



BLUE RIDGE COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES

Monday, March 8, 2021 ~ 5 p.m.

Zoom (Public Live Stream via YouTube)

MEMBERS PRESENT	Vivian Bolaños, Cathy Childress, Eduardo Calvillo Molina, Steve Dozier, Clay Eddleman, Betty Gash, Dr. Jeremy Gibbs, Chip Gould, Josh Hallingse, Kelly Leonard, Nathan Kennedy, Mike Pressley, Bill Ramsey, Dr. Brian Weaver and Duke Woodhull
MEMBERS ABSENT	All board members were present
OTHERS PRESENT	Lisa Adkins, Kathy Allen, Carolyn Alley, Lorri Allison, Kirsten Bunch, Lee Anna Haney, Dr. Laura Leatherwood, Glenda McC Carson, Dr. Chad Merrill, Tammy Pryor, Dr. Scott Queen, Steven Young and College Attorney Dean Shatley
CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME	Chairman Chip Gould called the meeting to order at approximately 5 p.m. Roll Call was taken and is reflected above. New Student Government Association President Eduardo Calvillo Molina was introduced and welcomed to the board.
ETHICS STATEMENT	Chairman Gould read the Ethics Statement. No conflicts were reported.
APPROVAL OF AGENDA	On a motion by Ms. Bolaños, seconded by Mr. Dozier, the meeting agenda was approved. The motion carried without opposition.
APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA	Chairman Gould noted that the Duke Energy easement had been added to the consent agenda, and was needed to support the Patton Building project. He then asked whether any items listed under the consent agenda should be moved to "New Business" for discussion. After a comment from Mr. Ramsey encouraging all to take a good look at the strategic plan document and the great progress being made by the College, Mr. Woodhull moved to approve the consent agenda. The motion was seconded by Mr. Leonard and passed without opposition.
COMMITTEE REPORTS	<b>Facilities Committee</b> Facilities Committee Chairman Duke Woodhull called on Dr. Chad Merrill to provide a facilities update. Dr. Merrill referenced the reports posted to the board web page and discussed:

- Capital projects for both Henderson and Transylvania Counties
- Patton Building Project and Public Safety Training Facility
  - BRCC Educational Foundation approved allocation of up to \$200,000 to cover additional budget needed to secure the bid of the lowest apparent responsible bidder for the Public Safety Training Facility, Cooper Construction
  - Pre-construction meeting scheduled with Cooper Construction for March 9
- Straus Building Project –Certificate of Occupancy issued on March 3
- Use of Design Professional Services Contracts
  - Two contracts were reviewed by the College Attorney and signed by Dr. Leatherwood in February
  - LS3P: Architectural design services for Henderson Building roof repair
  - Sims Group: Engineering design services for the Killian Building chiller replacement
- Lease agreement with Henderson County Fire and Rescue Association
  - Long-standing lease revised to allow for the Public Safety Training Facility to be located on the Fire Training Center grounds and connected to the current classroom building
  - Diagram provided along with explanation of why the site was chosen as the location for the Public Safety Training Facility

With all questions answered, a motion was made by Mr. Woodhull to approve the lease agreement with Henderson County Fire and Rescue Association. The motion was seconded by Mr. Pressley and passed without opposition.

Mr. Gould added that as reported, there is a lot going on with College facilities at both campuses. He encouraged trustees to drive by and check out the progress being made with the Patton Building construction project.

#### **Finance and Investment Committee**

Mr. Leonard recognized Associate Vice President for Finance/CFO Carolyn Alley for the financial update. She referenced the financial reports at January 31 that were posted to the board web page and shared a few highlights including:

- State budget
  - Additional allocations received during December and January
  - Budget reversions since the budget narrative was posted:
    - Another 0.6% reversion was called for by the state in early March

- This amounts to another \$91,000 back to the state from BRCC
  - The College remains financially stable
- Henderson County and Transylvania County budgets
- Institutional Funds – including budget deficits
- STIF account balance
- CARES Act funds
  - CARES Act I funds: \$1.5 million; 50% to students, 50% to IT infrastructure, hardware and software to support transition to online learning
  - CARES Act II funds: An additional \$713,000 for students and \$1.9 million in institutional funds from the federal government
  - CARES Act II funds will be drawn down and will be reflected in institutional account balances once further guidance is received from the Department of Education

## COLLEGE REPORTS **President's Report**

Dr. Leatherwood thanked the trustees for taking the time to engage with the College. She gave special thanks to the College technology team working behind the scenes to support the zoom session and the live stream for the public. She referenced her written report which was published on the meeting web page and paused for questions. She then covered a wide range of topics including:

- Spring enrollment summary with a reminder that the numbers are not final until June
- Recruiting update
  - 12 new employees since the January report
  - Very talented group
  - Working to fill seven vacancies – still a challenge to fill positions
- COVID-19
  - Approximately 70% of full-time employees have been vaccinated
  - 33 employees are volunteering at the on-site clinic along with our students in Nursing, Nurse Aide and Medical Assisting programs
  - We are proud of our partnership with Pardee UNC Health
  - The clinic has been used as a model for universities and colleges across the state including WCU, UNC-A and Elon University
- NCCCS Legislative Agenda
  - Reminder of top three priorities:

- Budget stability related to COVID-19
- Salary increases for community college staff and faculty
- Information Technology to include Cybersecurity regional positions and support at each campus
- Trustees were encouraged to advocate for these items when in contact with legislators

Mr. Dozier and Mr. Leonard shared that they are hearing great things in the community about the work being done by BRCC and Pardee with the vaccine clinic. Mr. Gould added his appreciation for all BRCC employees who have worked in tandem with Pardee to make the clinic a success. He pointed out that the on-site clinic has created positive exposure in the community, and brought hundreds who have never been to the College to our campus.

Dr. Leatherwood recognized BRCC Associate Vice President for Technology / Chief Information Officer Steve Young to talk about the College's efforts to prevent a cyber-attack. Mr. Young discussed the College's cybersecurity plan along with the role of employee training and testing. All related questions were answered.

#### Advancement and Educational Foundation Report

The Advancement and Educational Foundation Report was included in the President's Report and was posted to the meeting web page for review.

#### Student Government Association (SGA) Report

Student Government Association's report was posted to the meeting web page for review.

#### OLD BUSINESS

None.

#### NEW BUSINESS

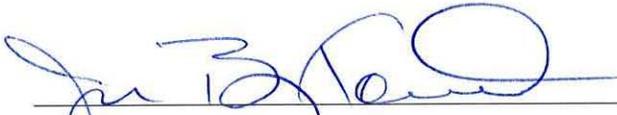
Chairman Gould reminded board members that the 2021 Statement of Economic Interest forms are due by April 15, 2021. A link to the Ethics Commission website was included on the agenda and posted to the meeting web page.

#### CLOSED SESSION

The Blue Ridge Community College Board of Trustees entered closed session at approximately 6:12 p.m. on a motion pursuant to G.S. 143-318.11(a)(1), to prevent the disclosure of confidential personnel information pursuant to G.S. 115D-27, and 318.11(a)(3), to prevent disclosure of confidential attorney-client communications. The motion was made by Mr. Pressley, seconded by Mr. Dozier, and passed without opposition.

Closed session ended at approximately 6:57 p.m. on a motion by Mr. Leonard. The motion was seconded by Mr. Woodhull and carried without opposition.

ADJOURNMENT      The meeting adjourned upon return to open session at approximately 6:57 p.m.



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John B. "Chip" Gould, Chairman



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Dr. Laura B. Leatherwood, Secretary