

WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF GOVERNORS

April 17, 2020

The one hundred eightieth meeting of the West Virginia University Board of Governors (scheduled as a Special Meeting) was held on April 17, 2020 via teleconference. Board members in attendance/participating by telephone included David Alvarez, Marty Becker, Charles Capito, Elmer Coppoolse, Kevin Craig, Kate Dye, J. Thomas Jones, Dr. Stanley Hileman, Lisa A. Martin, Taunja Willis Miller, Dr. Emily Murphy, Richard Pill, Ed Robinson, J. Robert (J.R.) Rogers, Benjamin Statler, Dr. Kimberly Weaver and William Wilmoth.

WVU officers, divisional campus officers, representatives (and others) present included:

President, E. Gordon Gee;
Vice President for Strategic Initiatives, Rob Alsop;
General Counsel, Stephanie Taylor;
Provost, Maryanne Reed;
Vice President and Executive Dean of Health Sciences, Clay Marsh;
Vice President for University Relations, Sharon Martin;
Vice President for Talent and Culture, Cris DeBord;
Vice President for Research, Fred King;
Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, Paula Congelio;
Associate Vice President for Finance, Anjali Halabe;
Deputy General Counsel, Gary G. Furbee, II;
Dean of Student, Corey Farris;
Vice Provost for Academic Strategies, Curriculum and Assessment,
Paul Kreider;
Associate Provost for Budget, Facilities and Strategic Initiatives,
Mark Gavin;
WVU Tech President, Carolyn Long;
Director of Communications and Marketing for Strategic Initiatives,
Erin Newmeyer,
Assistant Vice President, Student Financial Support Services, Sandra Oerly-Bennett,
Executive Director, Admissions and Recruitment, George Zimmerman,
Associate Vice President for Information Technology/CIO, Barb Dawson;
Executive Director, Information Technology Services, Brice Knotts;
Associate Vice President for Health Affairs; Dean of the School of Public Health,
WVU Health Sciences Center, Jeffrey Coben,
Associate Vice President for Coordination and Logistics & Chief Collaboration
Officer, WVU Health Sciences Center, William Ramsey;
Executive Officer and Assistant Board Secretary, Jennifer Fisher;
Senior Executive Director of Communications, University Relations,
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 David Alvarez at 3:00 p.m. A roll call was taken to determine who was in attendance and a quorum established.

PURPOSE OF MEETING

Chairman Alvarez stated that this special meeting was called to discuss matters relating to West Virginia University's ongoing response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairman Alvarez requested a motion that the Board go into Executive Session, under authority in West Virginia Code §6-9A-4(b)(9) and (12), to discuss confidential legal, personnel, and deliberative matters relating to West Virginia University's ongoing response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The motion was made by J. Robert (J.R.) Rogers, seconded by J. Thomas Jones, and passed. Following the conclusion of Executive Session, William Wilmoth moved that the Board reconvene into regular session. This motion was seconded by Dr. Emily Murphy and passed.

DISCUSSIONS EMANATING FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairman Alvarez stated that there were no actions taken during today's Executive Session and that the board had deliberative discussions on the status of WVU's actions and planning and continues to monitor the financial impacts and other implications of the coronavirus pandemic.

GENERAL DISCUSSIONS AND ADJOURNMENT

Vice President for Strategic Initiatives Rob Alsop provided the following updates:

West Virginia University is expected to receive \$20.2 million from the federal stimulus package enacted to provide significant relief to higher education.

Funds from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act will be received in two equal installments. The first installment of approximately \$10 million will be used to provide emergency assistance to help students with financial need stemming from COVID-19-related disruption of campus operations, including cost of attendance expenses such as food, housing, course materials, technology, health care and childcare.

As a result of this funding, the University is announcing a program that will disburse direct cash grants to students following Department of Education guidance. The University is committed to providing assistance quickly to students who are facing financial challenges and struggling to make ends meet. Therefore, students with personal or family situations and events

that meet the following criteria are eligible to apply:

- Reduction in personal or family household income due to job loss, reduced work hours, or temporary furlough from work
- Additional and unexpected costs related to the transition to online learning for the remainder of the semester
- Increased medical expenses (including additional support needed for accessibility purposes)
- Travel or moving expenses to return home due to the transition to online learning for the remainder of the semester

Students who received a reduction in spring charges for their residence hall room, dining plan, or University Apartments' April rent are currently not eligible for this additional financial assistance. This will be re-evaluated in light of the volume of initial requests for emergency financial assistance. Additionally, students receiving other emergency assistance from the University may be considered for a reduced amount or may not be eligible, again depending on the volume of initial requests for emergency financial assistance funds. Due to limited financial resources and volume of need, some applications may not be approved. Students may begin to apply for the funding beginning Tuesday, April 21.

The second approximately \$10 million installment, expected later this spring, must also be used to cover any costs associated with significant changes to the delivery of instruction due to the coronavirus. The University is awaiting further potential guidance from the United States Department of Education relating to this second installment.

Emergency financial assistance through the CARES Act for summer session will be announced at a later date.

Additionally, the University has waived the Online Learning Student Support fee for students enrolled in 2020 summer online courses. The fee is \$25 per credit or \$75 for a three-credit course. The maximum fee a student would normally pay regardless of how many credits taken in summer is \$75. Students who have already been assessed and have paid the fee will either be reimbursed or receive a credit on their student account.

Finally, board member William Wilmoth publicly acknowledged and thanked Board Chairman David Alvarez for his tireless efforts behind the scenes evidenced by constant interaction with board members and WVU administrators to adapt, anticipate and manage WVU and our communities through this current health crisis.

There being no further business to come before the Board, William Wilmoth moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Kevin Craig, and passed. The meeting was adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

Taunja Willis Miller, Secretary