

**WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY**  
**BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

February 20, 2025

The two hundred twenty ninth meeting of the West Virginia University Board of Governors, was held on February 20, 2025, in person and via zoom webinar. Board members in attendance/participating via zoom included Chair Richard Pill and members Charles Capito, Bray Cary, Dr. Lesley Cottrell, Elmer Coppoolse, Kevin Craig, Michael D'Annunzio, Dr. Patrice Harris, Rusty Hutson, Alan Larrick, Susan Lavenski, Charlie Long, Paul Mattox, Shirley Robinson, Steve Ruby, Frankie Tack, and Robert Reynolds.

Other participants included:

President, E. Gordon Gee;

Deputy General Counsel and Associate Vice President. Gary Furbee;

Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, Paul Kreider;

Vice President and Executive Dean of Health Sciences, Clay Marsh;

Associate Provost for Budget, Facilities and Strategic Initiatives,

Mark Gavin;

Director of Internal Audit, Bryan Shaver;

Associate Provost for Undergraduate Education, Evan Widders;

Associate Provost for Curriculum and Assessment, Louis Slimak;

Executive Officer and Assistant Board Secretary, Jennifer Fisher;

and

Special Assistant to the Board of Governors, Valerie Lopez.

Members of the Press also attended.

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Richard Pill at 12:30 p.m. A roll call was taken to determine who was in attendance and a quorum established.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Chair Pill requested a motion to move Executive Session, under authority in West Virginia Code Sections 6-9A-4(b)(2)(A), (b)(9), and (b)(12) to discuss:

- a. Potential strategic initiatives relating to academic and administrative priorities; personnel matters; other deliberative matters involving commercial competition which, if made public, might adversely affect the financial or other interest of the University;
- b. Potential strategic initiatives relating to personnel matters regarding the WVU presidential search;
- c. Matters relating to internal Board of Governors operations; and,
- d. A confidential and privileged report by General Counsel.

The motion was made by Kevin Craig, seconded by Charles Capito, and passed. Following Executive Session, Elmer Coppoolse moved that the board rise from Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Kevin Craig and passed.

## **DISCUSSIONS EMANATING FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Chair Pill stated that the board had a thorough discussion during Executive Session and is ready to vote on selecting the top candidate for West Virginia University's presidency. At a time when the higher education landscape is changing, we think that this person can best lead West Virginia University forward and serve as its 27th president.

Chair Pill then requested a motion to select Candidate A as WVU's president and to authorize the Board officers to negotiate and finalize a contractual arrangement with the selected candidate. Frankie Tack so moved, which motion was seconded by Dr. Patrice Harris and passed. It is noted for the record that board members Bray Cary and Steve Ruby voted "no" regarding the passage of said motion.

Chair Pill further stated that the board hopes to make a public announcement informing the WVU community and the citizens of our state who our next president will be as soon as a contract has been signed.

### **GENERAL DISCUSSION AND ADJOURNMENT**

. There being no further business to come before the board, Charles Capito moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Kevin Craig and passed. The meeting was adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

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Robert Reynolds, Secretary