

8-26-2010

Board of Trustees Minutes, August 26, 2010

Eastern Washington University

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**EASTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

August 26, 2010

**Open Public Session ~ 3:00 p.m. (TAW 215 B&C)
Executive Session ~ 8:30 a.m. (HAR 223)**

MINUTES

Trustees Present:

Bertha Ortega, Vice Chair
Whitney Fix (via telephone)
Neil McReynolds
Mark Mays
Kris Mikkelsen
Paul Tanaka
Ines Zozaya-Geist

Call to Order, I.

Vice Chair Ortega, acting as Chair, called the August 26, 2010 regular meeting of the Eastern Washington University Board of Trustees to order at 8:37 a.m.

Vice Chair Ortega announced that the Board would convene in executive session under RCW 42.30.110 for the following purposes: (c) to consider the minimum price at which real estate will be offered for sale or lease; (g) to evaluate the qualifications of an applicant for public employment or to review the performance of a public employee; (i) to discuss with legal counsel representing the agency matters relating to agency enforcement actions, litigation or potential; and/or under RCW 42.30.140 to plan or adopt a strategy or position to be taken by the governing body during the course of any collective bargaining, professional negotiations, or grievance or mediation proceedings, or reviewing the proposals made in the negotiations or proceedings while in progress.

She announced that executive session would last approximately thirty minutes, that no final action would be taken during the executive session, and that at the conclusion of the executive session the Board would convene into a work session.

Quorum, II.

A quorum was present. Trustee Kauffman and Trustee Zozaya were unable to attend due to scheduling conflicts.

Executive Session, III.

Acting Chair Ortega stated that executive session was held for purposes authorized in RCW 42.30.110 and/or 42.30.140 as previously scheduled. She stated that executive session ended at 9:30 a.m. and that no action was taken during executive session.

Reconvene Open Board of Trustees Meeting

Vice Chair Ortega called the open session of the August 26, 2010 regular meeting of the Eastern Washington University Board of Trustees to order at 3:04 p.m.

Reports, IV.

University President's Report, IV.A.

President Arévalo reported on his recent participation in the following:

- President's Cabinet Retreat – a two-day session to plan for the upcoming year. Discussed numerous topics including the difficult state budget and strategies to accomplish the university's and Board's goals;
- Press conference regarding the Dream Act, for which Eastern's Board has expressed support. The event involved approximately fifty press associations across the United States as well as a number of college presidents;
- A consortium of nine school districts, Panorama Rural Education Partnership, has requested Eastern's support for a College Spark Grant, which was awarded. The goal is to increase degree completion for low-income, ethnically diverse, rural students from thirty rural school districts. President Arévalo attended the first meeting of the alliance and Terri Ashby-Scott will be EWU's on-going representative;
- A visit from the University of Tamaulipas, Mexico, a follow-up to President Arévalo's visit to their university in 2007. The delegation met with academic leaders and faculty from Eastern's four colleges to discuss future cooperative possibilities including faculty and student exchange programs. They have 45,000 students and have particular interest in EWU's social work, health sciences and business programs;
- Common Core State Education Standards Policy Roundtable - funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the roundtable brought together policymakers and stakeholder organizations. President Arévalo provided input on how implementation of common core standards would impact post-secondary education;
- Assisting Spokane school district in their efforts to improve the student drop-out rate.

Special Report – EWU Early Head Start Governing Board Briefing, IV.B.1.

Carolyn Sola, Director of EWU Early Head Start, shared background information as well as recent news about the program. Since 1998 EWU Early Head Start has provided comprehensive early child health and development services to pregnant women, and nearly 1,000 infants and toddlers of low income families in Ferry, Stevens, and Pend Oreille counties through an annual federal grant. EWU Early Head Start's community engagement activities have resulted in a heightened EWU presence in the areas served, as well as partnerships with local, state, and federal programs, including health districts, school districts, community colleges, and local businesses. The program is also an excellent learning, internship and employment opportunity for EWU students as well as local high school students for their senior projects.

EWU Early Head Start recently received great news from Washington D.C. that the program is in full compliance with the 1,800 federal regulations covering the operations of the program. Following a review by a seven member federal team, the report described the parent involvement in EWU's program as "extraordinary" and further stated that, "Parent involvement at these high levels enhanced each child's development, promoted the growth of the parents' skills and abilities, and contributed to

the successful accomplishment of goals for children and families in isolated areas in Northeastern Washington.” The reviewers had not seen such a high level of parent involvement before. Ms. Sola thanked Eastern for its support of the Early Head Start program, including having a trustee (currently Trustee Zozaya-Geist) serve as the chair of the Early Head Start Board. Vice Chair Ortega thanked Ms. Sola for her presentation and asked that she extend the Board’s congratulations to the staff and board members of the program.

Trustees’ Reports, IV.C.

Board Chair Report, IV.C.1.

Vice Chair Ortega announced that Chair Kauffman is in Washington, D.C. and unable to attend.

Business and Finance Committee, IV.C.2.

Trustee McReynolds reported on two major topics discussed at this morning’s meeting:

- Budget decision package requests for the next biennium were thoroughly discussed and the committee’s recommendation will be brought to the Board during the action items.
- Residential Housing Master Planning – discussed the importance of residential housing to the students and the university. The staff gave an excellent presentation and provided excellent information. Heard a proposal for a three-phase plan including new and renovated housing. Trustees discussed the impact on Eastern’s students of financing these improvements. Good questions were asked and great discussion took place. The Board asked the staff to conduct additional information gathering and to come back for further discussion in October.
- Investment Advisory Committee meets this afternoon and Trustee McReynolds introduced one of the new members of the advisory board, Leonard Yerkes. Mr. Yerkes is an investment executive in Seattle and has many years of experience in dealing with universities and foundations in this field and is highly respected. Another new member is Steve Dahlstrom, President of Spokane Teachers Credit Union and the outgoing Chair of the EWU Foundation Board. He has been very involved with Eastern over the years. The committee is very pleased to have these two quality individuals joining the Investment Advisory Board.

Organization Presidents’ Reports, IV.D.

Faculty Organization, IV.D.1.

Ms. Munson reported that the Fall Gathering Breakfast for faculty and staff will be September 20th, and the first Faculty Organization Senate meeting is scheduled for October 11.

Classified Staff Union, IV.D.2.

Mr. Pendleton reported that the classified staff enjoyed taking part in the EWU community food drive recently. He thanked local 931 member Kathleen Warren for her part in helping coordinate the food drive, as well as all who participated and donated.

The union’s annual picnic was held in August, and everyone had a great time.

The negotiation team has announced a tentative agreement with EWU. The agreement will go before the members for a vote on September 13th. Mr. Pendleton thanked the members of the team.

Additionally, agreements have also recently been reached that returned two classified staff members to work, and these workers being restored to campus is a great benefit to the university community. Local 931 members have attended seminars and conventions to learn how to better serve. Quality tradesmen from the classified staff are currently building the Reid Lab School Meditation Garden next to the old school house on campus. The dedication will take place in September. Mr. Pendleton reminded that we are all here to help each other to help our students succeed.

Associated Students, IV.D.3.

Mr. Justin Terry, ASEWU President, reported that his goal over the summer has been to work out details of the student union building improvement plan. Background information and several floor plan options are included in the board materials. The main goal is to provide a central area where students can go for campus information, additional space for clubs & organizations, and to provide an atmosphere such that everyone wants to come. The PUB committee spoke to many universities to gather input. The goal for this coming year is: pre-design and cost analysis, student and university forums, and then hopefully the plan would go to the students for a vote in May 2011.

Mr. Terry asked the trustees for input regarding what additional information they might need.

Trustee Tanaka asked whether the university would participate in the cost. Vice President Voves responded that currently EWU pays the operating costs of the PUB, but various models need to be looked into.

Trustee Mikkelsen stated she would be more comfortable if a higher number of students were voting on these types of major decisions. Mr. Terry explained that a project of this magnitude would require a vote by 10% of headcount. He said they will look into ways of addressing the voter participation numbers.

Trustee McReynolds asked if a decision has been made by the council as to whether they are proposing rebuilding or renovating. Mr. Terry informed that they have come to believe a renovation is much more feasible than a complete rebuild of the building.

Trustee Mays asked if the remodel will give the council what they wanted. Mr. Terry responded that from the student perspective it is important to try to get as much involvement from campus as possible. He pointed out that when the recreation center was designed, there were things the students wanted that didn't get put in, so they want to make sure this project takes student needs into account.

Trustee Ortega reiterated that the Board will appreciate involvement from as many students as possible.

Action Items, V.

Consent Action Items, V.A.

Minutes of the June 29, 2010 regular Board of Trustees' Meeting, V.A.1.

Motion 08-01-2010: Motion by Trustee Mays that the Board approve the Minutes of the June 29, 2010 regular Board of Trustees' Meeting.

Seconded by Trustee Tanaka.

Motion carried.

Discussion Action Items, V.B.

Board of Trustees Goals 2010-2011, V.B.1.

Vice Chair Ortega shared that the trustees discussed the 2010-2011 goals during the Board's retreat in May, as well as at the Board's work session earlier today.

Motion 08-02-2010: Motion by Trustee Tanaka that the Board approve a revised version of the Board of Trustees Goals 2010-2011, to include revisions discussed by trustees during the August 26th work session.

Seconded by Trustee McReynolds.

Motion carried.

2011-2013 Operating Budget Decision Package, V.B.2.

Vice President Voves reported that revisions have been made to the decision packages based on the Board's comments during this morning's Business & Finance Committee meeting. The university is asking the Board's approval for submission to the Office of Financial Management.

Trustee Tanaka announced that the budget decision packages were presented and discussed thoroughly by the Board previously in June, as well as at this morning's Business & Finance Committee meeting. He recommended that the Board move ahead with approval of the revised versions of the budget decision packages.

Motion 08-03-2010: Motion by Trustee McReynolds that the Board approve the revised version of the 2011-2013 Operating Budget Decision Package to be submitted to the Office of Financial Management. The revisions are per discussion at the Business & Finance Committee meeting on August 26, 2010.

Seconded by Trustee Tanaka.

Motion carried.

2011-2013 Capital Budget Decision Package, V.B.2.

Trustee McReynolds reported that the Board discussed revisions to the 2011-2013 Capital Budget Decision Package at this morning's Business & Finance Committee meeting to include language regarding the Riverpoint campus. The committee recommends approval of the revised version of the decision package, to be submitted to the Office of Financial Management.

Motion 08-04-2010: Motion by Trustee McReynolds that the Board approve the revised version (per discussion at the Business & Finance Committee meeting on August 26, 2010) of the 2011-2013 Capital Budget Decision Package in the amount of \$88,558,000, to be submitted to the Office of Financial Management.

Seconded by Trustee Tanaka.

Motion carried.

Housing Plan Timelines and Proposed Projects, V.B.3.

Trustee McReynolds reported that this item will be delayed until the October Board meeting.

Real Estate Purchase Offer – Spokane Center Building, V.B.4.

Vice President Voves reported that the university is asking the Board’s approval to accept the real estate purchase offer for the sale of the Spokane Center building, in the amount of \$2 million dollars. Vice Chair Ortega shared that the Board has engaged in numerous discussions regarding the potential sale of the Spokane Center building over the past couple of years, in addition to discussion regarding this particular real estate purchase offer.

***Motion 08-05-2010:** Motion by Trustee Mays that the Board approve acceptance of the real estate purchase offer for the Spokane Center building in the amount of \$2 million dollars (\$2,000,000.00). Seconded by Trustee McReynolds.
Motion carried.*

Board Summation –

Several trustees reported that the meetings included substantive discussions regarding policy issues. Board members appreciate the information provided regarding tuition models, housing, and other topics. They expressed appreciation of university personnel for accommodating the interests of the Board by providing additional information on several topics. It was reported that the discussion on housing was one of the best discussions in many years and that the meetings were a good use of time. It was also mentioned that there are many more things to do between now and October. Trustee Ortega expressed that she looks forward to working with everyone this academic year.

Adjournment, VII.

Acting Chair Ortega adjourned the regular Board of Trustees meeting at 3:55 p.m.

Bertha Ortega, Vice Chair
Acting Chair, Board of Trustees

Rodolfo Arévalo, Secretary