department Grants with the proceeds of the 2024 Vernon College Online Auction - Associate Degree Nursing \$2,620 for ADN Simulation Lab Supplies, Equipment, and Professional Development; Licensed Vocational Nursing \$2,376 for LVN Simulation Lab Supplies, Equipment, and Professional Development; and Wright Library \$4,700 for new furniture.

Student Success Specialist, Kelli Lehman presented a student spotlight on Jose Manqueros. Dr. Johnston gave his President's report. Michelle Alexander presented the annual Philanthropic Report, and Vice President Mindi Flynn presented the Foundation's annual Financial and Investment Report.

Student Highlight – Melissa Moore, Student Success Specialist, presented Mason Schreiber as the Student Highlight for this month. Mr. Schreiber is a dual credit high school student who is a senior at Memorial High School. He has a 4.81 GPA at Memorial and maintains a 3.75 at Vernon College. On top of high school and dual credit classes at VC, Mason has two jobs. He is very active in several clubs such as the Spanish Club, Guitar Club and National Honor Society. He plans to pursue a Finance degree at Texas A&M. He stated that through dual credit he has gained experience of attending classes in a college setting and given him more confidence. Getting used to college classes at first was challenging, but it became easier and more enjoyable. Dual Credit classes have been beneficial financially. He really enjoyed getting to know his VC instructors.

Residence Hall Update – Rick Sims, President/Principal and Senior Project Manager from *BYSParchitect* was present to give the Board updates on the residence hall renovations. He shared an overview of timelines and the process for construction proposals, bid openings, on-site begin dates, completion dates, and floor plans. He will return for the December meeting with more updates, samples, and a possible action item on construction proposals.

Dr. Johnston presented the Upcoming College Events:

1. Campuses closed for the Thanksgiving Holiday – November 25-29, 2024
2. SACSCOC Annual Conference – Austin, TX – December 7-10, 2024
3. Vernon College Board of Trustees meeting – Wednesday, December 11, 2024 11:30 am
4. College closed for the Christmas Break – Friday, December 20, 2024 12:00 noon
5. College re-opens for Spring Semester – Monday, January 6, 2025

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

There were no minutes from Faculty/Staff/Student Organizations.

Mrs. Chapman made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Smith, to approve the personnel changes as recommended by Dr. Johnston and detailed on item 6 B Personnel Information Sheet. The motion carried unanimously.

A. Employment

1. Savannah Roberson - Classified III, Administrative Assistant – Veterans Affairs, Century City Center, effective October 21, 2024
2. Dakota Miller - Classified II, Administrative Assistant - Nursing, Century City Center, effective October 21, 2024
3. Johna Akers, Congregate Meals – Head Cook – Vernon, effective November 4, 2024

B. Reassignment

1. Lois Martinez, from Adjunct Nursing Instructor to Full Time Nursing Instructor – Century City Center, effective October 21, 2024
2. Madison Tiedman from Coordinator of Testing to College Access Coordinator – Century City Center, effective October 21, 2024
3. Ashley Burnham from Assistant Testing Coordinator to Coordinator of Testing – Century City Center, effective November 1, 2024
4. Christian Ford from Student Success Specialist to Assistant Director of Student Success – Century City Center, effective November 1, 2024

C. Resignation

1. Amanda Crow, Nursing Faculty – Century City Center, effective October 31, 2024

There being no further business Mrs. Wilson made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Chapman, to adjourn the meeting at 1:10 p.m.



Mr. Bob Ferguson, Chairman



Mrs. Betsy Smith, Secretary