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**WSU Board of Trustees**

*Board Meeting*

Thursday, July 20, 2023, 8:00 am

NetApp Training Room, 1850 N. Innovation Blvd, Wichita, KS 67260

In attendance were Keith Lawing, Laurie Labarca, Nancy McCarthy Snyder, Aaron Bastian, Tracee Adams, Junetta Everett, Kevin McWhorter, Dan Rouser, and Connie Dietz. Also in attendance were Andy Schlapp, Dr. Rick Muma, Troy Bruun, Michelle Locke, Jana Macek, Kevin Saal, Sheelu Surender, Werner Golling, and Susan Johnson.

**SCHOLARSHIP DISCUSSION**

Sheelu Surender, Executive Director Financial Aid and Scholarships, presented a summary of financial aid at WSU which consists of grants, loans, work-study and scholarship programs, including the new FAFSA Simplification Act. These programs are funded from federal, state, institutional and outside sources. The goal is to keep indebtedness as low as possible for our students, increase need-based aid and continue to provide an accessible, affordable and impactful higher education.

**WILKINS SOFTBALL STADIUM IIMPROVEMENTS / NIL DISCUSSION**

Kevin Saal, Director of Athletics, presented the 4 phases planned for the Wilkens Softball facility upgrade which will help recruit, retain and develop student athletes. The improved facilities will also increase opportunities to host major tournaments, bringing more athletes and families to our campus.

The Board of Trustees was asked to support the project. Rouser moved to approve $3 million from the strategic initiatives fund to help start Phase 1 construction, and Dietz seconded, all approved. Rouser then moved to revise the FY 2024 Board Initiatives budget to increase budgeted expenditures to an amount equal to the current cash balance of $3,837,877, Dietz seconded, all approved.

Saal discussed NIL (Name, Image, Likeness) and how it is offered through Armchair Strategies for WSU’s student athletes.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Bastian motioned to approve the minutes from April 6, 2023. Rouser seconded and the motion passed.

Labarca recognized Harter’s years of dedicated service to the Board of Trustees and introduced new trustee Keith Lawing.

**ELECTION OF NEW OFFICERS**

Schlapp clarified the roles of the Board as it relates to the officers. For the most part, the staff does the heavy lifting and confers with the officers.  McWhorter moved to approve the current officers for upcoming FY24, Everett seconded.

**FINANCE & AUDIT REPORT**

McCarthy Snyder asked Bruun to review the financial reports with the board. Bruun shared budget to actual results for FY 2023. Mill levy receipts along with interest income exceeded budget by over $450,000 while annual expenditures ended the fiscal year at 91.4% of the budget. The combination of revenues exceeding budget and expenditures ending the year below budget resulted in a $3.1 million cash balance available for Board initiatives in FY 2024. McCarthy Snyder made a motion to receive the reports, Bastian seconded, the motion passed.

**REVIEW OF FY2024 MILL LEVY BUDGET WITH CITY/COUNTY**

Schlapp said the meetings went well and they also talked about the Wichita Biomedical Campus with each group.  The City will donate the land for the building and the County will move the ComCare building close to the new site.  Schlapp asked to increase revenue and expenditure contingency by $200,000 to ensure that Sedgwick County has adequate budget to distribute mill levy revenue to the Board, Rouser moved, Dietz seconded.

Schlapp also requested to pay PPMC an additional $25K out of the Board Initiatives budget. Rouser moved, McCarthy Synder seconded.

**WICHITA STATE UNIVERSITY UPDATE**

Muma discussed the construction projects on campus, Cessna Stadium, Marcus Welcome Center, Shocker Success Center, Partnership 11 building and the apartment/retail at 21st/Oliver area. He said the Wichita Biomedical Campus was in the design phase, construction should start beginning of 2024 and the site will be announced in August 2023 with opening Fall of 2026. Fall enrollment is currently up 3.3%.

Labarca adjourned the meeting at 10 am.

**TOUR OF NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF RESEARCH AND DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION**

Witherspoon met the group and talked about the intentional plan for public space in the innovation campus buildings starting with the John Bardo Center all the way to the new National Institute of Research and Digital Transformation building. The group toured the National Institute for Research and Digital Transformation, an interconnected business solution provider and research consortium dedicated to accelerating the benefits of digital transformation for education, business, and society. NIRDT engages industry professionals to conduct research and engage with students and business partners in the application of Digital Transformation.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Johnson

Assistant Secretary