

**Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center
Board of Trustees
Minutes
June 7, 2012**

Board Members/Designees Present: Senator Phillip Puckett, Senator Bill Carrico, Delegate Joe Johnson, Delegate Will Morefield, Delegate Joseph Yost, Peter Blake (SCHEV), Billy Cannaday (UVA), Andy Casiello (ODU), Kevin Crutchfield, Sim Ewing (UVA Wise), Marcia Gilliam (Virginia Community College System), Penny Kyle (Radford), Fred Marion, Sean McMurray, David Olive, Matt O'Quinn, Clo Phillips (VI), Ron Proffitt (VHCC), Rosalind Reichard (Emory & Henry), John Rainero, Ruby Rogers, Susan Short (VT).

Board Members/Designees Absent: Delegate Terry Kilgore.

Others Present: Charles Anderson, Joyce Brooks, Gerald Blankenship, Courtney Conner, Rana Duncan-Daston, Connie Estep, Howard Estes, Rachel Fowlkes, Rebecca Harrison, Deborah Hensley, Kathy Hietala, Penny McCallum, Sam Minner, Christy Parker, Greer Saunders, Eddie Sproles, Jessica Strang, Melissa Warden, Alicia Young.

Call to Order

Chairman Kevin Crutchfield welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order. A quorum was present. Introductions were held.

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Approval of Minutes

The Chairman called for approval of the Minutes for the December 15, 2011, meeting. **They were unanimously approved upon motion by Senator Carrico, seconded by President Phillips.**

Financial Report

Deborah Hensley, Business Manager, presented the Financial Report. The complete report is available in each member's Board folder. Ms. Hensley highlighted the following items in the proposed FY13 operating budget:

- Resident rental fees will increase 2.8% (CPI) for an increase of \$1,558 and a total of \$57,410. Each resident institution's fee accounts for

1.9% of the total revenue budget. Resident institutions are ODU, RU, UVA, UVA-Wise, and VT.

- Projected increase of 5% in Non-General Fund Revenues for FY13 (Conference Services, Special Events, Cooking Along the Crooked Road, College for Older Adults).
- Footnotes in Personal Services: 1) Chief Financial Officer position vacant for 10 months will be filled in the next month or two; 2) One full-time employee added in the Technology Department for FY13.
- Center strives to maintain 8-10% Contingency Fund from its General Fund appropriation for unexpected expenses each year; the proposed Contingency Fund is \$171,434.

The Chairman called for approval of the proposed FY13 Budget. **Upon motion by Senator Puckett, seconded by Senator Carrico, the proposed FY13 Budget was unanimously approved.**

Chairman Crutchfield introduced a proposed resolution to withdraw the Higher Education Center's affiliation with the King School of Medicine. After a brief discussion, **a motion was made by President Phillips and seconded by Sim Ewing to approve adoption of the proposed resolution. The motion passed unanimously.**

Executive Director's Report

Dr. Rachel Fowlkes spoke briefly about the recent unexpected death of Tom Daly, Deputy Director of SCHEV, from complications of surgery. As a leader in higher education, Dr. Fowlkes noted Mr. Daley's many accomplishments with institutions across the Commonwealth. His expertise and friendship will be missed.

In other business Dr. Fowlkes reported the following:

- The resignation of Suzanne Ellis as a citizen member of the Board. A new citizen member will be appointed by the Secretary of the Commonwealth.
- Expression of appreciation to Chairman Crutchfield and his team at Alpha Natural Resources for hosting the board meeting at their facility.

- Expression of appreciation to Higher Education Center staff for their work.
- Update on the R&D Center; Ed Rogers, Director of the R&D Center, could not attend the board meeting, but provided a comprehensive report for the board folders, including information on a landfill gas project in Tazewell County, a renewable fuels project (Optafuel) in Wise County, and two projects in Washington County.
- The Conference Services report, provided in Board folders.
- The Graduate Recognition Ceremony held at the Center in May for recent graduates of Center programs. Dr. Fowlkes thanked the Center's college partners for their important efforts that bring needed degree programs to the Center.
- Introduction of Sam Minner, new Provost at Radford University. The Center is currently engaged in discussions with the Provost and other key faculty and staff from RU regarding potential new degree programs.
- The Center's Business and International Education program directed by George Hiller, made possible by a grant from the US Department of Education, which has afforded the opportunity for faculty, students, and business and community leaders to travel to countries with which the US conducts import/export trade. In closing, Dr. Fowlkes introduced Christy Parker, Director of Economic Development and Community Relations for Washington County, who participated in the 2012 Study in Germany trip.

International Business Education Report

Christy Parker presented an in-depth report on the May 15-27 Study in Germany trip.

Twelve college students and ten professors from SW VA colleges participated in the trip, the majority of which was spent in the Ruhr region of Germany. Institutions represented included Virginia Highlands, Southwest and Mt. Empire Community Colleges, Virginia Intermont, Emory & Henry, UVa-Wise, Radford and Virginia Tech.

Ms. Parker conveyed her gratitude to the board for this valuable opportunity.

Alpha Natural Resources Report

Jessica Strang presented a thought-provoking overview of Alpha Natural Resources, focusing on its commitment to education and vision for the future.

Many positive comments followed Ms. Strang's report, and a number of board members requested copies of her presentation, including legislative members of the board who are often asked about Alpha and noted that the information presented would be helpful in responding to those questions.

Closing Remarks

Chairman Crutchfield opened the floor for public comments prior to adjourning the meeting.

Delegate Johnson expressed appreciation to Chairman Crutchfield for his service on the Board, and to Alpha for holding the meeting at its new corporate headquarters as well as being a great corporate citizen in southwest Virginia.

Dr. Fowlkes requested that other attendees present at the meeting introduce themselves, and everyone did so.

The Chairman called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. **Upon motion by Delegate Johnson and seconded by President Phillips, the meeting was adjourned.**