



**BLUE RIDGE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES**

Monday, July 11, 2022 ~ 5 p.m. ~ Patton Building Workforce Board Room

Item

MEMBERS PRESENT	Vivian Bolaños, Steve Dozier, Dr. Clay Eddleman, Chip Gould, Dr. Jeremy Gibbs, Nathan Kennedy , Kelly Leonard, Mike Pressley, Jim Rasmussen and Duke Woodhull
MEMBERS ABSENT	Cathy Childress, Betty Gash, Mark Isabelli and Dr. Brian Weaver
OTHERS PRESENT	Lisa Adkins, Kathy Allen, Carolyn Alley, Lorri Allison, Kirsten Bunch, Peter Hemans, Dr. Laura Leatherwood, Glenda McCarson, Dr. Chad Merrill, Marshall Morris, Tammy Pryor, Dr. Scott Queen, Ben Rickert, Dr. David Stegall and Steven Young.
CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME	<p>Chairman Chip Gould called the meeting to order at approximately 5 p.m. and welcomed everyone to the first board meeting in the new Workforce Development Board Room.</p> <p>Dr. Leatherwood recognized Direction of Construction Management Peter Hemans and shared that he plans to retire on August 1, 2022. Mr. Hemans has been involved in construction projects in excess of \$100 million during his 25-year career with Blue Ridge Community College, including the Patton Building. Mr. Hemans received a standing ovation from the trustees and College leadership in appreciation of his work. Dr. Leatherwood also recognized Marshall Morris who has been alongside Mr. Hemans for several years and will be replacing Mr. Hemans upon his retirement.</p> <p>Mr. Gould announced that Vivian Bolaños has been reappointed by Governor Cooper for another four-year term. Ms. Bolaños took the oath of office last week. Mr. Gould congratulated Ms. Bolaños upon her reappointment and thanked her for her service to the College.</p>
ETHICS STATEMENT	Chairman Gould read the Ethics Statement. No conflicts were reported.
APPROVAL OF AGENDA	Mr. Rasmussen moved to approve the meeting agenda. The motion was seconded by Ms. Bolaños and carried without opposition.

APPROVAL OF
CONSENT
AGENDA

A motion was made by Mr. Leonard, seconded by Mr. Dozier, to approve the consent agenda. The motion passed without opposition.

COMMITTEE
REPORTS

Facilities Committee

On a motion made by Mr. Pressley, seconded by Ms. Bolaños, the minutes from the June 28, 2022, Facilities and Finance Joint Committees meeting were approved. The motion passed without opposition.

Dr. Chad Merrill reported on construction and facilities projects. Dr. Merrill referenced the detailed written reports posted to the meeting web page and spoke about the following:

- Capital projects for fiscal year ended June 30, 2022
 - Henderson County
 - Total of 15 projects in the amount of \$1,478,316
 - All are either complete or in the final stages of completion
 - Transylvania County
 - Total of eight projects in the amount of \$196,455
 - All are complete with the exception of two:
 - Power for garage doors: waiting on a motor
 - Replace HVAC units: units are on backorder
- Request to install Cell Tower on Henderson County Campus
 - Site has been selected
 - Draft lease agreement has been reviewed by College Attorney
 - Next steps

After discussion and by direction of the Facilities Committee, Mr. Woodhull moved to authorize College staff to move forward on behalf of the board with lease negotiations for the installation of a cell tower. It was further agreed that one or more members of the Facilities Committee would join College staff in this work. As the motion came from the Facilities Committee, no second was needed. The trustees passed the motion without opposition.

Dr. Leatherwood reported on College efforts to work with Transylvania County officials in the pursuit of a new campus in Transylvania County. The College has done everything Transylvania County officials have asked, with no forward progress. A letter to the Transylvania County Commissioners is being considered to officially communicate to the Commissioners about the extensive needs of the College in Transylvania County. Trustees discussed some of the many complex challenges in Transylvania County.

Finance and Investment Committee

Committee Chairman Kelly Leonard called on Associate Vice President Carolyn Alley to deliver the Finance Committee's report.

- Ms. Alley began with the financial statements at May 31, 2022:
 - State and County budgets, including new allocations
 - Institutional Funds Analysis, including a deficit in fund 09
 - Short Term Investment Fund balance
- Ms. Alley also commented on fund balances at June 30, 2022, and expected carryforward balances. A full financial report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2022, will be given at the next board meeting.
- State budget for 2022-23 was signed by Governor Cooper on July 11; the College is awaiting notification of allocation amounts from the NC Community College System Office.
- Ms. Alley announced the 2022-23 budget amounts awarded from Henderson and Transylvania Counties for capital projects and operating expenses.

Nominating Committee

Mr. Leonard reminded the trustees that the Nominating Committee met to discuss the candidates for the 2022-23 slate of officers along with their two executive committee appointments, at their meeting on April 12. At the April meeting, the Committee reached unanimous consensus to recommend Mr. Gould as Chairman, along with Dr. Gibbs as Vice-Chairman for 2022-23 at the July Board meeting. As both of these trustees have served the maximum consecutive terms allowed under the current bylaws, Mr. Leonard presented a bylaw change, drafted by Mr. Shatley, to the board for consideration at the May 9th board meeting. This bylaw change allows for additional consecutive terms for the offices of Chairman and Vice-Chairman, upon approval of 2/3 of the Board of Trustees. The bylaw change was posted to the meeting website, as well as included in hard copy in each trustee's meeting folder. In accordance with the bylaws, and by direction of the Nominating Committee, Mr. Leonard moved to approve the bylaw change. As the motion came from the Nominating Committee, no second was needed. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Leonard then shared, in the form of a motion, the Nominating Committee recommendations for the 2022-23 slate of officers:

- Chairman: John B. "Chip" Gould
- Vice-Chairman: Dr. Jeremy Gibbs
- Secretary: Dr. Laura B. Leatherwood or her designee

The floor was opened for other nominations. There being none, a motion was made by Ms. Bolaños to close nominations. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kennedy. The vote in favor of the action was unanimous.

As the recommendation of the slate of officers came from the Nominating Committee, no second was needed. Trustees signified their approval by saying "aye." There was no opposition.

In the form of a motion, Mr. Leonard shared the Nominating Committee's recommendations for two positions on the Executive Committee:

- Mr. Steve Dozier
- Mr. Richard G. "Duke" Woodhull

The floor was opened for other nominations. There being none, a motion was made by Mr. Kennedy to close nominations. The motion was seconded by Mr. Pressley and passed without opposition.

As the recommendation of the two Executive Committee members came from the Nominating Committee, no second was needed. Trustees signified their approval by saying "aye." There was no opposition.

COLLEGE REPORTS

President's Report

Dr. Leatherwood referenced her written report which was published on the meeting web page and paused for related questions. She covered several topics in her verbal report including:

- Welcome to the first board meeting in the new Workforce Board Room
- Reminder: Patton Ribbon Cutting, July 12th at 10 a.m.
- NC Legislative Redistricting
 - Districts have changed; displayed maps
 - House Districts 113, 117 and 119 – covers Henderson, Polk, Rutherford, McDowell, Transylvania, Jackson & Swain counties
 - Senate Districts 48 and 50 – covers Henderson, Polk, Rutherford, part of Haywood, Jackson, Macon, Swain, Clay, Cherokee and Graham counties
 - Realignment of districts changes College advocacy/lobby strategy
 - A lot of ground to cover; encouraged trustees to help advocate for Blue Ridge Community College
- Serving as Vice President of the NC Association of Community College Presidents (NCACCP) beginning in late July for one year
 - This role gives the College great visibility with the State Board of Community Colleges
 - May serve as NCACCP President the following year
- Beginning work on new Henderson County Four Year Plan for facility needs
- Campus Security

- College will have a NC Security Audit before year end
- Safety remains a top priority on campus and is being addressed

All questions were answered.

Educational Foundation Report

Vice President Adkins provided the following updates:

- Foundation:
 - The 2022-23 Foundation budget has been approved
 - More than \$2.7 million awarded to support the College
 - Changing to a new wealth manager
 - Received funding from the state to promote apprenticeship programs in Transylvania County throughout the remainder of the year
 - The Scholarship Luncheon will be held on September 28
 - The Sporting Clays Tournament will be held on October 28
- Marketing
 - The Continuing Education Schedule of Classes for fall has been mailed
 - New ad tagline: Free College is Here; will run through spring

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Gould thanked the trustees for their vote of confidence in his work as and stated that it was his honor to serve them and the College for another year as Chairman. He shared that board committee assignments would be emailed by Tammy Pryor following the meeting, and for any trustee seeking a change to their committee assignment to contact him to discuss. He encouraged all trustees to attend committee meetings so that quorum can be achieved and the work of the College can move forward.

Mr. Gould and Dr. Leatherwood provided comments and information on Executive Order 262, Personal Observance Leave, along with a sample policy. This new day of leave has been made available to eligible leave-earning state employees and other agencies that choose to participate. Dr. Leatherwood shared that the NC Community College System Office, as well as several universities and colleges in the western region have chosen to participate. Discussion followed. On a motion by Dr. Gibbs, seconded by Mr. Kennedy, the trustees approved the addition of Personal Observance Leave. One trustee voted in opposition.

	<p>Mr. Gould announced that the NC Association of Community College Trustees (NCACCT) Leadership Seminar will be held in Asheville on September 8-9. He encouraged trustees to take advantage of the training if their schedules permit.</p>
CLOSED SESSION	<p>The Blue Ridge Community College Board of Trustees entered closed session at approximately 6:10 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 Dr. Jeremy Gibbs, seconded by Ms. Bolaños, and passed without opposition.</p> <p>Closed session ended at approximately 6:30 p.m. on a motion by Mr. Dozier. The motion was seconded by Ms. Bolaños and carried without opposition.</p>
COMMENTS AND ADJOURNMENT	<p>Mr. Gould paused for final comments from board members. The meeting adjourned at approximately 6:33 p.m.</p>

John B. "Chip" Gould, Chairman

Dr. Laura B. Leatherwood, Secretary