

**Blue Ridge Community College
College Board Meeting
January 11, 2023**

Board Members Present:

- Ms. Kelly Blosser
- Ms. Debra Callison
- Ms. Vermell Grant
- Ms. Capitola "Cappie" Hull
- Ms. Mary Louise Leake
- Mr. John Matherly
- Mr. Dave Metz
- Ms. Cathy Welsh

Board Members Absent:

- Mr. John Butler
- Ms. Janet Ewing
- Ms. Sandy Hernandez

College Staff in Attendance

- Dr. John Downey, President of the College and Secretary of the Board
- Dr. Bob Young, Vice President of Student instruction and Student Services
- Ms. Anastasia Triplett, Vice President of Finance and Administration
- Ms. Amy Kiger, Executive Director of the BRCC Educational Foundation
- Ms. Sandi Belcher, Executive Assistant to the President
- Ms. Ellyn Alt, Accreditation Coordinator/Administrative Assistant to VP of Instruction & Student Services
- Ms. Donna Ladd, Instructor of English

Welcome and Call to Order

Mr. Matherly welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 6:23 p.m.

Moment in Mission

Dr. Downey introduced Ms. Ellyn Alt as a SACSCOC Coordinator and Ms. Donna Ladd as a SACSCOC Liaison. Ms. Ladd began by informing the Board that Blue Ridge Community College is in the class of 2025 for a renewal of a 10-year audit. She spoke about her experience with the process and went into a brief explanation about how the process works, as well as when some of the deadlines are. Ms. Alt went into a bit more detail about when the reports are due and what happens after they are submitted. She stated that the on-site visit is scheduled for September 17-19, 2024. A Q&A period helped the Board to understand, not only the process, but the importance of it.

Approval of November 9, 2022 Minutes of Proceedings

***Minutes were approved and unanimously passed.**

Committee Reports

- A. Finance and Facilities** – In Mr. Butler's absence, Ms. Callison stated that the committee did not have a quorum to hold their meeting, so she asked Ms. Triplett to review the reports for the full Board. Ms. Triplett reviewed financial reports from July 1, 2022 – December 31, 2022. ***The committee made the motion to accept the reports and file them for audit, as presented. The motion was passed unanimously.**

Ms. Triplett made a report about the bathroom renovation scheduled to begin in the summer. She stated that bids are due by the 24th of January, to allow plenty of time to obtain materials and begin right after graduation. There will be more to report on in subsequent meetings as summer projects are put into

place. In addition, there is a painting project in the early stages of planning. Ms. Triplett turned reporting to Dr. Downey, who briefly discussed the JLARC Study, noting that this is just a report and nothing has yet been decided. He stated that he wanted to be sure the Board was aware of the study and had a basic understanding of what it entailed.

Curriculum and Student Affairs Committee. Mr. Metz reported that one AAS program went through a title change from Administration of Justice to Criminal Justice. The committee approved this change and Dr. Young covered the action item requiring approval from the Board. ***The committee moved to approve the name change. The motion was passed unanimously.**

B. Secretary Downey asked Ms. Triplett to give the Personnel Report.

Secretary Downey asked Dr. Young to give an enrollment update. Dr. Young reported that enrollment is up and we are hoping to hold an increase of about 5+%. Dr. Downey mentioned that actual head count is around 4,000 – 5,000 and that FTEs are a little over 2,000. He also reported that, with Workforce and dual enrollment included, the college serves a total of between 6,000 and 7,000 students in our region. Secretary Downey asked Ms. Kiger to give the Educational Foundation report on the Blue Ridge Fund and All Funds Comparison reports. Ms. Kiger also gave each Board member a 2023 calendar that was designed and printed by the Graphics Department. Ms. Kiger then highlighted some upcoming Foundation events.

Old Business

There was no old business to discuss.

New Business

Dr. Downey reminded the Board that Conflict of Interest statements must be submitted no later than Feb. 1, 2023.

In Dr. Downey's report, he spoke about the need to relocate the truck driving range from the land at the Government Center in Augusta County, where it has been housed for over 25 years, due to the recent vote in Augusta County in favor of moving the county courthouse from Staunton to Augusta County. The plan is to put it on the very spot where CDL holds much of its training. He stated that alternative locations are being reviewed, what the requirements for the acreage are, and how a new range might be funded. In addition, Dr. Downey announced that the new Chancellor is Dr. David Dore'. Dr. Dore' has a strong background in workforce, was successful in setting up some Creative Centers of Excellence in his home state of Arizona, and that there is hope his knowledge of that will transfer to his work in Virginia. He is scheduled to begin in his new role on April 1, 2023. Next, Dr. Downey passed out a handout highlighting the Hire Virginia initiative launched by the Virginia Community College System to address the growing need for qualified workers to fill high demand jobs throughout the Commonwealth. And lastly, Dr. Downey announced the impending retirement of Dr. Bob Young. Dr. Downey expressed, and was echoed by several board members, his gratitude for Dr. Young's years of dedicated and impactful service to the college. The search for the next Vice President of Instruction and Student Services is currently underway.

Public Input

No members from the public were in attendance.

There being no further business or discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm.

**Items requiring action*

Respectfully submitted by Ms. Sandi Belcher