

WASHBURN UNIVERSITY OF TOPEKA
BOARD OF REGENTS
MINUTES
June 14, 2012

I. Call to Order

Chairperson Klausman called the meeting to order at 3:32 in the Forum Room of the Bradbury Thompson Alumni Center on the Washburn University campus.

II. Roll Call

Present were: Mr. Bunten, Mr. Klausman, Mr. Lykins, Mr. Moses, Ms. O'Toole, Mrs. Parks, Mr. Sneed, Ms. Sourk and Mr. Storey.

III. Approval of Minutes of the May 1, 2012 meeting.

It was moved and seconded to approve the Minutes of the May 1, 2012 meeting. Motion passed.

IV. Officer Reports

A. Chair's Report

Chairperson Klausman announced Mrs. Blanche Parks has been reappointed for a four year term. He congratulated her and thanked her for all her service on the Board the previous year and for assisting him as Co-chair during the 2012 fiscal year.

B. President's Report

President Farley reported on events at Washburn University since the Board last met. He said the Sunflower music festival was underway and would be continuing this night of June 14, and also Friday and Saturday. He stated a string quartet from Russia performed at the festival on Monday and said Washburn was fortunate to have them as the quartet is one of the very best in the world. Dr. Farley reported Cindi Morrison, Director of the Mulvane Museum, hosted the Mulvane Art Museum's Mountain/Plains Art Fair June 2nd and 3rd.

Dr. Farley also commented graduation ceremonies were held in May which is always a joyous occasion.

President Farley stated the Kansas legislature ended the session and said he was pleased to report the Governor recommended no reductions to higher education, which was approved by the legislature.

C. Committee Report(s)

1. Finance Committee

a. FY 2013 General Fund Budget – Washburn University and Washburn Institute of Technology

Regent Dan Lykins, Chair of the Budget and Finance Committee, reported the committee met on April 19, 2012 and voted unanimously to recommend a 4% tuition increase at the next Washburn Board of Regents meeting but tabled the item at the May 1, 2012 board meeting as the Kansas legislature was still in session and there was a possibility of new funding. He stated there was no new funding, however the budget was not reduced. He presented a motion to approve the budget which was seconded.

Rick Anderson, Vice President for Administration and Treasurer, made a PowerPoint presentation of the budget proposal. He stated there were six student open forums as well as open forums for faculty and staff to discuss the proposed tuition increase. He also said they looked at the market relative to student tuition and pay based upon market factors. Mr. Anderson reviewed FY 13 Strategic Budget Planning Principles. He presented a tuition comparison to national and Midwest averages and as compared to other Kansas public higher education institutions. Mr. Anderson noted the percentage change at Washburn in the last ten years has been the lowest except Fort Hays, which is recognized as the low cost state educational institution.

Regent Lykins reported the Kansas Board of Regents will be meeting next week and all state educational institutions will be asking for higher tuition increases than Washburn and said the reason for that is the lack of state and other public funds.

Mr. Anderson noted the reverse trend in tuition dollars relative to public funds, stating that as states have reduced funding higher education tuition has increased. He said the proposed 4% tuition increase would go predominately toward a modest salary increase, stating the average would be 2.95% based on merit.

Mrs. Parks noted the lower enrollment for the law school and inquired as to the reason. President Farley said it is a national trend due to a lull in the market. Regent Storey concurred.

Discussion followed on the cost of tuition and the need to keep costs low while maintaining quality. Chairperson Klausman asked that Mr. Anderson continue his presentation.

Regent Bunten expressed concern for the cost for students and increased debt load. Regent Moses stated a salary increase would come from the tuition increase and expressed concern of competing for high quality faculty if salaries are not competitive

Vice President Anderson noted a salary increase becomes a permanent obligation. He stated money was added for marketing several years ago and enrollment has picked up so you can see the return in investment, further noting that without a permanent source of revenue the institution takes some risk.

Regent Sourk said the issue was larger than what can be solved at Washburn, but that to keep our good faculty and maintain the quality of the institution there must be salary adjustments to remain competitive.

Vice President Anderson said comparatively Washburn has lower student debt upon graduation than other similar and regional institutions.

Regent Lykins expressed concerns for the employees who have not received a raise in three years stating it will take longer to recover the set back in the competitive marketplace. He stated while Washburn is financially stable it is partly due to not giving raises for the last three years. He stated that if the University doesn't pay sufficient to retain good faculty, which in turn brings in good students, the quality of the institution will decline.

Vice President Anderson presented the campus budget for Washburn Institute of Technology.

The question was called. Motion was made and seconded to pass the recommendation of Budget and Finance Committee. Motion passed with Regent Bunten voting in opposition.

2. Nominating Committee

Chairperson Klausman reported the Nominating Committee recommended Regent Klausman for Chairperson for the 2013 fiscal year and Regent Sneed to serve as Vice-Chair. Motion was made and seconded. Motion passed.

D. Treasurer's Report

It was moved and seconded to accept the Treasurer's Report **1. Liquidated Claims Approval – April 2012**, and **2. Liquidated Claims Approval – May 2012**. Motion passed.

V. New Business

A. Consent Agenda

It was moved and seconded to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion passed.

As approved by action of the Board:

1. Deletion of Banking Associate Degree

deletion of the Banking Associate Degree as outlined in the agenda item; and,

2. Proposed New General Education Requirements – Phase I

the new Phase I General Education requirements as outlined in the agenda item.

B. Action Items

1. Washburn Institute of Technology Roof Replacement

Vice President for Administration and Treasurer, Rick Anderson, presented the item, noting the bid came in below the budgeted amount. Motion was made and seconded. Motion passed.

2. Revisions to Classified Compensation Schedule

Vice President for Administration and Treasurer, Rick Anderson, presented this item stating the request was based upon a comparison to the marketplace with adjustments recommended. Motion was made and seconded. Motion passed.

3. Training Systems Equipment for Washburn Institute of Technology

Vice President for Administration and Treasurer, Rick Anderson, presented this item for ratification of bids for equipment needed as part of the TRAC-7 grant. Motion was made and seconded to ratify the expenditure. Motion passed.

4. Training Systems Building Renovation for Washburn Institute of Technology

Vice President of Administration and Treasurer, Rick Anderson, presented this item for ratification noting the project needed to be complete by August to begin classes. Motion was made and seconded. Motion passed.

5. Renewal of Property Insurance Policy

Vice President for Administration and Treasurer, Rick Anderson, presented the item. Motion was made and seconded. Motion passed.

Chairperson Klausman reported the Nominating Committee also recommends Rick Anderson continue serving as Treasurer to the Board and Lisa Jones to serve as Secretary to the Board. Motion was made and seconded. Motion passed.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:17 p.m.

Lisa R. Jones
Secretary, Board of Regents