

MINUTES OF ATHLETICS COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday, October 28, 2021/via videoconference

Members Present

Steve Smith, Chairman

Debra Bryant	Steve Frye	Julie Baker	Jeff Roberts
Kristine Craven	Samuel Oldham	Spencer Stachyra	Robert Owens
Matt Smith	Kristyn Ogletree	George Chitiyo	Alexandria Perry
Tyler Vaughn	David Mann (proxy for Christy Killman)		

Mark Wilson, Executive Officer

Members Absent

John Smith Michelle Huddleston

Support Staff Present

Amanda Thatcher

Chairman Steve Smith called the meeting to order at 11:05 a.m. Introductions were made and the meeting agenda and the minutes of the March 23, 2021 meeting were approved with a friendly amendment by unanimous voice vote.

Old Business – none.

New Business:

Missed Class Time Report

- Mark Wilson presented the missed class time report for Spring 2021, with reference to Spring 2020 and Spring 2019. Since all sports competed in Spring 2021, Mr. Wilson noted that the report would look different from the past, but was in line with what student-athletes had missed during past traditional seasons. The report was adopted by unanimously.

NCAA Graduation Success Rate

- The NCAA GSR report was presented to the committee by Mark Wilson, who noted that this information was published and released to the public. Mr. Wilson explained how funding from the NCAA would soon be based on this and other academic reports. The report was accepted by the committee.

Policy 945 Name, Image and Likeness

- Mr. Wilson presented the new Athletics Policy 945 for Name, Image and Likeness. He and Amanda Thatcher described the changes to the NCAA legislation and the implementation of the State of Tennessee legislation, and how the policy mirrors each. The policy was adopted by unanimous vote.

Policy 909 Transfers and Appeals

- Ms. Thatcher highlighted the changes to this policy, which was updated to reflect the changes to NCAA transfer legislation. The policy was adopted by unanimous vote.

Budget Update

- Mr. Wilson noted that the budget for 2021-22 had returned to pre-pandemic levels for individual teams, but ticket sales are still down and the administrative budget is very tight. He stated he anticipates a budget cut of 4% for the 2022-23 academic year, due to reduced enrollment, and noted that costs of travel, meals, equipment and officials were increasing.

Capital Projects

- Mr. Wilson updated the committee on the shift in football projects from the Stadium to the Football Operations Center. The FOC will be built with fundraised money and will house the coaches offices, locker room, team meeting rooms, sports medicine facility and will have a 100 yard grass practice field. It will be located across from the Athletic

Performance Center. The Stadium project will be built through financing, and will only be the west side of the stadium for now. Currently the coaching staff is in temporary buildings located in a parking lot outside of the stadium due to leaking issues with the football coaches' offices.

- Other projects include lighting for the baseball field and netting for the softball field.

Other Such Matters

- Mr. Wilson updated the committee on the changes happening at the Ohio Valley Conference, with Jacksonville State and Eastern Kentucky leaving after the 2020-21 academic year and Austin Peay and Belmont leaving after the 2021-22 academic year. He noted the sports that were at risk of losing an automatic bid to the NCAA tournament, and stated that Tennessee Tech was committed to the OVC but would be well positioned if the conference were to be dissolved.

Adjournment

A motion was made and seconded for adjournment. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 11:58 a.m.