

MINUTES

Regular Meeting BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Vernon College
September 11, 2024

The Board of Trustees of Vernon College met on Wednesday, September 11, 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, and Mrs. Ann Wilson – Vice-Chairman. Other board members in attendance were Mr. Daryl Wolf, Mr. James Brock, Mrs. Jamie Chapman and Mrs. Meg Heatly. Absent was Mrs. Betsy Smith – Secretary.

Others present were Dr. Dusty Johnston, President; Mrs. Shana Drury, Vice President of Instructional Services; Mrs. Mindi Flynn, Vice President of Administration; Dr. Criquett Chapman, Vice President of Student Services; Dr. Roxie Hill, Vice President of Information Systems and Technology; Mrs. Bettye Hutchins, Dean of Instructional Services; Mrs. Kristin Harris, Dean of Student Services; Mrs. Holly Scheller, Coordinator of Marketing and Community Relations; Mrs. Jeanne Ballard, Director of Financial Aid; Ms. Colleen Moore, Director of Enrollment Management/Registrar; Ms. Kelli Lehman, Student Success Specialist; Mr. Kevin Holland, Director of Campus Police; and Ms. Mary King, Administrative Secretary to the President. Guest present was Mr. Mike Chacanaca of the *Vernon Daily Record*.

Before the meeting is called to order, Chairman Ferguson asked for a moment of silence in memory of all those lost from the September 11 attacks.

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 August 14, 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 August 31, 2024*. Mr. Brock made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Wilson, to approve the Vernon College year to date and monthly financial and investment reports as presented by the Chief Financial Officer. The motion carried unanimously.

Action Item B

Mrs. Chapman made the motion, seconded by Mr. Wolf to approve the annual *2023-2024 Wilbarger County Tax Collections* for Vernon College by the Wilbarger County Tax Collector, as presented by Dr. Johnston. The motion carried unanimously.

Action Item C

Mrs. Chapman made the motion, seconded by Mr. Brock to approve the *Vernon College Texas School Safety Center, School Safety and Security Audit in compliance with Texas Education Code 37.108* as presented by Dr. Johnston and Mr. Kevin Holland. The motion carried unanimously.

Action Item D

No resale of tax foreclosure properties to approve.

President's Report/Board Discussion Items – Dr. Johnston stated he and board members James Brock and Daryl Wolf will attend the CCATT Conference in Amarillo on September 12-14, 2024. He asked if any board member is interested in attending the annual THECB Leadership Conference in Austin on December 12-13, 2024 to please let him know.

Student Success Data Fact – Ms. Colleen Moore presented the Preliminary Enrollment Report and Comparison for Fall 2023 vs. Fall 2024 - as the Student Success Data Fact. She stated the total headcount for all locations was up from 2,146 to 2,284, or an increase of 6.43%. This increase is higher than the 2022 enrollment as well.

Health Care Clinic update – Mrs. Kristin Harris presented the Health Care Clinic annual report from September 2023 through August 2024. The report contains the list of numbered visits and the reason for each. The month of December is blank because the clinic was undergoing renovations. The clinic is located in the Sumner Applied Arts building on the Vernon campus. Provider Lindsay R. Streit, Family Nurse Practitioner, and LVN, Kamry DeLeon are doing a wonderful job! Hours for student or staff visits are posted to the Health Clinic Door.

Strategic Plan update – Dr. Beauchamp presented the Strategic Plan 2024–2029. Dr. Beauchamp also noted the 5th year report to SACSCOC was submitted recently. An updated strategic plan to reflect current goals and initiatives, has been implemented to the same format that will be used for the SACSCOC 10-year report. There are four strategic goals – (1) Student Success, (2) Workforce, Community and Economic Impact, (3) College Environment and Effectiveness, and (4) Communication, Engagement and Outreach. He pointed out each goal and the several objectives that measure to that goal.

Student Highlight – Ms. Kelli Lehman presented Reginal Barnes as the student highlight for this month. Reginal had an unstable family life growing up. Dropped out of school in the 8th grade but later attended college and earned an associate’s degree in construction and building. Moving back to Vernon and starting a family, he later found himself unemployed and looking for work. At 42 years old, he has started a new path. He is in the HVAC program at Skills Training Center and taking some classes at Vernon. Growing up in Vernon, he never knew all this was accessible to him or even a possibility for him.

Residence Hall upgrade discussion – Dr. Johnston stated Architect Rick Sims has not sent anything regarding upgrades to the dorms. He has been in contact with him and as soon as he sends something the President will share with the board.

Sports Team discussion – Dr. Johnston mentioned that Mr. Brock wanted the new sports team possibility back on the agenda for open discussion. Mr. Brock stated it has been nearly a year since the assigned committee started working on it and wanted to know what the status was. Dr. Johnston stated the Sport Exploratory Committee came up with 3 recommendations from their report, 1) to increase scholarships – that has occurred, 2) to do renovations to the dorms – we are deep in the process of that, and 3) to look into the possibility of an additional sport maybe in 2027. The timeline to inform the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) is a year, at minimum, and then the Conference. The Board had a lengthy discussion over the pros and cons due to adding another sports team. Dr. Johnston stated that he has provided the information that the college currently invests \$750,000 in the athletic programs every year, and the estimates of losing \$129,000 per a 20-person team, based on the new funding system, if all 20 complete. Just something to think about if another sport is added.

Dr. Johnston presented the Upcoming College Events:

- (1) VC Sports Day – Tuesday, October 1, 2024 – Vernon
- (2) Vernon College Regular Board Meeting – October 9, 2024
- (3) Vernon College Foundation Annual Board Meeting, Vernon Campus – Thursday, October 17, 2024
- (4) Vernon College NIRA Rodeo – November 7-9, 2024 – WCEC
- (5) 2024-2025 Sports Status/Schedules (Rodeo, Baseball, Volleyball & Softball) –Exhibits

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

Dr. Johnston stated the Faculty Senate had their meeting, but has not sent in the minutes. These will be shared next month.

Mrs. Wilson made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Chapman 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. James "Jimmy" Mendoya, Night Custodian – Century City Center, effective September 8, 2024
2. Jayland Ricks, Classified III/Administrative Assistant – Business Office - Vernon Campus, effective September 16, 2024

B. Reassignment

1. Valerie Whitten, from Classified III, Administrative Assistant – Veterans Affairs to Coordinator of Veteran's Affairs, Century City Center, effective September 1, 2024
2. Carolann Humphrey, from Classified II, Administrative Assistant, Nursing to Classified III, Administrative Assistant – Vernon Campus, effective October 1, 2024

C. Resignation

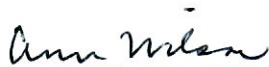
1. Jason Makepeace, Coordinator of Veteran's Affairs – Century City Center, effective September 6, 2024

Closed Session: Mr. Brock made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Heatly, to go into closed session at 1:05 p.m. in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code, Subchapter 551.074, to discuss personnel or other items under this section of the Texas Government Code, Texas Open Meetings Act. The motion carried unanimously.

No Action

Open Session: Mrs. Wilson made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Heatly, to reconvene at 1:20 p.m. in open session. The motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business Mrs. Wilson made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Chapman to adjourn the meeting at 1:23 p.m.



Mr. Bob Ferguson, Chairman
vice



Mrs. Betsy Smith, Secretary