

**VIRGINIA WESTERN COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
LOCAL BOARD MEETING  
Minutes No. 227 March 15, 2007**

The Virginia Western Community College Board met on Thursday, March 15, 2007 at 3:30 PM in the President's Conference Room in Fishburn Hall on Virginia Western's campus.

<b>ROLL CALL</b>		
<b>Members Present</b>	Mr. Barry W. Baird Mr. Dennis R. Cronk Mr. William M. Hackworth Dr. Walter A. Hunt Dr. Lorraine Lange Mr. Richard A. Shoemaker Mr. Joseph C. Thomas, Sr. Mr. Joseph B. Wright	(Roanoke City) (Roanoke City) (Roanoke City) (City of Salem) (Roanoke County) (Franklin County) (Roanoke County) (Roanoke City)
<b>Members Absent</b>	Mr. Gary Hancock Mr. David P. Mitchell, Jr. Mr. Randy Rakes Mr. Bill Wilcher	(State Board Representative) (Roanoke County) (Botetourt County) (Craig County)
<b>Staff Present</b>	Mr. Dwight Blalock, VP of Financial & Administrative Services Dr. John Capps, VP of Academic and Student Affairs Dr. Mark Emick, VP of Institutional Advancement Dr. David Hanson, Institutional Research Ms. Donna Mitchell, Educational Foundation President Ms. Tara Nepper, Administrative Assistant Mr. Jim Poythress, Dean Business, Engineering and Technology Division Dr. Robert H. Sandel, President Dr. Chuck Terrell, VP Workforce Development and Lifelong Learning Mr. Kevin Witter, Facilities Management	

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Bill Hackworth, chairman, called the meeting to order at 3:35 PM.

Commencement will be on May 11, 2007. Dr. Lange will be the guest speaker.

Mr. Hackworth presented an overview of the local government academy currently offered by Germanna Community College. This may be a program the college would like to review and perhaps offer in the future. This would be a continuing education for government employees. The course would cover topics such as supervisory issues, leadership, and land use law. Most localities are not

large enough to have in house training programs so this program could bring students from all over Southwest Virginia.

Mr. Hackworth is pleased with the advertisements he has seen for the college and University of Richmond. The college and University of Richmond have considered jointly using a billboard on 581. Donna Mitchell was featured on an Educational Foundation billboard and she can attribute to their success.

Mr. Hackworth recognized Ms. Donna Mitchell, Educational Foundation Board chairman. Ms. Mitchell reported that the Educational Foundation annual fund to date is \$145,686.07 which is outstanding given that the 2005-2006 total was \$80,015. The campaign will run through June 30. The first appeal letter went out a few months ago and second went out in February and responses are coming in. The foundation scholarship application process has begun with over 90,000 scholarships to give out. Scholarships will be advertising on Cox cable in April and May, 581 billboard and information will be given to high school counselors. Ms. Mitchell reported that data collection has begun for the strategic plan and she encouraged board members to attend. Ms. Mitchell stressed the importance of the focus groups for the college and community.

Mr. Dwight Blalock reported that bids have been received on the project for parking lot improvements. The parking lot behind Chapman Hall was constructed in 1961 and has lighting that is inadequate. Mr. Blalock asked the board to approve moving forward the project.

Dr. Lange recommended approval of parking lot bid part A to avis construction in the sum of \$389,000 and appropriate the funds from college service fee and auxiliary parking. Mr. Cronk seconded. The motion passed.

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

On a motion by Mr. Thomas and seconded by Mr. Baird, the minutes of the regular meeting of January 18, 2007 were amended to strike paragraph 6 of page 6. The amendment was approved as presented.

#### **LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

Mr. Mike Shelton gave an update on the general assembly and the pending legislation that will provide \$1,000 grants for community college students who transfer to a four-year in-state institution. Students must show financial need and have a grade point average of 3.0. If the student is planning an academic career in mathematics, science, teaching, nursing or engineering, an additional \$1,000 grant will be given.

Anderson Hall is not a part of the governor's budget but area legislators did step up and support the building. No higher education capital projects were funded with the exception of the Manssas campus for Northern Virginia Community College.

## **STRATEGIC PLAN**

Dr. Mark Emick gave an overview of the 2008-2012 strategic plan that will begin in March 2007. The new plan will help the college to show quantifiable evidence for physical and institutional campus improvements. The plan will also help to mobilize and focus the college and will show documentation of need, aid in the allocation of resources and contribute to the credentials that will necessary for the next SACS accreditation.

The strategic plan will be a valuable part of the life of the college and everyone from students to faculty , staff, board members and community leaders will be asked to participate.

## **WORKFORCE NEW VISION**

Mr. Jim Poythress and Dr. Chuck Terrell presented an overview of the Applied Technology Coalition which is a program to link automated manufacturers with skilled workers. This program would develop the basic skills needed for local manufacturing jobs. The coalition would be formed by local manufacturers and there would be no cost to the students. The coalition would have access to the progress of the students during their six-week training and then would be able to hire workers from the program. This is a quick-train program for getting workers trained and placed and would fill much-needed entry-level manufacturing positions. This would also contribute to the effort of improving the image of manufacturing facilities and educating the public, students and parents of the potential in the manufacturing field. This program would fulfill a critical employment need in this area.

## **WEBBER HALL UPATE/SUMMER RENOVATIONS**

Mr. Kevin Witter gave a brief overview of the 30 medium-to-large projects currently underway on campus. Mr. Witter praised the FMS team for their great work and dedication. Currently, two-thirds of the renovations in Webber Hall have been completed and Avis Construction is on schedule to deliver the completed building on time.

The college will begin a change to a VoIP telephone system. This will move the phone technology from analog to digital. FMS has installed a new generator to handle the additional power needs and the phone system will be converted on April 27.

Chick-Fil-A will be complete and open in May.

The bids for the Americans with Disability's Act have come in and that project will begin to move forward. This project calls for replacing the alleyway between Craig and Chapman Halls which will provide a more stable walking surface for all students. This project will give new finishes to the bridge floor which will result in a better environment for students. Other projects

include renovations to Fishburn Hall, a fitness center to be located in the Student Center, and new outdoor signage. Dr. Sandel praised Mr. Witter and the entire FMS teach for the outstanding work they do at the college.

**TRANSER STUDENT UPDATE**

Due to time constraints, Dr. Hanson's report was postponed.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Dr. Sandel reported that enrollment continues to show growth. The college recently received results of core competency testing in critical thinking which took place across the VCCS. Students at Virginia Western did outstanding and were ahead of all other VCCS colleges. This accountability shows that our students are excelling. The college's dual enrollment program is the second-largest in the VCCS. Salem High School currently has over 700 students in the program. All local high schools are doing great work in the dual enrollment field. Dual enrollment continues to give students the opportunity to enter college as a second semester freshman or a first semester sophomore.

Dr. Sandel thanked the board members for the contributions they make to the success of Virginia Western. The leadership of the college through the local board, the faculty and the staff ensure future success for students.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:30 PM.

**APPROVED:**

5/23/07  
Date

Robert H. Sandel  
Robert H. Sandel