

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL CALLED MEETING OF THE  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF WESTERN CAROLINA UNIVERSITY

July 13, 2023

8:30 a.m.

ZOOM MEETING/Chancellor's Boardroom, H.F. Robinson Building, Room 501A

The Board of Trustees of Western Carolina University (Board) met on July 13, 2023. Chair Roberts called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

**ATTENDANCE**

**The following members of the Board were present:** Chair Bob Roberts, Ms. Haden Boliek, Mr. William Brawley, Ms. Becky Brown, Mr. Casey Cooper, Mr. Joe Crocker, Ms. Kathy Greeley, Mr. Tim Haskett, Mr. Ken Hughes, Mr. CJ Mitchell, and Mr. Jake Robinson.

**The following member of the Board was absent:** Mr. Dan Field.

**Present – Faculty and staff of Western Carolina University:** Chancellor Kelli R. Brown; Provost Richard Starnes; Dr. Melissa Wargo, Chief of Staff; Mr. Shea Browning, General Counsel; Jamie Raynor, Vice Chancellor for Advancement; Zach Williams, Staff Senate Chair; and Yancey Gulley, Faculty Senate Chair; Mr. Benny Smith, Executive Director of Communications and Public Relations; Ms. Karen Woody, Budget Officer; and Ms. Jessica Woods, Assistant Secretary to the Board of Trustees.

**ROLL CALL**

Ms. Woods called the roll of the Board members in attendance. A quorum of the board was present.

**SWEARING-IN OF NEW AND REAPPOINTED TRUSTEES**

Ms. Becky Brown and Mr. Ken Hughes were sworn-in to serve a second term on the Board of Trustees by Ms. Woods.

**ETHICS STATEMENT**

Chair Roberts read the Ethics Statement as follows:

“As Chair of the Board of Trustees, it is my responsibility to remind all members of the Board of their duty under the State Government Ethics Act to avoid conflicts of interest and appearances of conflicts of interest as required by this Act. Each member has received the agenda and related information for this Board of Trustees’ meeting. If any Board member knows of any conflict of interest or appearance of conflict with respect to any matter coming before the Board of Trustees at this meeting, the conflict or appearance of conflict should be identified at this time.” **No conflicts of interest were disclosed.**

Chair Roberts reminded everyone that the meeting is a public meeting and is being live streamed and being recorded.

### **ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

#### **ELECTION OF CHAIR**

Chair Roberts opened nominations for Chair. Mr. Jake Robinson made a motion to nominate Ms. Kathy Greeley for Chair of the Board of Trustees. Ms. Greeley was elected Chair of the Board of Trustees by acclamation. Chair Greeley presided over the remainder of the meeting as chair.

#### **ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR**

Chair Greeley opened nominations for Vice Chair. Mr. Joe Crocker made a motion to nominate Mr. Casey Cooper for Vice Chair of the Board of Trustees. Mr. Cooper was elected Vice Chair of the Board of Trustees by acclamation.

#### **ELECTION OF SECRETARY**

Chair Greeley opened nominations for Secretary. Ms. Haden Boliek made a motion to nominate Ms. Becky Brown for Secretary. Ms. Becky Brown was reelected Secretary of the Board of Trustees by acclamation.

### **APPROVAL OF COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND VICE CHAIRS**

Chair Greeley appointed three committee chairs and three committee vice chairs. Chair Greeley appointed Case Cooper to be Chair of the Administration, Governance, and Trusteeship Committee and the appointment of Bill Brawley to be Vice Chair of the Administration, Governance, and Trusteeship Committee; the reappointment of Haden Boliek to be Chair of the Academic Affairs and Personnel Committee and the appointment of Jake Robinson to be Vice Chair of the Academic Affairs and Personnel Committee; and the appointment of Tim Haskett to be the Chair of the Finance and Audit Committee and the appointment of Ken Hughes to be Vice Chair of the Finance and Audit Committee.

Chair Greeley made a motion requesting confirmation of the Chairs and Vice Chairs as listed in TAB 1 of the Trustee materials. Mr. Roberts seconded the motion. The committee Chairs and Vice Chairs appointments were unanimously approved as written by the board. Motion carried.

Chair Greeley appointed the individuals listed in TAB 1 of the Trustee materials to their respective committees under the Administration and Governance Committee, Academic Affairs and Personnel Committee, and Finance and Audit Committee. Chair Greeley made a motion to approve the appointment of the individuals to their respective committees as listed in TAB 1 of the Trustee materials. Ms. Becky Brown seconded the motion. The appointments of the individuals to their respective committees were unanimously approved as written by the board. Motion carried.

### **CLOSED SESSION: (Chair)**

- a. Proposed Approval of Philanthropic Naming Opportunity** (Chancellor Kelli R. Brown and Vice Chancellor for Advancement Jamie Raynor)
- b. Recommendation of appointment of Dr. Denise Morgan as a full professor with tenure in the College of Education and Allied Professions as the Goodnight Distinguished Professor in Early Literacy** (Provost Starnes)

Chair Greeley asked for a motion to go into closed session. Mr. Cooper made a motion for the Board to go into closed session to prevent the disclosure of information, considered exempt from public disclosure pursuant to North Carolina General Statute 143-318.11(a)(2) and (a)(6) as described on the July 13, 2023 Board of Trustees of Western Carolina University Closed Session Agenda. Mr. Crocker seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

Chair Roberts asked for Chancellor Brown, Provost Starnes, Ms. Raynor, Dr. Wargo, and Mr. Browning to remain for the closed session item.

**RESUMPTION OPEN SESSION (Chair)**

Chair Greeley asked for a motion to return to Open Session. Mr. Brawley made a motion to return to Open Session. Mr. Robinson seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

**VOTE ON PERSONNEL ITEM DISCUSSED IN CLOSED SESSION (Chair)**

Chair Greeley asked for a motion to approve the appointment of Dr. Denise Morgan as a full professor with tenure in the College of Education and Allied Professions as the Goodnight Distinguished Professor in Early Literacy as discussed in Closed Session. Ms. Brown made a motion to approve the appointment of Dr. Denise Morgan as a full professor with tenure in the College of Education and Allied Professions as the Goodnight Distinguished Professor in Early Literacy. Mr. Crocker seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Greeley asked for a motion and a second to adjourn. Mr. Hughes made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Roberts seconded the motion. It was approved unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 a.m.