

**Minutes**  
**West Virginia State University Board of Governors**  
**Special Meeting - December 14, 2011**

**Call to Order.** A special meeting of the West Virginia State University Board of Governors was held on December 14, 2011, in 113 Ferrell Hall. The meeting was called to order at 10:48 a.m. by the chair, Mr. Larry L. Rowe. Other members participating were: Dr. John Thralls, Mrs. Millie Booker, Mr. L. Vincent Williams, Mr. William Lipscomb, Dr. Ann Brothers Smith, and Dr. Tom Guetzloff. Absent members were: Mr. Larry Salyers, Mr. Kris Casdorff, Mr. Gary Swingle, and Mr. Tom Susman.

**Approval of Agenda.** The chair suggested that the agenda be followed in reverse order due to the time and the need for maintaining a quorum. Dr. Thralls moved that the order of the agenda be reversed with the approval of the presidential search plan being the first item. Dr. Smith seconded the motion and the motion carried.

**Approval of Presidential Search Plan.** Mr. Williams reported that the Special Committee on Personnel Matters and Policy met just prior to the full board meeting and they adopted a presidential search guideline and procedure plan in conjunction with Greenwood/Asher Associates. He noted that several changes were made to the proposed document during the committee meeting. The name of the committee was changed to the Search Advisory Committee. A provision regarding a spokesperson was added and indicates that public statements regarding the search will be made only by the Chair of the Search Advisory Committee or the Chair of the Board of Governors. Subsection C was removed from the section on the screening process.

Mr. Williams said that the composition of the search committee will be 12-15 members and will include members of the Board of Governors and constituent representatives, of whom up to three would be business leaders or substantial donors. In regard to the schedule, an announcement about the opening of the position will be made before the actual advertisement. The Board Chair will identify staff to assist the Search Advisory Committee. There will be a confidentiality agreement for all who are involved with the search. Chairman Rowe said that he will work with the Board Clerk to make the amendments to the plan that the committee approved, pending the approval of the full Board. Mr. Williams moved that the Board of Governors approve the document with the amendments made by the personnel committee. Dr. Thralls seconded the motion. Chairman Rowe noted that there was discussion in the committee meeting about the number of representatives for the constituent groups on the Search Advisory Committee. He said now would be the appropriate time for the board to change the make-up of the committee. Mrs. Booker and Dr. Smith voiced their concerns about only having one classified staff and one alumni representative, respectively, and the fact that there are two faculty representatives. Mr. Williams said he understands the arguments for each group, but feels that if the number of constituents is increased, the committee will become too large. Dr. Thralls agreed. Mr. Williams also said that it was recommended by the Chancellor to have two faculty representatives –one from the sciences and one from the arts. Dr. Smith said that they have to trust that when the Chairman makes the selections for the Search Advisory

Committee members he will appoint individuals who will best represent their group. There being no further discussion and no amendments made regarding the membership of the committee, the motion carried.

**Personnel Matter.** Chairman Rowe said that consideration of a personnel matter will be deferred until the next meeting of the Special Committee on Personnel Matters and Policy and that a meeting will likely be called the following week.

**Adjournment.** There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:07 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Susman  
Secretary