

Trustees for the College of Western Idaho

**College of Western Idaho
Board of Trustees
August 7, 2007
Boise State University West Campus Building, Room 116
Nampa, Idaho**

A meeting of the Trustees for the College of Western Idaho was held August 7, 2007 at the Boise State University Campus Building in Nampa, Idaho. Chairman Jerry Hess presided.

Present:

Jerry Hess, Chairman
Mark Dunham, Vice Chairman
Mary Carol (M.C.) Niland, Secretary/Treasurer
Hatch Barrett
Guy Hurlbutt

Absent:

None

TRUSTEE WORK

The meeting was called to order at 9:02 by Chairman Hess.

1. Adoption of Policies

M/S (Hurlbutt/Dunham): To move into Executive Session pursuant to Section 67-2345(1), Idaho Code, on August 7, 2007 at 9:03 a.m. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

M/S (Niland/Dunham): To move out of Executive Session at 10:45 a.m. and move back into Open Session. Motion carried unanimously.

2. Discussion of Appointment of Interim President of the College of Western Idaho

M/S (Dunham/Niland): To appoint Dennis Griffin as the Interim President of CWI for a period of two years and to give Mr. Griffin the ability to immediately begin acting on behalf of the trustees. Motion carried unanimously.

Trustee Dunham discussed the critical nature of hiring an Interim President as soon as possible. He discussed the need to establish a relationship with Boise State University, establishing priorities, setting up an office and begin employing staff.

Trustee Barrett reiterated his support and agreement with Trustee Dunham's remarks and indicated he felt quicker was better.

Chairman Hess explained that the trustees had looked at a lot of candidates and interviewed Dr. Griffin earlier in the morning.

Trustee Niland indicated that she felt their meeting with Dr. Griffin earlier in the morning had been very productive, that Dr. Griffin knew the demographics and resources that would be necessary to start classes as soon as possible. She went on to say that she appreciated Dr. Griffin's commitment to CWI despite the fact that he was getting ready to retire. She also indicated that he was well known in the area and well respected by all.

Trustee Hurlbutt stated he was encourage about being able to obtain a candidate with these qualifications, with close ties to the Selland College, and someone knowledgeable about the West Campus.

3. Authorizing President Griffin to begin negotiations With Staff

M/S (Barrett/Niland): To authorize President Griffin to begin negotiations to hire full staff. *Motion carried unanimous.*

Chairman Hess expressed a desire to authorize President Griffin to begin employing staff.

Trustee Niland questioned if President Griffin could recruit and hire or if he would need to bring those decisions back to the Board.

Trustee Barrett indicated that he would like to review any possible candidates as well and any budget or monetary implications of those possible employees.

Trustee Dunham expressed a need for President Griffin to create a plan that included opening an office, hiring staff, purchasing equipment, and a creating a budget.

Trustee Hurlbutt clarified that President Griffin could not begin until all contract negotiations have been agreed upon.

4. Employment of Legal Counsel

M/S (Niland/Barrett): To authorize Guy Hurlbutt to meet with the law firm of Eberle Berlin to discuss their representation of CWI. *Motion carried unanimously.*

Trustee Barrett explained that he had been in discussion with the law firm of Eberle Berlin to provide legal counsel to CWI. He further explained that Eberle Berlin had agreed to provide legal counsel to CWI until September 30, 2007 at no charge.

Trustee Dunham informed the trustees that he had also been in contact with two legal firms but had been unable to confirm any final plans.

5. Closing Remarks

Chairman Hess indicated that the Trustees were receiving numerous emails and phone calls. He had asked all the Trustees to synthesize the information they have been receiving and to prioritize the information. Those items included things like key positions, compensation plan, budget, adequate staffing, and communications. Chairman Hess indicated that he would be meeting with President Griffin to prioritize action items. They would then forward that

information to Trustees Hurlbutt and Niland so they could use that information as they develop a transition plan.

Chairman Hess also went on to express his desire that CWI begin having meetings around the area to receive community input.

Trustee Dunham also expressed a need for community outreach. Trustee Dunham is hoping to utilize the knowledge and resources of some of the 100 other applicants that applied to become trustees of CWI. He discussed the idea of conducting town hall meetings and for the Trustees to begin speaking at local civic group meetings. He would like to have a communication strategy developed to identify organizations that represent the underserved in this area.

Trustee Barrett asked about changing the name from "advisory board" to more clearly represent what they hope to achieve. Trustees are to forward ideas to Trustee Barrett.

Chairman Hess indicated that he hopes to have experts in several areas come to meetings over the next few months to present to the Trustees.

Trustee Niland agreed that all trustees are receiving lots of emails. She did ask, however, that the Trustees not lose track of the technical aspects that needed to be dealt with immediately. She referred to items such as the budget and the L-2 form. She does not want to miss any critical dates.

President Griffin thanked the Trustees for their support and appointment today. He asked for clarification of the process on when he could begin acting on their behalf.

Chairman Hess explained that as soon as President Griffin and Trustee Hurlbutt had come to an agreement, he could begin acting on their behalf.

Chairman Hess adjourned the meeting at 11:45 a.m. on August 7, 2007.



M.C. Niland, Secretary



Date