

MINUTES

WEST VIRGINIA COUNCIL FOR COMMUNITY AND TECHNICAL COLLEGE EDUCATION June 6, 2024

A meeting of the West Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education was held the David K. Hendrickson Conference Center at 2000 Union Carbide Drive in South Charleston, WV 25303, beginning at 9:30 am. Council members present were: Bob Brown, Christina Cameron, Tracy Miller, and Steve Roberts. Joining by telephone was Clinton Burch. Absent was: Bill Baker, Michael Graney, Traci Nelson and Andrw Payne. Also in attendance were Council staff, community and technical college presidents, faculty, staff, and guests.

Call to Order

Chairman Cameron called the meeting to order noting a quorum was present.

1. Approval of Minutes

Mr. Roberts moved the adoption of the minutes from the April 25, 2024, meeting of the West Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education.

Ms. Miller seconded the motion. Motion carried.

2. Election of Officers

Mr. Brown moved that the current slate of officers continue in service. Christina Cameron as Chairman, Steve Roberts as Vice Chairman and Tracy Miller as Secretary.

The floor was opened to nominations. No other nominations were heard.

Ms. Miller seconded the motion. Motion carried.

NOTE: Officer appointments are effective on July 1, 2024.

Finance and Facilities

3. Tuition and Fees Fiscal Year 2025

A discussion was held regarding tuition and fees. West Virginia Code § 18-10-1 requires the Council to approve any resident tuition and fee increase greater than ten percent in any one year or where the average increase would be more than seven percent per year averaged over a rolling three-year period. All community and technical college institutions have reported either zero percent or a percentage increase below what the Council is required to approve for FY 2025. Details regarding the breakdown of tuition and fees were provided in the agenda item.

4. Fiscal Year 2025 Operating and Capital Budgets for All Institutions

Mr. Brown moved the following resolution:

Resolved, That the West Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education approves the Fiscal Year 2025 operating and capital budgets for all institutions.

Mr. Roberts seconded the motion. Motion carried.

5. West Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education Fiscal year 2025 Operating Budget

Mr. Brown moved the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the West Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education approves the operating budget for the Council System Office for fiscal year 2025.

Ms. Miller seconded the motion. Motion carried.

6. Academic Fees Eligible for West Virginia Invests

Ms. Miller moved the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the West Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education approves the academic fees eligible for WV Invests.

Mr. Roberts seconded the motion. Motion carried.

General

7. Higher Education Adult Part-Time Student (HEAPS) In-Demand Programs

Mr. Roberts moved the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the West Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education approves areas of training for skill development and demand occupations for the workforce development component of HEAPS for fiscal year 2025.

Ms. Miller seconded the motion. Motion carried.

8. Revision of Series 5, *Employing and Evaluating Presidents*

Mr. Brown moved the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the West Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education approves amendments to legislative rule Series 5, *Employing and Evaluating Presidents*, to be filed with the Secretary of State for the 30-day public comment period and if no substantive comments are received, that the Council extends its final approval.

Ms. Miller seconded the motion. Motion carries.

9. Repeal of Series 29, *Travel*

Mr. Roberts moved the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the West Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education approves the repeal of its procedural rule, Series 29, *Travel*.

Ms. Miller seconded the motion. Motion carried.

10. Repeal of Series 31, *Ethics*

Mr. Brown moved the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the West Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education approves the repeal of its procedural rule, Series 31, *Ethics*.

Ms. Miller seconded the motion. Motion carried.

11. Revisions to Series 59, Awarding Undergraduate College Credit for Prior Learning, Advanced Placement Credit, College-Level Examination Program, and Nursing Career Pathways

Mr. Brown moved the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the West Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education approves revisions to its procedural rule, Series 59, *Awarding Undergraduate College Credit for Prior Learning, Advanced Placement Credit, College-Level Examination Program, and Nursing Career Pathways*.

Mr. Roberts seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Possible Executive Session Under the Authority of W. Va. Code § 6-9A-4 for the Following:

It was noted for the record that the Council elected to remain in open session for the following items:

12. Presidential Contract and Compensation for President of Mountwest Community and Technical College

Mr. Roberts moved the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the West Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education approves compensation for Dr. Joshua Baker as President of Mountwest Community and Technical College as proposed by the institutional board of governors in his contract.

Mr. Brown seconded the motion. Motion carried.

13. Presidential Contract and Compensation for President of New River Community and Technical College

Ms. Miller moved the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the West Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education approves compensation for Dr. Bonny Copenhaver as President of New River Community and Technical College as proposed by the institutional board of governors in her contract.

Mr. Roberts seconded the motion. Motion carried.

14. Presidential Contract and Compensation for President of West Virginia Northern Community College

Mr. Roberts moved the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the West Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education approves compensation for Dr. Daniel Mosser as President of West Virginia Northern Community College as proposed by the institutional board of governors in his contract.

Mr. Brown seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Additional Comments/Chancellor's Report

Chancellor Sarah Tucker announced two significant developments in our state's higher education landscape. In response to the challenges associated with the new FAFSA application process, Governor Justice declared a state of emergency, enabling the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission and the West Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education to provide additional financial aid to eligible students. This effort was made possible through the allocation of supplementary funds by the Governor's Office and Legislature.

Dr. Tucker also announced that both the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission and the West Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education have relocated their headquarters to 2001 Union Carbide Drive, South Charleston, WV 25303.

15. Recognizing Strong Support of Higher Education in West Virginia

Ms. Miller moved the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas, public higher education serves as the cornerstone for the economic and social advancement of the State of West Virginia, offering students vast opportunities for a strong and affordable education that leads to promising careers and a bright future; and

Whereas, investing in public higher education is essential for providing students with the foundation they need to achieve their full potential, and for providing higher education institutions with the resources they need to support those students and strengthen the communities they serve; and

Whereas, in recent years, Governor Jim Justice and the West Virginia Legislature have demonstrated unwavering commitment to the enhancement of public higher education within the state through substantial investments and initiatives; and

Whereas, in 2023, Governor Justice and the Legislature made a historic investment of \$209 million for deferred maintenance projects across West Virginia's system of public higher education, paving the way for projects that will strengthen our campuses for years to come; and

Whereas, this year, amid challenges associated with the federal government's rollout of a new Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), which is the key to unlocking funds for college, Governor Justice declared a state of emergency that allows our students to receive state financial aid regardless of their ability to complete the form; and

Whereas, Governor Justice and the Legislature also provided public higher education with more than \$80 million this year to strengthen West Virginia's needs-based financial aid programs and support the operations of public higher education institutions; and

Whereas, since West Virginia's first tuition-free grant program, West Virginia Invests, was established in 2019, the percentage of students graduating from our community and technical colleges without debt has increased significantly, from 46 percent to 64 percent for students with one-year certificates and from 44 percent to 56 percent for students with associate degrees; and

Whereas, the students of our community and technical colleges are deeply appreciative of the positive impact of these investments on their educational experiences and career opportunities, and the faculty, staff and leaders of our institutions are equally as grateful to be able to continue making a profound impact on students' lives;

Therefore, be it resolved that we, the West Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education, on behalf of our system of nine community and technical colleges across the state, express profound gratitude to Governor Jim Justice and the West Virginia Legislature for their steadfast dedication to and substantial investments in public higher education; and

Be it further resolved, that we commit to honoring these investments by continuing to strive for excellence in community and technical college education on behalf of our students and our state.

Mr. Roberts seconded the motion. Motion carried.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Next Regularly Scheduled Meeting

Council Meeting: August 15, 2024
Time: 9:30 am
Logistics: Zoom



Christina Cameron, Chairman



Tracy Miller, Secretary