



**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE WOU BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MEETING NO. 44—DECEMBER 14, 2021
1:00-3:00 PM**

MINUTES

I. CALL-TO-MEETING/ROLL CALL

Chair Betty Komp called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM and asked Secretary Ryan Hagemann to take roll. The following trustees were present:

Zellee Allen
Jaime Arredondo
Danielle Campbell
Gayle Evans
David Foster
Jay Kenton
Betty Komp
Cec Koontz
Malissa Larson
Doug Morse

The following trustees were absent:

Jerry Ambris
Susan Castillo
Linda Herrera
Leah Mitchell

II. CHAIR'S WELCOME

Chair Komp welcomed the Board to the special meeting and stated that the Board had two action items on the agenda for consideration. She noted the updates on the presidential vacancy website.

III. ACTION ITEMS

- 1) Presidential Prospectus**

Chair Komp recognized Trustee Evans to review the presidential prospectus. Evans shared some brief background on how the presidential prospectus was developed. She stressed the importance of capturing the essential elements and the tone necessary to recruit the right leader to WOU. Evans observed that there was an opportunity for input and comment throughout the process. After sharing background information, Evans asked Michael Ballew from Anthem Executive to further explain the prospectus process.

Ballew acknowledged the work of the committee and the dedication of Evans as chair. Ballew observed that the draft prospectus is the starting point for the search. He explained the significant input that was solicited prior to the development of the draft, including surveys and interviews. Ballew reiterated that the prospectus serves as a marketing document and cannot, by design, be too lengthy. He surfaced the most common themes that should be incorporated into the prospectus: transformational leadership, DEI, distinctive academic programs, and inspiring mission and vision.

Evans and Ballew turned to the draft prospectus to review it section by section. Ballew reviewed each section of the draft. Trustee Larson appreciated the overview and asked when the Board should offer feedback. Evans and Ballew welcomed the Board's engagement on feedback on the draft. Trustee Morse observed that the draft was a bit subdued and introduced COVID's impact too soon. Morse stated that he thought it more important to express the "core bones" of the university in the draft. Morse continued that there is a subtle difference between finding "who we are" and "who we might become." He also stated that the document needed to emphasize innovation more.

Trustee Larson agreed with Morse's comments. Trustee Koontz explained why the search committee commented on the location of the COVID language in the draft. Ballew interjected that some of the stakeholder groups were unhappy with the layoffs that occurred during COVID. Trustee Foster echoed concerns about the placement of the COVID language and noted that he would like to see some emphasis on opportunities for growth.

Trustee Larson asked to review some language. She asked to add "accessible" in discussing on-line courses, change "minority" populations, spell out "DEI," ensure consistency with DEI and accessibility, spell out "HSI," characterization of community colleges as impersonal, and articulation of the gender distributions. Hagemann explained that Trustee Larson was working on a different draft that was distributed to the Board. Larson returned to the document and asked to change "able" to "capable," to move up the priority of DEIA, and to include more reference to staff as opposed to faculty only. Evans appreciated Larson's thorough review and Chair Komp echoed the observations.

Evans asked the Board if there were any additional comments. Chair Komp inquired if Evans would like a motion to approve the prospectus subject to the changes shared by the Board. Evans requested the trustees individually affirm the comments that were shared at the meeting. Komp agreed and asked each trustee to offer affirmation to reach consensus on the draft. Trustee Allen expressed his agreement with the essential draft. Trustee Arredondo appreciated the positive development and was good with the draft. Trustee Campbell shared agreement with the comments offered to the Board. Evans committed to incorporating trustee comments as shared during the meeting. Trustee Foster echoed Board sentiment and asked whether or not to add a reference to the Lone Star Conference. President Kenton agreed with the spirit of the conversation, but asked for reference to the TRI. Chair Komp supported previous statements and stressed that she would like to see Trustee Morse's comments incorporated. Trustee Koontz liked the edits to the "Quality of Life" section of the draft. Koontz wanted to make sure that the prospectus was fair and accurate, particularly with expressing the challenges faced by the university. Trustee Larson expressed her appreciation for the work on the draft to date. Trustee Morse stated that he trusted the committee would incorporate the Board's comments.

Evans moved approval of the prospectus subject to incorporation of the consensus comments offered by trustees at the Board meeting and Larson seconded the motion.

The following trustees voted in favor of the motion:

Zellee Allen
Jaime Arredondo
Danielle Campbell
Gayle Evans
David Foster
Betty Komp
Cec Koontz
Malissa Larson
Doug Morse

Kenton is non-voting.

No trustees opposed the motion. No trustees abstained from the motion.

The motion passed.

2) Steam Pipeline Project

Chair Komp turned to the steam pipeline project and recognized Vice President for Finance and Administration Dr. Ana Karaman to introduce the topic. Karaman was

joined by Director of Capital Construction and Planning Michael Smith. Karaman stated that the university was requesting the Board's approval to approach the Oregon Legislature for \$16.5M for the steam pipeline project. She asked Smith to walk through the proposal.

Smith explained the scope of the original project and the developments, such as pipe insulation corrosion and steam plumes, that led the university to reconceptualize the project and to approach the Legislature for funding. He illustrated the corrosion and flooding that has occurred inside the various vaults along the steam line. He reviewed the schematic drawings to demonstrate the various failures of the current line. Smith outlined the costs of the current project.

After his explanation of the current failures and project, Smith outlined the current proposal to reconceive the project and to create a tunnel system to house the pipes throughout the system. The \$16.5M request to the Oregon Legislature would pay for the tunnel system. Karaman noted that WOU is the only university that buries its pipes directly into the ground. She also shared that the expected lifecycle of the pipes is twenty years, but, WOU's current system has lasted only 12 years. She offered the potential risks of the current system, including steam and telecommunications. Karaman asked David McDonald to offer some comments on the legislative process. McDonald described legislative conversations with legislative leadership and the favorable response. McDonald characterized the project as a safety concern. He noted that he would join President Kenton in outreach to the Ways & Means Committee.

Trustee Allen asked if there was a less expensive approach and whether or not Monmouth Avenue would be closed. Trustee Morse inquired if there was any impact on energy consumption attributable to the pipe failures.

Koontz moved approval of the request as presented and described in the written docket materials and Trustee Morse seconded the motion. Chair Komp opened the floor for discussion. Trustee Foster asked about the functionality of steam pipes on campus. Trustee Morse inquired about whether or not the university has considered all angles in making such a large request. He also asked whether or not the \$16.5M estimate was developed by the current contractor. Komp asked whether or not the current work was ongoing or halted. Trustee Allen inquired as to what the university would do if the Legislature did not grant the funds. Karaman noted that the university would proceed with the project as is and then float the project until the next biennium in order to use the next tranche of capital repair money.

The following trustees voted in favor of the motion:

Zellee Allen
Jaime Arredondo

Danielle Campbell
Gayle Evans
David Foster
Betty Komp
Cec Koontz
Malissa Larson
Doug Morse

Kenton is non-voting.

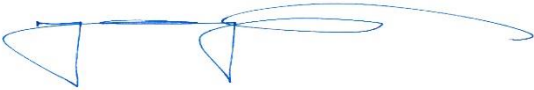
No trustees opposed the motion. No trustees abstained from the motion.

The motion passed.

IV. FINAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

V. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Komp adjourned the meeting at 2:28 PM with a quorum of the Board.



RYAN JAMES HAGEMANN
Secretary to the Board of Trustees