

**Southern West Virginia Community and Technical College
Board of Governors Presidential Search Committee
Emergency Meeting of March 30, 2020
5:00 p.m.
Via Conference Call**

1-877-302-0757 – CODE: 2187332 #

OFFICIAL MINUTES

Board Members Present: Lisa Haddox-Heston, Chair; Mason 'Ed' White, Vice Chair; Eddie Joe Canterbury, Secretary; Stephanie Abraham, J. Chris Adkins, Bill Alderman, Jacob Frye, Janice Olive, Howard Seufer, Dianna Toler

Board Members Absent: Samuel Stewart, Pat J. White

College Staff Present: Emma Baisden, Recorder; Tom Cook, Samuel Litteral, Tim Ooten, Chuck Puckett, Will Alderman

1. Verification of Quorum and Call to Order

Roll call was taken by Emma Baisden, Executive Assistant to the President/BOG, verifying that a quorum was present. Dr. Lisa Haddox-Heston, Board of Governors Presidential Search Committee Chair, declared a quorum present and convened the meeting at 5:10 p.m.

2. Discussion of the Council for Community and Technical College Education's Modification to Requirement of Presidential Search Procedure During Declared State of Emergency, Council's Rule Title 135, Series 5, *Employing and Evaluating Presidents*

Chair Heston informed Board members that the West Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education met on March 20, 2020 to discuss the Council's rule, Title 135, Series 5, *Employing and Evaluating Presidents*, which requires on-campus interviews by an institution's students, faculty, staff, and administration of candidates for the presidential position who have qualified as finalists. Such meetings require gatherings of large groups of people. The institutions cannot simultaneously comply with this rule and President Trump's directive that people not meet in groups larger than ten people. President Trump's directive is based on guidelines established by the CDC to protect people's health and safety during the COVID-19 pandemic. Strict adherence to the regulatory requirement of in-person, on-campus interviews would most assuredly "prevent, hinder or delay necessary action in coping when the emergency[.]" which is the very activity the Governor's emergency powers provided in W. Va. Code § 5-15-6(c)(7) are meant to prohibit. Therefore, because of the declared state of emergency, the Council has the legal authority to temporarily modify the application of this rule to provide that the "on-campus" interviews with the finalists can take place telephonically or via live audio or visual stream, so long as members of the public may also participate. The Council approved the temporary modification of the requirement that the finalist candidates for president be interviewed in-person on campus prior to final selection during the declared state of emergency.

3. Discussion of Presidential Finalists On-campus Visits/Interviews/Modification of Scheduled Candidate's On-campus Visits/Interviews

Chair Heston then called for discussion regarding the feasibility of moving forward with the presidential finalist interviews on the dates scheduled and conducting the interviews by Zoom and teleconference. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and closure of Southern's facilities to the public, it is not possible to hold on-campus interviews at this time. She informed Committee members that Dr. Martin Reimer had withdrawn from the presidential search. Following discussion Chair Heston called for a motion to continue with the presidential candidate interviews as scheduled. Chris Adkins made a motion to continue the finalist candidate interviews as scheduled on April 8 and April 9, 2020 via Zoom meetings and/or teleconferences. Bill Alderman seconded the motion. The motion carried. Chair Heston declared the motion adopted and the Committee will move forward with the presidential finalist interviews as scheduled.

The Committee determined that each presidential candidate would participate in open forums with all faculty, staff (classified and non-classified), students, administration, and the general public. Each group would have a dedicated time each day with a link to Zoom and a dedicated call-in number (for those who don't have access to Zoom). The schedule is to be posted on the Presidential Search web page and links to Zoom meetings will be sent in separate e-mails to all faculty, staff (classified and non-classified), and students along with a dedicated telephone number and required meeting ID for those who need to join the appropriate meeting by phone. A Zoom link with a dedicated telephone number and meeting ID will be available on Southern's website for the general public as well. The interview itineraries will be made available to the college community and general public as soon as they are finalized.

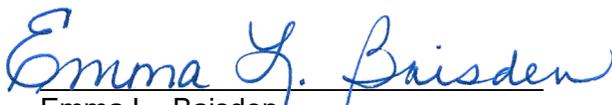
4. Additional Board Action and Comments

Chair Heston requested for Emma Baisden to work with Chancellor Tucker's office on the logistics for the Council's participation in the interview process.

5. Adjournment

There being no further business, upon a motion by Bill Alderman and a second by Dianna Toler, Chair Heston declared the meeting adjourned at 5:48 p.m. The next Board of Governors Presidential Search Committee is scheduled for April 22, 2020 beginning at 5:00 p.m.


Lisa Haddox-Heston, D.D.S., Chair


Emma L. Baisden
Executive Assistant to the President
and Board of Governors