

WILLIAM & MARY

BOARD OF VISITORS
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
DRAFT MINUTES
APRIL 20, 2022
BRINKLEY COMMONS – ALAN B. MILLER HALL

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. William H. Payne II, Vice Rector
Ms. Barbara L. Johnson, Secretary
Ms. Sue H. Gerdelman

Mr. James A. Hixon
Ms. Lisa E. Roday
Mr. Brian P. Woolfolk (*remote via Zoom*)

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT

Hon. John E. Littel, Rector

OTHER BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Hon. Charles E. Poston
Mr. John P. Rathbone

Ms. Ardine Williams

OTHERS PRESENT

Dr. Katherine A. Rowe, President
Dr. Debbie L. Sydow, President of Richard Bland College (RBC)
Dr. Peggy Agouris, Provost
Ms. Amy S. Sebring, Chief Operating Officer
Ms. Carrie Nee, University Counsel
Dr. Jeremy P. Martin, Chief of Staff
Ms. Lashrecse Aird, RBC Chief of Staff
Mr. Michael J. Fox, Secretary to the Board of Visitors
Ms. Jessica L. Walton, Deputy Secretary to the Board of Visitors

CALL TO ORDER AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. William H. Payne II, Vice Rector, called the Executive Committee to order at 4:08 p.m. and noted Mr. John E. Littel, Rector, was absent from the Committee meeting due to business in Richmond but he plans to be present for the remainder of the Board meeting.

Mr. Payne said Mr. Woolfolk had notified the Rector that he was unable to attend the Committee meeting due to a family member's medical condition that requires him to provide care. He would like to participate in the meeting electronically from Fort Washington, Maryland. Pursuant to the Virginia Freedom of Information Act and Section III.D of the Board bylaws, Mr. Payne moved that the Board approve this use of electronic participation. The motion was seconded by Ms. Barbara L. Johnson and approved by voice vote.

Mr. Payne asked Mr. Michael J. Fox, Secretary to the Board of Visitors, to summarize the Board meeting schedule.

Recognizing that a quorum was present, Mr. Payne asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the February 9, 2022 meeting. Motion was made by Ms. Lisa E. Roday, seconded by Mr. James A. Hixon, and approved by voice vote.

DISCUSSION

Mr. Payne called on Dr. Katherine A. Rowe, W&M President, to provide an overview of the agenda for the Joint Committee meeting scheduled between the Committee on Administration, Buildings and Grounds, Committee on the Student Experience, and AD HOC Committee on Organizational Sustainability & Innovation on Thursday, April 21. President Rowe said the meeting will focus on the Housing & Dining Comprehensive Facilities Plan (“Housing & Dining Plan”).

Ms. Amy S. Sebring, Chief Operating Officer, added that the Housing & Dining plan aligns with the goals of Vision 2026. She then provided an update on the work being done with Sodexo to address the quality of food and service, including the acceleration of bringing an external consultant to campus to help identify an action plan to provide a better product to students, faculty and staff.

Mr. Payne asked Ms. Sebring to provide an update on the state budget. Ms. Sebring said the General Assembly convened for a special session on April 4, 2022 but has yet to approve the Commonwealth’s 2022-2024 biennium budget. While the William & Mary administration would typically bring forth a proposed operating budget and tuition and fees for the following fiscal year in April, recommendations will be delayed until the May 19, 2022 Executive Committee meeting in hopes the state will have approved its budget by that date.

Ms. Sebring announced that the university has hired a new Director of Facilities, Planning, Design and Construction, Mr. Dan Pisaniello, who will start the week after the Board meeting.

Dr. Debbie L. Sydow, RBC President, provided an update on the pending DroneUp project at RBC. She noted DroneUp was discussed earlier in the day at the Richard Bland College Committee meeting and she provided an overview of the presentation given by Mr. Thomas R. Frantz, Partner at Williams Mullen and DroneUp Board Member.

President Rowe announced that based on Board feedback a dashboard to track major initiatives, like Vision 2026, is now live and available to view on the William & Mary website. She added that a more detailed and data drive dashboard is being developed to follow the progress of DEI on should be live by the summer.

President Rowe also told the Committee she has been working with Ms. Carrie Nee, University Counsel, Dr. Christopher Lee, Chief Human Resources Officer, and members of the Executive Leadership Team to update the Executive Employment Policy to create a more consistent process in evaluating executives. This will be discussed further in the Committee on Administration, Buildings and Grounds.

CLOSED SESSION

Ms. Johnson moved the Executive Committee convene into closed session pursuant to Virginia Code Sections: §2.2-3711.A.1 for evaluation of the performance of schools and departments, which will necessarily involve discussion of the performance of the Presidents and senior leadership of both Richard Bland and William & Mary; §2.2-3711.A.3 for discussion of the disposition of publicly held real property where discussion in open session would adversely affect RBC’s bargaining position or negotiating strategy; §2.2-3711.A.5 for discussion of prospective expansion of a business or industry where no announcement has been made of the interest in expanding to facilities in the area; and §2.2-3711.A.7 and A.8 for consultation with legal counsel regarding pending litigation, contract and

regulatory matters. Motion was seconded by Sue H. Gerdelman and approved by roll call vote – 6-0 – conducted by Mr. Michael J. Fox, Secretary to the Board of Visitors. Mr. Littel was absent from the meeting.

At that time Committee and Board members, President, RBC President, Provost, Chief Operating Officer, University Counsel, Chief of Staff, and RBC Chief of Staff entered the closed session meeting at 4:44 p.m.

RECONVENED OPEN SESSION

Following the closed session, the Committee returned to open session at 5:15 p.m. Ms. Johnson moved that the Board certify by roll call vote that, to the best of each member’s knowledge, only matters lawfully exempted from the open meeting requirements under the Freedom of Information Act were discussed, and only matters identified in the motion to have the closed session were discussed. Motion was seconded by Ms. Lisa E. Roday and approved by roll call vote – 6-0 – conducted by Mr. Fox. Mr. Littel was absent from the meeting.

President Rowe called on Mr. Brian P. Woolfolk who requested an update on DEI efforts at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science (VIMS). Dr. Peggy Agouris, Provost, provided a brief overview of the progress being made at VIMS and encouraged Board members to contact Dr. D. Derek Aday, Dean and Director of VIMS, for a more in depth overview. Further discussion took place about the metrics of the DEI dashboard and establishment/growth of a student pipeline at VIMS.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mr. Payne adjourned the meeting at 5:24 p.m.