

**WASHBURN UNIVERSITY OF TOPEKA**  
**BOARD OF REGENTS**  
**MINUTES**  
**February 6, 2020**

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**I. Call to Order**

Chairperson Hoferer called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. in the Kansas Room of the Memorial Union on the Washburn University campus.

**II. Roll Call**

Present were: Mr. Beck, Ms. Buhler, Mr. Hoferer, Mr. Klausman, and Mrs. Parks.

**III. Approval of Minutes of the December 5, 2019 meeting**

It was moved and seconded to approve the Minutes of the December 5, 2019 meeting as submitted. Motion passed.

**IV. Officer Reports**

**A. Chair's Report**

Chair Hoferer reported we are in the process of scheduling a workshop for the Board on the topics of the budget, academic affairs, finance and enrollment. Chair Hoferer then asked Vice President for Administration and Treasurer, Mr. Chris Kuwitzky to update the Board on two main campus construction projects.

Vice President Kuwitzky said that the Indoor Athletic Facility welds have been corrected, having set us back about two months. Framing on the football side is complete as are the walls on the east side. The roof and trusses are on track and should be up this October, 2020. Kuwitzky reported that we are on budget.

For the law school, Mr. Kuwitzky said the architects have been on campus to look at the site plans and needs for classrooms, library and offices. These go out to bid in December or January, with completion in summer 2022. He said the Regents can expect three or four agenda items. The first will be for architectural drawings; next for approval and issuance of bonds; then the award of a construction agreement later this year.

**B. President's Report**

President Farley participated in the meeting via conference call. He said it is only the second time he's been on the phone for a Board meeting. In explanation, he had been out running with his dog when the dog tripped him. He fell, landing on his face. He said he feels and is fine, but looks terrible.

Dr. Farley reiterated that we are working on scheduling a workshop with the board. There will be no action taken, just an opportunity for questions and clarifications so everyone can understand issues a little bit better.

President Farley said we have acquired some wonderful artwork. Photographic portraits of influential African American women at the Mulvane.

Dr. Farley reported that today is the Washburn Foundation Day of Giving, and Washburn's 155<sup>th</sup> birthday. We started celebrating at midnight and so far 500 gifts have been made, totaling \$125,270. The website has a list of projects that touch all areas of campus.

Dr. Farley said the Foundation received a marquee match opportunity for the School of Law building, a \$1 million dollar anonymous gift, for the School of Law plaza to be named after Senator Robert Dole.

President Farley introduced Vice President for Academic Affairs, Dr. JuliAnn Mazachek, who announced Jane Carpenter will be the permanent Dean of the School of Nursing. She noted that Dr. Carpenter served as interim dean while we conducted a search. Dr. Mazachek said "after six months of her leadership, Dr. Farley and I agree we would be honored if she would be our dean of nursing." Dr. Mazachek introduced Dr. Carpenter, saying she took the reins from the beginning and has a vision for what we need to do in the future. There were comments from staff and community patterns about the quality of her leadership.

## **V. New Business**

### **A. Consent Agenda**

It was moved by Regent Klausman and seconded by Regent Parks to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion passed.

As approved by action of the Board:

- 1. Liquidated Claims Approval – November 2019**
- 2. Liquidated Claims Approval – December 2019**
- 3. Faculty/Staff Personnel Actions**

Filled position Senior Administrative Assistant in Modern Languages and Theatre effective February 7, 2020 at an annual salary of \$24,399; and, vacant position Director for Curriculum and Assessment at Washburn Institute of Technology effective February 7, 2020 at an annual salary of \$65,600.

### **B. Action Items**

- 1. Honorary Degree Candidates**

Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. JuliAnn Mazachek presented the item. She said each year we honor alumni with the award of an honorary degree as a

special part of our graduation ceremonies. Dr. Mazachek requested approval of the four exceptional individuals. It was moved by Regent Parks and seconded by Regent Buhler to approve. Motion passed.

## **2. Audit, Tax and Compliance Services**

Vice President for Administration and Treasurer Chris Kuwitzky presented the item. He said our five-year agreement with Rubin Brown is coming to completion. The University has received four responses from 18 solicitations. Kuwitzky said we have recent and favorable experience with Rubin Brown and they were the lowest bid. Kuwitzky asked Chester Moyer from Rubin Brown to attend since there was no Audit Committee meeting.

Mr. Moyer said they are privileged to continue with Washburn. He noted best practice is to rotate audit partners, so Caleb Lilly who previously audited us will be the assigned partner. He explained efficiencies were created through accounting of Foundation funds and significant operational efficiencies that Chris Kuwitzky and Kari Hachiya have put together, and they are pleased to be able to use these to spend less time and it is reflected in the cost.

Mr. Kuwitzky noted the request for approval is for both Rubin Brown and Baker Tilley, who handles bond arbitrage.

It was moved by Regent Klausman and seconded by Regent Parks to approve. Motion passed.

## **C. Information Item(s)**

### **1. Student Mental Health**

Vice President for Student Life Eric Grospitch introduced Crystal Leming to talk about our counseling services and national trends. Leming made a presentation showing the differences between the counseling services and psychological services clinic, an overview of the department, data, national data, challenges and adaptations.

It was moved by Regent Beck and seconded by Regent Parks to adjourn. Motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 4:44 p.m.

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Cynthia Holthaus  
Assistant Secretary, Board of Regents