



workforce
SOUTHWEST WASHINGTON

WSW Board Meeting Minutes
June 9, 2021
4:00 p.m.
Zoom Conference Call

Board Members Present: Darcy Altizer, Chris Bailey, Karen Bowerman, Mike Bridges, Bob Carroll, Renny Christopher, Ralph Clark, Monte Constable, Karin Edwards, Kelley Foy, Ilona Kerby, Mara Kieval, A.D. Simmons, Ted Sprague, Paige Spratt, Shannon Stull, Lee Tischer, and John Vanderkin.

Board Members with Excused Absences: Ben Bagherpour, Adrian Bryce, Bob Gustainis, and Diane McWithey

Board Members with Unexcused Absences: Jen Baker and Eddie Martin

Guests Present: Tim McGann, Lekha Fernandes, Joseph Hennessey, and Susan Milke

Staff Members Present: Kevin Perkey, Kathy Ashley, Kollin Bell, Linda Czech, Denise Elliott, Amy Gimlin, Betsy Hanrahan, Darcy Hoffman, Barri Horner, Alyssa Joyner, Julia Maglione, Sean Moore, Star Rush, Tamara Toles, Benton Waterous, and Traci Williams.

Welcome, Introduction of Members, Guests, and Staff

Chair Paige Spratt opened the meeting at 4:04 p.m. and welcomed everyone in attendance. Members, guests, and staff introduced themselves.

CONSENT AGENDA

Chair Spratt entertained a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, consisting of the minutes from the Council meeting held on March 10, 2021, Contract Memo, and Policy Memo; which included WSW LLSIL Policy #3018 and WSW Complaint Policy #2004 and Handbook.

Ilona Kerby moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented, second by Shannon Stull. Motion carried.

FISCAL REPORT & PY21 BUDGET

Treasurer Renny Christopher recapped the essentials of the proposed PY21 budget, including all operational costs and special projects.

Following the presentation, questions were invited and addressed by Treasurer Renny Christopher and COO Barri Horner. A motion was entertained to adopt the PY21 budget as presented, with the caveat that any subsequent changes along with the expected mid-year budget revision will be brought before the Council for a vote before implementation.

Bob Carroll moved to approve the PY21 Budget as presented, second by Kelley Foy. Motion carried.

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WSW GOVERNANCE

Term Extension Elections:

A motion was entertained to approve the renewal of three-year Council member terms for Ben Bagherpour, SEH America; Jen Baker, CREDC; Ralph Clark, Cowlitz Container & Display; Monte Constable, DSHS; Ilona Kerby, Lower Columbia CAP; Mara Kieval, Washington State Nurses Association; A.D. Simmons, Aligned Lifestyle Concierge; and John Vanderkin, On-Line Support. Upon approval of the nominations, these board members will serve from July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2024.

Mike Bridges moved to approve the renewal of Ben Bagherpour, Jen Baker, Ralph Clark, Monte Constable, Ilona Kerby, Mara Kieval, A.D. Simmons, and John Vanderkin to serve on the WSW Board of Directors as presented, second by Ted Sprague. Motion carried.

HIGHER EDUCATION PANEL CONVERSATION

Following an introduction, CEO Kevin Perkey introduced WSW's three higher education board members. During the discussion, each higher education board member will give an update on how their institutions have worked with issues good and bad that the pandemic has brought forth.

Dr. Karin Edwards, President of Clark College gave the full board an update on successes and struggles that Clark College has been facing due to COVID.

- Huge focus on equity
- Energize and engage
- Making students aware of financial aid available in the forms of childcare, transportation, food, and housing
- Adding in short-term training
- Looking at ways to up enrollment
- Breaking ground on the North Campus – Advanced Manufacturing early next year 2022

Renny Christopher, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs for WSUV gave the full board an update on the successes and struggles that WSUV has been facing due to COVID.

- This last spring was WSUV's largest graduating class, with 1018 students graduating
- Professional and Corporation Education (PACE) – certificates for employers needs with the first class beginning in spring 2021
- Development global campus – working on portal for students to access all programs that WSU offers
- Strong desire for face-to-face interaction from students. WSUV will have a hybrid model for fall classes
- WSUV has more flexibility, services, and extended hours for students
- WSUV eliminated SAT tests for future enrollment

Chris Bailey, President of Lower Columbia College gave the full board an update on the successes and struggles that LCC has been facing due to COVID.

- LCC didn't let COVID stop them from moving forward with enrollment down only 14.9%. LCC was able to quickly move into remote learning and was able to transition into a hybrid model.
- LCC will have its 1st 4-year degree program, Applied Science bachelor's degree in fall of 2021
- Student success fund was able to raise over one million dollars to help students in need
- Implemented a navigator program with Kelso high school to help students with post-secondary education plans
- Remodel of the LCC library has started

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- Working on donations for a new 55,000 sq. ft. vocational building on campus

WSW EXECUTIVE SEARCH UPDATE

Chair Spratt and Search Committee Chair Darcy Altizer updated the full board time timeline for the new CEO search. The search committee has been formed and Darcy Altizer has been selected to Chair the committee. Next steps are collecting proposals from four search firms, review proposals and goal would be to select firm by June 21st. Picked search firm will work on gathering a pool of applicants and places to reach out, CEO application locked down, interviews in early August. The search committee will send out updates on progress to the full board.

Questions and comments were addressed by Chair Spratt and Search Committee Chair Altizer.

PUBLIC AND BOARD COMMENT

Public comments were invited but none were forthcoming.

ADJOURNMENT

With nothing further for the good of the order, Chair Spratt entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:18 p.m.

Chris Bailey moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:18 p.m.