

**WASHBURN UNIVERSITY OF TOPEKA**  
**BOARD OF REGENTS**  
**MINUTES**  
**November 12, 2015**

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**I. Call to Order**

Chairperson Sneed called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.in Conference Center C/D side on the Washburn Institute of Technology campus.

**II. Roll Call**

Present were: Mr. Beck, Mr. Boles, Mr. Feuerborn, Mr. Hoferer, Mr. McGivern, Mrs. Parks, Mr. Sneed, Mrs. Sourk and Mr. Wolgast.

**III. Approval of Minutes of the September 25, 2015 meeting**

It was moved and seconded to approve the Minutes of the September 25, 2015 meeting. Motion by Regent Parks and seconded by Regent Boles. Motion passed.

**IV. Officer Reports**

**A. Chair's Report**

There was no Chair's report.

**B. President's Report**

President Farley thanked all who were able to participate in 150<sup>th</sup> Grand Homecoming, saying he heard no comments that were not positive about the event. He thanked members of the Oversight committee - Dr. Ottinger, Dr. Mazacheck, Dr. Hornberger, Amanda Hughes and Julie Olsen – saying all worked very hard to make this event successful.

Dr. Farley reported the Governor released recommendations based on new estimates for tax revenues. For this year, there no recommendations relating to higher education. Proposals for next year also have no cuts for higher education.

President Farley said that on July 1, 2017, the option to prohibit concealed weapons on campus will expire. He said discussions have begun about what policies need to be in place at that time. Two town hall meetings were held on the Washburn University campus which were productive. There is a good deal of anxiety among the faculty, but discussions focused on being proactive about these policies. A town hall meeting will be held at Washburn Tech Friday morning, November 13.

Dr. Farley reported student councils for Kansas Board of Regents' (KBOR) institutions are looking to create a survey instrument for students on all campuses. Washburn was invited to participate with the KBOR institutions. Washburn will participate, but in a slightly different way. Washburn will send a scientifically established sample to develop reliable data about what the students are thinking. How the data will be utilized has not yet been determined. Dr. Farley said there are five other states that have or will have the same law in place by July 1, 2016. Washburn will have the option to secure every entrance for every building, but the cost is prohibitive. Only people who are 21 years of age and older can carry concealed weapons, so a significant portion of population is eliminated.

Chairperson Sneed offered Regent Beck, who attended the town hall meetings, the opportunity to comment. Regent Beck agreed with President Farley's comments about anxiety amongst the faculty. He stated assessment is necessary for the costs of each policy provision. He did not hear anything about the impact on liability insurance with the change, so would like more information on that issue. The parties seem to understand this is not likely to change.

### **C. Committee Report(s)**

#### **1. Budget/Finance Committee**

The Budget/Finance Committee met on November 5. The first issue is a change in the healthcare plan for employees. The plan is up for renewal on January 1, 2016. If there is no change, premiums would go up 11% for all employees. With recommendation, changes would be 5%. The second subject was a change to the policy to permit local preference in bidding of contracts. The proposed policy defines that it would be applicable when bids are comparable and also defines local as having a physical business address in Shawnee County.

### **D. Treasurer's Report**

There was no Treasurer's report.

## **V. New Business**

### **A. Consent Agenda**

It was moved by Regent Sourk and seconded by Regent Parks to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion passed.

#### **1. Faculty/Staff Personnel Actions**

Recruit new position Project Coordinator, Sexual Assault Education & Prevention, fully grant funded salary of \$37,000.

## **B. Action Items**

### **1. University Health Plan Renewal**

Vice President for Administration and Treasurer, Rick Anderson presented the item. The analysis looked at how our plan is designed and how risk is spread to determine how to address changes. Analysis showed the fastest growing area in costs is in prescription drugs, recommending an increase of the co-pay for prescription drugs and adding a fourth category. He said there are four classes of prescription drugs and an increase in co-pays is consistent with BCBSKS across the state. Utilization in relation to premiums paid was also reviewed. The buy-up plan has been over utilizing services in comparison to premiums paid. As a result, the recommendation is an increase of 5% only to those purchasing the buy-up plan. The increase in co-pays for prescription drugs applies to both plans.

President Farley noted we still use a tiered salary approach to make it more affordable to lower wage employees and reminded the Regents that we are self-funded plan. It was noted that most likely changes in the future to help control costs are (1) tying the wellness plan to premiums, and (2) more actively managing the employee base, particularly as related to chronic diseases, such as diabetes. This would include having more people on site to address these matters. The wellness program currently is not tied to premiums but incentivized, and we have over two-thirds participation by the employees. This is a very robust participation, and eventually the wellness program participation will be tied into premiums.

Regent Hoferer moved to approve the recommendation for health plan for the next calendar year and Regent Fueborn seconded. The motion passed.

### **2. State Unemployment Insurance**

Vice President for Administration and Treasurer, Rick Anderson presented the item. Regent McGivern abstained from the issue. Mr. Anderson said Washburn University was approached by the agency with a proposal structured for government and non-profit entities to jump out of state risk pool and jump into higher education/non-profit risk pool, which are more stable entities, so lower costs and savings. Representatives from the agency were present for questions. Topeka Collegiate has been on this plan for several years.

Regent Boles moved to approve moving out of state risk pool and into private risk pool for two years and Regent Parks seconded. Motion passed.

### **3. Policy Change in the Washburn University Policy Regulations and Procedures Manual – Purchasing and Financial Obligations**

Vice President for Administration and Treasurer, Rick Anderson presented the item. He said a committee provided the policy change and also proposed procedures to be in place upon approval of policy. It was moved by Regent Parks, and seconded by Regent Sourk, to approve change in Policy. Motion passed.

**4. Forensic Science Program Equipment Purchase of Applied Biosystems model 3500 Genetic Analyzer and AutoMate Express**

Vice President for Academic Affairs, Randy Pembrook presented the item. He thanked everyone for attending the open house and tour at the KBI building. Dr. Pembrook advised the Regents will see over the next few meetings proposals to purchase equipment to complete our labs in the facility. Students will be working in spaces and on equipment similar to what is on the KBI side of the facility. He said tours of the facility were being led all week. Visitors from Oklahoma, Nebraska and Missouri came to see the building and learn about the programs. Dr. Pembrook said Washburn students and faculty will be using the equipment in the Washburn side, but there has been discussion that if the KBI wants to do a presentation or training, they could use the Washburn area instead of contaminating the lab.

It was moved by Regent Sourk and seconded by Regent Hoferer to approve the purchase of equipment. Motion passed.

**5. School of Nursing Interior Upgrades – Project #C16008**

Vice President for Academic Affairs, Randy Pembrook presented the item along with Nursing Dean, Monica Scheibmieir. He said the change will make the area in Petro more identifiable as the nursing area. It will also help recruit students and will update the spaces for our students and their educational experiences, including making the area quieter.

It was moved by Regent Hoferer and seconded by Regent Wolgast to approve the upgrade project. Motion passed.

**C. Information Item(s)**

**1. Report of Purchases between \$25,001 and \$50,000**

Chairperson Sneed thanked Washburn Institute of Technology Dean Clark Coco for having members of the Board of Regents out for the surgical lab open house.

Regent Wolgast commented that knowing what happened at the University of Missouri, he has confidence in how Washburn handles situations, that our leadership is sensitive and attentive.

It was moved to adjourn by Regent Hoferer and seconded by Regent Parks. Motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

/s/

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Marc Fried  
Secretary, Board of Regents