# WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY BOARD OF GOVERNORS

January 6, 2014

The one hundred nineteenth meeting of the West Virginia University Board of Governors (scheduled as a Special Meeting via telephone) was held on January 6, 2014, with the call originating in the West Virginia University Stewart Hall President's Conference Room. Board members participating included James R. (Rob) Alsop, David Alvarez, Dr. Lisa DiBartolomeo, Ryan Campione, Ellen Cappellanti, James W. Dailey, II, Thomas Flaherty, Dr. Robert Griffith, Raymond Lane, Diane Lewis, Dixie Martinelli, Andrew A. Payne, III, Ed Robinson, J. Robert (J.R.) Rogers, and William Wilmoth. Board member, William Nutting, was absent and excused.

# WVU officers, divisional campus officers, and representatives present and participating by telephone included:

President, E. Gordon Gee;
Vice President for Legal Affairs and General Counsel & Assistant
BOG Secretary, William H. Hutchens, III;
Vice President for University Relations, Sharon Martin;
Director of University Relations/News, John Bolt; and,
Special Assistant to the Board of Governors, Valerie Lopez.

Members of the Press were also present.

### CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Board Chairman, James W. Dailey, II, at 1:00 p.m. A roll call was taken to determine who was in attendance and a quorum established. Chairman Dailey welcomed President Gee to his first Board of Governors' meeting.

Chairman Dailey stated that today's special meeting relates to the presidential search committee.

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Chairman Dailey requested a motion that the Board go into Executive Session, under authority in West Virginia Code § 6-9A-4(b)(2)(A), (12) to discuss the presidential search committee membership and the presidential search process. The motion was made by Ellen Cappellanti, seconded by Ed Robinson and passed. Following the conclusion of Executive Session, William Wilmoth moved that the Board reconvene into regular session. This motion was seconded by David Alvarez and passed.

### DISCUSSIONS EMANATING FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairman Dailey stated that during Executive Session, the Board discussed the nomination and selection of members of the presidential search committee.

Chairman Dailey provided the following background information:

- On December 3, 2013, he asked the constituency groups to consider the process to name individuals that they would like to participate in the search for the University's next president. Shortly thereafter, the Board and the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission approved the proposed presidential search procedure which set forth the number of individuals each of the constituency groups would have on the search committee.
- Once the Board approved the desired presidential characteristics and qualities at its
   December 20th meeting, Chairman Dailey sent a letter to the constituency groups with
   the final approved characteristics and qualities and asked that, to the extent they have
   not done so already, to provide him with the names of the individuals they nominated to
   work with Board as part of the selection committee.

As a result, the faculty selected the following three members: (1) **Dr. Carolyn Peluso Atkins**, professor in the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders at West Virginia University; (2) **Dr. Robert K. Griffith**, associate professor of medicinal chemistry, Department of Basic Pharmaceutical Sciences of the WVU School of Pharmacy; and (3) **Dr. Matthew Valenti**, professor in the Lane Department of Computer Science and Electrical Engineering in the Statler College of Engineering and Mineral Resources.

Classified staff selected: (1) **Lisa A. Martin**, project coordinator senior, Office of University Events; (2) **Dixie L. Martinelli**, office administrator, WVU Extension/Agriculture and Natural Resources; and (3) **Paul R. Martinelli**, program manager, WVU Extension Services.

The student representatives that were selected are: (1) **Paul Garton**, Senior, Philosophy and International Studies major; (2) **Elizabeth Gulick**, Senior, Elementary Education major; and (3) **Colleen Beatty**, 2012 Biology graduate and current student in the School of Medicine.

The WVU Foundation's representatives are: (1) **Susan S. Brewer**, chief executive officer of Steptoe & Johnson PLLC; and (2) **Cynthia L. Roth**, president and chief executive officer of the West Virginia University Foundation.

And the Alumni Association selected: (1) **John T. Fahey**, Senior Vice-President of United Bank Incorporated; and (2) **Jack Rossi**, immediate past presiding member (managing partner) of Arnett & Foster, P.L.L.C. (Arnett Foster Toothman PLLC)

Chairman Dailey asked that these names be submitted to the Board for approval and requested a motion to ratify this action taken during today's Executive Session. Board member, Rob

Alsop, moved that the Board accept these nominations for representatives to serve on the presidential search committee as submitted by the constituency groups. This motion was seconded by Ed Robinson, and passed unanimously.

Chairman Dailey noted that in addition to the constituency group members, the approved search procedure also calls for other members of the presidential search committee to be selected by the Chair and approved by the Board. Accordingly, Chairman Dailey announced he selected **Diane Lewis**, president and CEO of Action Facilities Management, Inc. as the third Board member and **Dr. Elizabeth A. Dooley**, associate provost for Undergraduate Academic Affairs, founding dean of the WVU University College and professor of curriculum & instruction and special education, and **Dr. Robert Jones**, Dean of the Eberly College of Arts & Sciences and Professor of Biology as the two administrators, and, as a representative of the divisional campuses, **Carolyn Long**, campus executive officer, WVU Institute of Technology.

Chairman Dailey asked that these individuals be approved by the Board and requested a motion to ratify this action taken during today's Executive Session. Board member, Ed Robinson, moved that the Board accept the nominations for these representatives to serve on the presidential search committee as submitted by the Chair. This motion was seconded by Rob Alsop, and passed unanimously.

Chairman Dailey noted that these representatives, along with the representatives already approved by the Board in the presidential search procedure, Vice Chair of the Board, Thomas V. Flaherty, founding member of the law firm of Flaherty, Sensabaugh & Bonasso and current Secretary for the Board of Governors, Ellen S. Cappellanti, member of the law firm of Jackson Kelly PLLC, will constitute the voting members of the search committee. In addition to the voting members, Chairman Dailey will serve as a non-voting Chair of the search committee, President E. Gordon Gee will serve as a non-voting advisor, and Chancellor Hill of the Higher Education Policy Commission will serve in an ex officio, non-voting capacity.

Chairman Dailey announced that this completes the process of establishing a presidential search committee and noted that following this meeting short biographical sketches of all search committee members will be available publicly. He personally thanked all of the constituencies for the time and thought that went into these selections.

Chairman Dailey stated that the approved search procedure additionally provided that the search committee and Board will designated staff to provide assistance and support during the search process. To that end, he nominated Jessika Thomas, Director of Change Management and Customer Outreach Senior Advisor to the Vice President for Administration and Finance, to serve in that position. In executing her current duties at WVU, Jessika manages strategic initiatives on behalf of the Vice President for Administration and Finance and oversees customer support and training for financial, human resources, and facilities management software supported by ATS. Jessika earned her PhD at WVU and her JD at the University of Pennsylvania. She served as Staff Director for the Presidential Search in 2008-09 as well as for the Provost Search in 2009. Chairman Dailey requested a motion to ratify this action by the Board. Board member, Ryan Campione, moved that the Board appoint Jessika Thomas as the designated staff member to provide assistance and support during the search process to both the

search committee and the Board. This motion was seconded by Dr. Robert Griffith, and passed unanimously.

Finally, Chairman Dailey asked the Board to authorize the committee to take all necessary steps to conduct its search and proceed with the steps outlined in the approved presidential search procedure and requested a motion to ratify this action. Board member, William Wilmoth, moved that the Board authorize the search committee to take all necessary steps to conduct its search and proceed with the steps outlined in the approved presidential search procedure. This motion was seconded by Ed Robinson, and passed unanimously.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

| There being no further business, J. Robert (J.R.) Ro  | gers moved to adjourn the meeting. |
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| The motion was seconded by Ryan Campione, and passed. | The meeting was adjourned at 1:50  |
| p.m.  |                                    |

| Ellen Cappellanti, Secretary |  |
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