

**Blue Ridge Community College  
College Board Meeting  
May 10, 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
- Dr. Dave Urso, Academic Dean and soon-to-be Vice President of Academic Affairs
- Ms. Amy Kiger, Executive Director of the BRCC Educational Foundation
- Ms. Sandi Belcher, Executive Assistant to the President
- Mr. Marcus Sanders, CDL Instructor, Workforce and Continuing Education
- Mr. Bill Byrd, CDL Instructor, Workforce and Continuing Education

**Welcome and Call to Order**

Mr. Matherly welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 6:40 pm.

**Moment in Mission**

Dr. Downey introduced Mr. Marcus Sanders, CDL Instructor in the Workforce and Continuing Education division of the college, to lead the Board in trying out the CDL testing lab simulator. Mr. Bill Byrd led them in the heavy equipment testing lab simulator.

**Approval of March 8, 2023 Minutes of Proceedings**

Motion to accept the minutes was made by Mr. Metz and seconded by Ms. Callison. They were approved and unanimously passed.

**Committee Reports**

- A. \*In Mr. Butler's absence, Ms. Triplett reported on the Finance and Facilities committee meeting and summarized the financial reports. Ms. Triplett went over each report. \*The committee made the motion to accept the reports as presented and file them for audit. The motion was passed unanimously.

**\*Mr. Metz reported on the curriculum updates and asked Dr. Young to go over the action items requiring approval from the Board. \*The items on the consent agenda were approved unanimously. \*There were eight action items requiring votes. After recommending some revisions and discontinuations of courses, all eight were moved for approval by the committee and passed the full Board unanimously. \*Program update was recommended for the Associate of Science in Social Science. It was moved for approval by the committee and passed the full Board unanimously.** Dr. Young gave an update on the status of the BRidge to Madison program. While very successful, BRCC is waiting to see if it can continue next semester, due to an overbooking of housing at JMU.

- B. Secretary Downey asked Ms. Triplett to give the Personnel Report.  
Secretary Downey asked Dr. Young to give an enrollment update.  
Secretary Downey asked Ms. Kiger to give the Educational Foundation report the Blue Ridge Fund and Other Funds. Ms. Kiger also mentioned that the college spring fundraiser, Casino Royale, was a great success.

### **Old Business**

Dr. Downey asked the Board to discuss his evaluation and their own self-evaluation in a closed session. **\*Ms. Callison moved and Ms. Leake seconded that the Board move into closed session to discuss Dr. Downey's evaluation and BRCC staff left the room. \*Upon return, Mr. Metz moved and Ms. Callison seconded that the Board move out of closed session.** An evaluation letter from the Board was presented to Ms. Belcher to be delivered to the Chancellor's office.

### **New Business**

**\*Ms. Blosser moved and Ms. Leake seconded substituting July's meeting with an Orientation meeting for new Board members. The Board passed the motion unanimously.** Dr. Downey requested that all Board members plan to attend this meeting for refreshers on FOIA rules, attendance needs, and importance of the Board's work.

Dr. Downey presented parting gifts for Mr. Metz, whose term ended, and Ms. Leake, who is moving out of her service area. He expressed his appreciation for their contributions and work as board members to benefit the college.

Dr. Downey reported on the recent visit the new Chancellor, Dr. David Doré, paid to the college the previous week. It was a great success. Dr. Doré met with about a dozen students for lunch and conversation; he then met with various Board members and local business leaders; then, had a reception with faculty and staff; enjoyed an enthusiastic report about the new Call Center; and tried out the CDL testing lab simulation.

Dr. Downey next reported on the positive direction enrollment is heading, enjoying numbers that are slowly coming back to pre-Covid levels.

Dr. Downey pointed out that this was Dr. Young's final Board meeting, as he is retiring. He introduced Dr. Dave Urso, who will be stepping in as Vice President of Academic Affairs.

Dr. Downey then talked briefly about the status of the hunt for a new location for the CDL test driving range.

Lastly, Dr. Downey announced details about graduation plans, stating that the forecast for rain on Saturday made it likely that commencement would be moved to JMU and that he planned to make that decision in the next couple of days.

### **Public Input**

No members from the public were in attendance.

There being no further business or discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm.

***\*Items requiring action***

*Respectfully submitted by Ms. Sandi Belcher*

