



BOARD OF TRUSTEES

June 23, 2022

Roaden University Center, Room 282

MINUTES

Meeting streamed live via link found on this web page:

<https://www.tntech.edu/board/meetings/2022-06-23-board-meeting.php>

AGENDA ITEM 1 – CALL TO ORDER

The Tennessee Tech Board of Trustees met on June 23, 2022, in Roaden University Center Room 282. Chair Trudy Harper called the meeting to order at 1:33 p.m.

Chair Harper asked Mr. Lee Wray, Secretary, to call the roll. The following members were present:

Thomas Lynn
Rhedona Rose
Johnny Stites
Teresa Vanhooser
Hannah Willis
Barry Wilmore
Trudy Harper

Dan Allcott, Tom Jones, and Fred Lowery participated remotely and each confirmed that they could simultaneously hear and speak to the Board members, they were the only person present in the location from which they were calling, and they received the board materials in advance of the meeting.

A quorum was physically present. Tennessee Tech faculty, staff and members of the public were also in attendance.

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AGENDA ITEM 2 – RECOGNITION OF STUDENTS (GOLDWATER SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT AND FACULTY ADVISOR)

Chair Harper introduced Braden Copeland, a sophomore studying chemistry and biology with a minor in honors, who recently won the prestigious and highly competitive Goldwater Scholarship. She stated that Braden, only the third Tennessee Tech student to ever receive this scholarship and the first since 1999, would receive up to \$7500 for up to two years. Chair Harper stated that the Goldwater scholarship program was designed to foster outstanding students to pursue research careers and was the preeminent undergraduate career of its type in these fields. Chair Harper also stated that Braden was conducting research in the chemistry department with Dr. Andreea Cojocaru.

AGENDA ITEM 3 – RECOGNITION OF RETIRING FACULTY MEMBER, PROFESSOR WINSTON MORRIS

Chair Harper stated that Professor Winston Morris was retiring after 55 years. He came to Tennessee Tech as a tuba instructor in 1967 and founded the now world-renowned Tennessee Tech Tuba Ensemble. He taught over 400 tuba students throughout his career. The ensemble appeared eight times at New York's Carnegie Hall, at two World Fairs, at the Spoleto Festival in Charleston, and at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. Chair Harper stated that Professor Morris was an icon and a legend at Tennessee Tech, in the world, and across the globe. A plaque and service pin were presented to Professor Morris.

AGENDA ITEM 4 – APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION FOR PURNA SAGGURTI

Chair Harper stated that Purna Saggurti, who served as an inaugural Tennessee Tech Board of Trustees member from 2016 until 2021, was recently appointed as vice chair for Bank of America. In appreciation for all his service and accomplishments, President Oldham read the resolution prepared for presentation to Mr. Saggurti. There being no further discussion, Mr. Stites moved to adopt the resolution honoring Mr. Saggurti, as read. Ms. Vanhooser seconded the motion. Mr. Wray called a roll call vote. The motion carried unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 5 – APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Harper asked for approval of the minutes of the March 10, 2022, Tennessee Tech Board of Trustees meeting. Chair Harper asked if there were questions or comments regarding the minutes. There being none, Mr. Jones moved to recommend approval of the March 10, 2022, Board of Trustees minutes. Ms. Vanhooser seconded the motion. Mr. Wray called a roll call vote. The motion carried unanimously.

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Chair Harper stated that Tennessee Tech will have a zero increase in tuition and fees next year for all students. She stated that the Board was delighted to have the support of the Tennessee legislature and Governor Lee who understood the importance of meeting the needs of students. At the same time, the State understood the funding required to maintain and improve Tennessee Tech's ability to serve students and provide general support for our effort. Chair Harper also expressed her thanks to Board members for supporting that which was enabled by the State legislature and the Governor.

AGENDA ITEM 6 – PRESIDENT’S REPORT

President Oldham reported that he believed the success of Tennessee Tech could be summed up in one word - relevance. Some examples of relevance pertinent to Tennessee Tech include: 1) Tennessee Tech continued to be the number one public university in Tennessee as ranked in *Best Colleges in America* by *Money* magazine. 2) A near record freshman class - in the 2000 range - is anticipated this fall, while at the same time it is a more diverse freshman class, and academically as strong as any past Tennessee Tech freshman class. 3) Six individuals who each played a major role in Tennessee Tech and in the larger community and world we live in recently passed: Michael Birdwell, a longtime history professor and a tremendous historical scholar; Millard Oakley, a great philanthropist of the Upper Cumberland; Les Winningham, a Tennessee Tech graduate and former member of the Tennessee General Assembly; two former Tennessee Tech ROTC members who later became generals - Carl Steiner, retired four-star Army General, and Lieutenant General Don Rogers; and President Emeritus Angelo Volpe. All were former alums, and in Dr. Angelo Volpe's case, a former Tennessee Tech president. 4) At least 12 alums of Tennessee Tech's ROTC program rose to the level of general in the Army or admiral in the Navy. 5) Tennessee Tech is celebrating Varsity athletics' centennial year this year and also celebrating 50 years of Title IX and women's sports in college athletics. Athletics has been a leader in the development of women's sports in the aftermath of Title IX and the six individuals mentioned previously have been a huge part of that progress. 6) The local impact, the local relevance of the university. The economic impact of Tennessee Tech is extensive: \$860 million of annual economic impact on Cookeville and the Upper Cumberland. Tennessee Tech is fortunate to have a great partnership with the City of Cookeville and the Putnam County Chamber of Commerce. Tennessee Tech had over \$1.5 billion economic impact for the entire state of Tennessee, creating almost 12,000 jobs across the state.

President Oldham stated that at the 10-year mark of his tenure at Tennessee Tech, he wanted to pause and celebrate Tennessee Tech University's identity, as the number-one public university in Tennessee.

AGENDA ITEM 7 – ELECTION OF STUDENT TRUSTEE

Chair Harper stated that the Student Government Association submitted Savannah Griffin as nominee for student member of the Board of Trustees effective July 1, 2022. She stated that

Savannah is a senior secondary education manager from Seymour, Tennessee and served as SGA Executive Treasurer for 2021-22. Savannah also served as a Student Orientation Assistant, Student Success Coordinator for Flight Path, a Director of the Tennessee Tech Parent Association, and in numerous other roles.

Chair Harper called for a motion to appoint Savannah. Mr. Jones moved to appoint Savannah Griffin as student trustee. Mr. Lowery seconded the motion. With an opportunity for further discussion and there being none, Mr. Wray called a roll call vote. The motion carried unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 8 – CONSENT AGENDA

- A. NEW ACADEMIC PROGRAM PROPOSAL (NAPP) FOR B.S. IN STUDIO ARTS**
- B. PRESIDENT EMERITUS CONTRACT**
- C. TTU POLICY 270 (GENERAL GRADUATE ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS)**
- D. TTU POLICY 506 (GENERAL AND GROUP TRAVEL POLICIES)**
- E. TENURE RECOMMENDATIONS**

Chair Harper asked if anyone objected to the five proposed items which came from recommendations resulting from the morning committee meetings being placed on the consent agenda and voted on as a group. There being no objection and no further discussion, Chair Harper called for a motion to approve the five proposed items. Ms. Rose moved to approve the Consent Agenda as recommended by committees. Mr. Jones seconded the motion. Mr. Wray called a roll call vote. The motion carried unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 9 – EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – APPROVAL OF PRESIDENT’S NEW CONTRACT

Chair Harper stated that the Executive Committee met earlier today and discussed a new contract for President Oldham. The new contract would put him in contract with Tennessee Tech through June of 2028. Chair Harper stated that she would like to entertain a motion with respect to the contract. Mr. Lynn moved to approve the contract as presented. Mr. Stites seconded the motion. There being no additional discussion, Mr. Wray called a roll call vote. The motion carried unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 10 – AUDIT & BUSINESS COMMITTEE REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION

A. FY2021-22 ESTIMATED & FY2022-23 PROPOSED BUDGET

Mr. Stites, Chair of the Audit & Business Committee, reported that the first item approved by the Audit & Business Committee was the FY2021-22 estimated and FY2022-23 proposed budget. Mr. Stites moved that the Board approve the two budgets. Ms. Vanhooser

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seconded the motion. There being no additional discussion, Mr. Wray called a roll call vote. The motion carried unanimously.

B. FY2022-23 DISCLOSED PROJECTS

Mr. Stites reported that the next item approved by the Audit & Business Committee was the FY 2022-23 disclosed projects. Upon the committee's recommendation, Mr. Stites moved the Board approve the FY2022-23 disclosed projects for pavement repairs and the New Hall North roof replacement. Ms. Vanhooser seconded the motion. There being no additional discussion, Mr. Wray called a roll call vote. The motion carried unanimously.

C. CAPITAL BUDGET FY2023-24

Upon the Audit & Business Committee's recommendation, Mr. Stites moved that the Board approve the FY2023-24 Capital Budget request. Mr. Lynn seconded the motion. There being no additional discussion, Mr. Wray called a roll call vote. The motion carried unanimously.

D. LAND ACQUISITION

Upon the Audit & Business Committee's recommendation, Mr. Stites moved that the Board approve the proposed land acquisition for 520 E. Eleventh Street and 1108 N. Washington Avenue. Because the recommendation came from committee, no second was required. There being no additional discussion, Mr. Wray called a roll call vote. The motion carried unanimously.

E. CRAFT CENTER LEASE

Upon the Audit & Business Committee's recommendation, Mr. Stites moved that the Board approve the proposed lease for the Craft Center with the Department of the Army. Because the recommendation came from committee, no second was required. There being no additional discussion, Mr. Wray called a roll call vote. The motion carried unanimously.

F. DUAL ENROLLMENT TUITION RATE

Upon the Audit & Business Committee's recommendation, Mr. Stites moved that the Board approve the dual enrollment tuition rate of \$179.55 per credit hour. Because the recommendation came from committee, no second was required. There being no additional discussion, Mr. Wray called a roll call vote. The motion carried unanimously.

Chair Harper announced that the Board was scheduled to meet again on October 6 and December 1. A virtual information session to learn more about Athletics was scheduled for August 23.

On behalf of the entire Board, Chair Harper thanked Hannah Willis, outgoing student trustee,

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for her service and commitment to Tennessee Tech. Hannah was presented a plaque which was created in Braille.

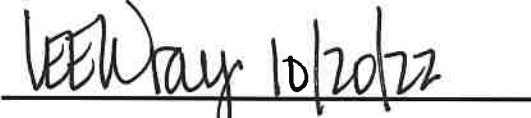
AGENDA ITEM 11 – OTHER BUSINESS - RESOLUTION TO THANK THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Mr. Jones moved to approve the creation of a resolution for presentation to the Tennessee General Assembly to thank them for their generosity in recent years with funding for Tennessee Tech. Mr. Lynn seconded the motion. There being no additional discussion, Mr. Wray called a roll call vote. Professor Allcott had already left the meeting but the motion carried unanimously (8-0) by the remaining Trustees.

AGENDA ITEM 12 – ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Tennessee Tech Board of Trustees meeting adjourned at 3:06 p.m.

Approved,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lee Wray" followed by the date "10/20/22". The signature is written over a solid horizontal line.

Lee Wray, Secretary