

## Call to Order

- V. Report from
- VI. Report from
- VII. Report from
- VIII. Report from
- IX. Report from

BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
 Regular Meeting  
 The University of West Alabama  
 Bell Conference Center  
 June 5, 2017, 1:00 p.m.

I. Call to Order

Mr. Jerry Smith, President Pro Tempore called the meeting to order

II. Roll Call

Mr. Jerry Smith asked Mrs. Beard to call the roll. Other than Mr. Jerry Smith, members attending were: Mrs. Jean Anderson, Mr. Terry Bunn, Mrs. Sheila Cloud, Dr. John Killian, Mr. Alex Saad, Mr. Theod Spree, Mr. Justin Smith, and Mr. Victor Vernon. Absent: Mr. Randy Hillman, Mr. Joseph Brown, Mr. Jerry Groce, and Mr. Hal Bloom. Mrs. Beard announced there was a quorum present. Also attending were Mr. Mike Kendrick (University Attorney), President Ken Tucker, and several other administrators and staff members, with Katie Beard recording the minutes.

Mr. Jerry Smith asked Dr. John Killian to open the meeting with a prayer.

III. Approval of Agenda

Mr. Victor Vernon moved to approve the Agenda; Mrs. Sheila Cloud seconded the motion; and the motion was approved.

IV. Approval of Minutes from March 6, 2017

Mr. Jerry Smith asked if there were any changes to the minutes from the meeting held on March 6, 2017. There were none. Mr. Terry Bunn made a motion to approve the minutes; Mr. Alex Saad seconded the motion; and the motion was approved.

V. Report from the Athletic Committee

Mr. Justin Smith, chair, reported that he had a good meeting this morning with Mr. Stan Williamson, UWA Athletic Director, giving a positive report. The university continues to do well in the all sports race; student athlete graduation rates continue to increase and fundraising for Athletics has increased significantly. Carie DeBeaz gave a very inspiring presentation about the future of UWA Women's Softball.

Mr. Jerry Smith stated that he thought the Athletic Committee meeting went well and that he is extremely impressed with the graduation rate and fundraising increases.

VI. Report from the Institutional Advancement Committee

Mr. Jerry Smith, serving in the absence of Chair Hal Bloom, stated that Dr. Chris Thomason gave a very thorough report on what has been accomplished in the year since his hire. Dr. Thomason has been able to build a solid foundation in Institutional Advancement and increase fundraising by more than \$1 million over the previous year. He reported that we have 13 active alumni chapters and will be working to increase that number to 15. Alumni chapters are important to fundraising because you have to establish a strong foundation of friends that turn into donors. Mr. Smith said that he also appreciated the job that Ms. Danielle Buckalew is doing in the alumni area.

VII. Report on-campus housing. A feasibility study is being done to see if there is a need. Mr. Truelove also presented a wide energy cost savings plan which includes LED lighting and to utilize existing equipment to change the temperature in buildings at night and restore to a comfortable temperature the next business day.

Mr. Jerry Smith thanked Mrs. Anderson for her effort, time and ex 17-rid

VIII. Report from the Finance Committee

Mrs. Cloud stated that three main items were discussed at the Finance Committee meeting. The first item was the State Examiners Report that lists only one finding. The written report should be sent to UWA no later than June 30<sup>th</sup>. The second item discussed was the major overhaul of the budget that was performed by Mr. Lawson Edmonds, Mrs. Barbara Etheridge, Mrs. Karen VanLuvender and the entire UWA faculty and staff. In the process they have audited many of the financial systems and internal controls, and have installed an open and inclusive process to include the faculty and staff with the budget, and to provide more accountability and transparency. Because of all the hard work performed by the business office, all board members will receive a copy of the quarterly financial statement before each board meeting to review for the previous quarter. Mr. Edmonds provided a copy of the financial statement in the committee meeting which showed the financial position as of 10/1/2016 through 3/31/17. The last item discussed was the operation and maintenance budget for the 2017-2018 fiscal year. Mr. Bunn stated that UWA's quality of education was one of the most economical in the state and felt that a 4.5% increase in tuition would help provide a reserve for unanticipated expenses. A motion was made by Mr. Terry Bunn to approve a 4.5% increase in tuition and was seconded by Dr. John Killian. This motion passed. Mrs. Cloud commented that it each year the cost of educating people continues to increase and with level funding received at the State level, a tuition increase was inevitable. Mr. Alex Saad and Mr. Thed Spree expressed their support in the increase in tuition. A motion was made by Mrs. Sheila Cloud to approve the 2017-2018 fiscal year budget, with a 4.5% increase on tuition as presented and was seconded by Mr. Victor Vernon. The motion passed.

IX. Report from the University President

A. Sumter County Economic Development Cooperative District

Two 2017 are revenue estimates, and Spring One and Spring Two show UWA paying the revenue share owed to the Learning House. The Learning House is also targeting sophomores and juniors which has not been done before at UWA.

Mr. Alex Saad stated that it is extremely exciting to see these outstanding numbers and applauds the university administration for bringing this to the Board, and for the Board to take the steps to approve. Dr. Tucker echoed these comments and applauded the Board for approving these endeavors

by the University of West Alabama Board of Trustees at a regular meeting called on June 15, 2017, a Quorum being present, as follows:

- 1.

Mr. Terry Bunn expressed that he and Mr. Alex Saad started a lifelong friendship at this university. He added that his greatest privilege has been to serve on this board with him. He is a man of principle, honor and stands for what he believes. He will be greatly missed and appreciates all of his contributions to this institution.

Mr. Thed Spree acknowledged all of Mr. Saad's accomplishments while serving on the Board and appreciates his loyalty and friendship.

Dr. Tucker spoke to the depth of Mr. Saad's institutional knowledge from the perspective of the administration