

VIRGINIA WESTERN COMMUNITY COLLEGE

BOARD MEETING 205

The Virginia Western Community College Board met on Thursday, September 20, 2001, at 3:30 p.m. in the President's Conference Room in Fishburn Hall on the North Campus of the College.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. James Arend
Ms. Margaret Grayson
Mr. Stan Lanford
Ms. Harriet Lewis
Dr. Robert Sandel, Executive Secretary
Mr. Richard Shoemaker
Ms. Audrey Wheaton
Mr. Bill Wilcher

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Mr. George Logan
Mr. Geoffrey Ottaway
Mr. Randy Rakes
Mr. Mike Urbanski

STAFF PRESENT:

Mr. Dwight Blalock, Dean of Finance & Administrative Services
Dr. John Capps, Humanities Division Chair
Ms. Brenda Shepherd, Secretary

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Arend called the meeting to order at 3:35 p.m. and requested a moment of silence in memory of the tragic events of September 11.

2. MINUTES OF THE JULY 19, 2001, MEETING

A motion was made by Mr. Shoemaker and seconded by Mr. Wilcher that:

The VWCC Board approve the minutes of the July 19, 2001, meeting as written.

The motion was unanimously approved.

3. LOCAL FUNDS YEAR END REPORT

Mr. Blalock reviewed the year-end reports for local funds and noted that the Local Board controls the expenditure of these funds through established guidelines for Student Activities, College Activities, and President's Activities budgets. He noted that these budgets are audited by the State Auditor of Public Accounts as well as the Virginia Community College System's internal auditors. He mentioned that the sources of these local funds are the college service fees charged each student each semester (\$4 plus \$0.38 per credit hour), vending commissions, and the College Bookstore's profits. Mr. Blalock reviewed each account within the local funds budgets and answered questions asked by the Board members.

Mr. Blalock informed the Board members that of the current \$2.3M capital funds, approximately \$1.5M is committed. Ms. Lewis asked Dr. Sandel if there were any other areas he would like to see included in the budget. Dr. Sandel mentioned that he will not hesitate to request additional funds in other areas as the needs arise. Mr. Lanford noted that he has heard many positive comments from community leaders regarding Dr. Sandel's work thus far, and that this work is making the community more aware of the college and its potential contributions.

The Board accepted the Local Funds Year End Report as presented. A recommendation was made by the members that future reports need not be as detailed and that a more general report be given twice a year that will provide an overview of the status of the accounts. A suggestion was made that a committee could be appointed to review the expenditures in detail if warranted.

4. REPORT OF INVESTMENT OF LOCAL FUNDS

Mr. Blalock reviewed the report of Virginia Western's investment of local funds. He noted that state law controls how we invest, and that we invest as aggressively as allowed. The Board noted that with such a conservative portfolio, the College did earn a good return. It

was recommended that the Board review the investment policy every two or so years. Mr. Blalock will bring to the Board a suggested draft to update the current policy.

Ms. Lewis asked about the status of the exclusive beverage contract that was presented at an earlier meeting. Mr. Blalock noted that only six community colleges had expressed an interest and the contract did not therefore materialize.

5. INAUGURATION BUDGET

Mr. Blalock informed the Board members that an inauguration ceremony is being planning for November 2, 2001, to officially install Dr. Sandel as the President of Virginia Western Community College. Dr. Sandel noted that the State Board of Community Colleges and the Chancellor of the Virginia Community College System require the inauguration ceremony, and it will be an activity that will bring to the college key business and political leaders and representatives from colleges and universities. This event will provide an excellent opportunity to highlight Virginia Western to the community.

A motion was made by Ms. Grayson and seconded by Mr. Lanford that:

The VWCC Board approve a budget of up to \$20,000 to fund the inauguration ceremony for Dr. Robert Sandel.

The motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Blalock noted that state funds cannot be used for this event, therefore the request to use local funds.

6. SMITH FARM

Mr. Blalock provided information to the members regarding the house located on the Smith Farm property. He noted that the Office of the Attorney General is to file a petition in the Franklin County courts to request that the judge issue an opinion regarding Virginia Western's suggested uses of the farm in relation to the use as prescribed in Mr. Smith's will. In the meantime, the current renter of the house on the property will be moving at the end of October. The house is in disrepair; it would cost \$77,000 to make the required repairs or \$14,000 to demolish the house. The Board members made suggestions for options, such as offering the house to Explore Park or having VWCC students in an appropriate curriculum repair the house.

A motion was made by Ms. Wheaton and seconded by Mr. Wilcher that:

With no current feasible options, the VWCC Board recommends that the house on the Smith Farm property be boarded up and not rented, at least until further action can be taken with the farm property.

The motion was unanimously approved.

7. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- Dr. Capps provided a report on fall enrollment and noted that there has been a dramatic increase in Distance Learning enrollment over last fall. Another area that he highlighted was Dual Enrollment, a program that started in 1988 and allows high school juniors and seniors to earn college credit. The classes are taught at the high schools by faculty who must have the same credentials as Virginia Western faculty.
- Dr. Sandel informed the Board members that the VCCS Annual State Board meeting will be held on November 13 and 14 in Richmond. The Board members decided that the Annual Meeting will constitute the College's November Local Board meeting.
- Dr. Sandel mentioned that the college soon will be receiving bids for the parking lot connector road and the Physical Plant Committee (Mr. Arend, Mr. Lanford, and Mrs. Wheaton) will meet to review those bids.
- Dr. Sandel noted that he has been working to meet area community leaders, business and industry leaders, political leaders, and educational leaders in an effort to let the community know the full scope of the college. He is working internally to establish a vision and mission to help the college focus toward the future. Dr. Sandel mentioned that he plans to encourage the involvement of the Board members so that they will have a more tangible idea of what the college is about.

Mr. Arend suggested that it would be nice to have a Board meeting at the Higher Education Center and at the Greenfield Center to provide the opportunity to learn more about those facilities.

With no further business on the agenda, Mr. Lanford made a motion and Mr. Wilcher seconded it that the meeting adjourn at 5:05 p.m.

APPROVED:

September 17, 2002
Date

Robert H. Sandel
Executive Secretary