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The Minutes of the Marshall University Board of Governors Meeting, January 18, 2021

Marshall University Board of Governors

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Marshall University Board of Governors
January 18, 2021
Emergency Athletics Committee & Board of Governors Meeting
Microsoft Teams Meeting

I. Call to Order

Chairman of the Board of Governors, Patrick Farrell, upon determining a quorum was present, called the meeting to order. He explained this meeting was called because there was an unexpected event related to the hiring of our Head Football Coach that required the board's immediate attention to prevent substantial harm to the university and some of its employees. He further explained how the meeting would transpire and gave a recap of the hiring process and its timeline.

After this introduction, Chris Miller, Chairman of the Athletics Committee opened the Athletics Committee Meeting.

Marshall University Board of Governors
January 18, 2021
Emergency MU Athletics Committee Meeting
Microsoft Teams Meeting

Present Athletics Committee: Chairman Chris Miller, Donald Holcomb, Angel Moore, Samuel Moore, Bill Noe, Geoff Sheils, Sandra Thomas, Dr. Dan Holbrook

Chairman Miller called the meeting to order noting a quorum was present. The sole purpose of the meeting is for express consent of the contract of Charles Huff. He asked if there was any discussion or issues to discuss before voting.

Toney Stroud asked for clarification and specifics on the incentives in the contract, such as what attendance or paid ticket sales means in this contract. Mr. O'Malley will attempt to define these items and include an addendum to the contract after discussion with Mr. Huff. Mr. O'Malley did point out that the benchmark on ticket sales shown is based on the 2019 season ticket sales. Chairman Miller said they would clarify those definitions in the contract and an addendum would be added. He confirmed with Chairman Farrell that was a satisfactory action.

Dr. Dan Holbrook said from a faculty standpoint, he could not give a yes or a no vote. Most faculty understanding for the role of athletics and comparatively speaking, several faculty members could be hired for this amount of money at a time in which fundamental topics cannot be taught right now. He noted that he was going to abstain from voting during both the Athletics Committee and the Board Meeting representing the faculty. Chairman Miller said he would note this abstention when the vote was taken.

Mrs. Thomas verified that this contract does not, from a budget perspective, put us in a markedly different place in the current year, absent from any of these changes. That was confirmed by Chairman Miller.

Mr. Sheils made a motion, seconded by Mr. Holcomb, that the Athletics Committee act on the matter according to Policy GA-7 to provide express consent to the President for the terms and conditions in Charles Huff's contract, and to recommend approval of said contract to the Board of Governors.

The Athletics Committee unanimously approved the motion with Dr. Dan Holbrook abstaining.

II. Adjournment

Upon a motion by Dr. Holbrook, seconded by Mrs. Thomas, the Athletics Committee was adjourned.

Marshall University Board of Governors
January 18, 2021
Emergency MU Board of Governors Meeting
Microsoft Teams Meeting

Present MUBOG: Chairman Patrick Farrell, Shawn Ball, Kathy D'Antoni, Jim L. Farley, Donald Holcomb, Chris Miller, Angel Moore, Samuel Moore, William E. Noe, Geoff Sheils, William Smith, Sr., Toney Stroud, Sandra Thomas, Carol Hurula, Dr. Dan Holbrook, Anna Williams

I. Call to Order

Chairman Farrell confirmed that all board members were on the call and the meeting was Called to Order.

II. Athletics Committee Express Consent

To summarize, the Athletics Committee has provided their express consent with the terms and conditions of the contract that Dr. Gilbert brought to us.

The Athletics Committee has recommended to the Board to include an addendum of defining terms clearly regarding the incentives. Considering that we will be getting those items and those definitions, Chairman Farrell asked the board to approve that contract.

Mr. Farley motioned that the Athletics Committee has provided their express consent of the contract and with the addition of the addendum, RESOLVED, that the Board of Governors approve the recommendation of the Athletics Committee in accordance with GA-7. Mr. Smith seconded, Dr. Holbrook abstained from the voting, and the motion carried.

Chairman Farrell stated that we have an approved contract for the new football coach of the University.

President Gilbert thanked the Board for their express consent. He felt the contract presented to the Board was a modest and fair contract, it stayed within the confines of the budget we can afford and was a fair contract to Coach Huff. President Gilbert thanked the committee for all their time, and Mike Hamrick for chairing the Committee. He also thanked Jeff O'Malley for his work on the specific points of this contract, noting these negotiations were time consuming.

Chairman Farrell reiterated this was the only matter to consider.

III. Adjournment

Hearing no objection or further business, Chairman Farrell adjourned the meeting.