

WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF GOVERNORS

November 13, 2013

The one hundred fourteenth meeting of the West Virginia University Board of Governors (scheduled as an Emergency Meeting via telephone) was held on November 13, 2013, 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, William Nutting, Andrew A. Payne, III, J. Robert (J.R.) Rogers, and William Wilmoth. Board members, Ed Robinson and Dr. Charles Vest were absent and excused.

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

President, James P. Clements;
Vice President for Legal Affairs and General Counsel & Assistant
BOG Secretary, William H. Hutchens, III;
Vice President for University Relations, Sharon Martin;
Assistant Vice President for University Communications, Becky Lofstead; 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 stated that today's emergency meeting related to the future leadership of West Virginia University. The facts and circumstances surrounding the emergency are that on November 11, 2013, President James P. Clements announced that he will be leaving the University to become the president of Clemson University. Accordingly, the Board of Governors must immediately begin the process of determining interim leadership and the selection of a new president.

REMARKS FROM PRESIDENT CLEMENTS

President Clements thanked members of this Board, as well as the at-large WVU community, for their understanding and support as he prepares to leave to accept an offer at Clemson University. He expressed the love he and his family have for West Virginia University and stated the decision to leave here was not an easy one to make, but necessary as his family transitions into the next phases of their lives.

President Clements remarked that West Virginia is filled with wonderful, hard-working, loyal and dedicated people – and that West Virginia University is made up of great faculty, staff, administrators and students. He further expressed how thankful and honored he is to have had the chance to serve with so many outstanding people in the pursuit of the important land-grant mission at WVU.

President Clements concluded by thanking the WVU Board of Governors. He acknowledged what an outstanding group of individuals they are, how much they truly care about all aspects of the university, and how their advice and counsel has been instrumental in the success of West Virginia University during his tenure as president.

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), to discuss personnel matters related to the future leadership of the University. The motion was made by Thomas Flaherty, seconded by Diane Lewis, and passed. Following the conclusion of Executive Session, Dr. Robert Griffith moved that the Board reconvene into regular session. This motion was seconded by Andrew A. Payne, III, and passed.

DISCUSSIONS EMANATING FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairman Dailey stated that during Executive Session the Board discussed the selection of an Interim President of West Virginia University but noted that no selection has been made. Chairman Dailey then asked if there were any motions to ratify the actions taken during today's Executive Session.

Board member, Dixie Martinelli, moved that the Board authorize the Chair to take all necessary steps to continue the process of identifying individuals to serve as the Interim President of West Virginia University. In so doing, it is expected that the Chair will call another meeting to discuss and approve such individuals. In addition, the Board has decided that the Interim President will not be a candidate for the permanent presidential search.

This motion was seconded by Thomas Flaherty, and passed unanimously.

Board member, Dixie Martinelli, moved that, in addition to continuing to work to identify an Interim President, the Board authorizes the Chair to take all necessary preliminary steps to begin immediately the search for the next president of West Virginia University, including the development of a procedure that will govern the search, which will be brought back to the Board for adoption.

This motion was seconded by David Alvarez, and passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Dr. Robert Griffith moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Dr. Lisa DiBartolomeo, and passed. The meeting was adjourned at 4:25 p.m.

Ellen Cappellanti, Secretary