

WESTERN CAROLINA UNIVERSITY
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF WESTERN CAROLINA UNIVERSITY
EMERGENCY MEETING
October 3, 2024
ZOOM MEETING/Chancellor's Boardroom, H.F. Robinson Building, Room 501A

The Board of Trustees of Western Carolina University (Board) met on October 3, 2024, in Room 501A of the H.F.R. Administration Building. Chair Cooper called the meeting to order at 10:30 am.

Attendance

The following members of the Board were present: Chair Casey Cooper, Ms. Haden Boliek, Ms. Becky Brown, Mr. Joe Crocker, Ms. Kathy Harrington, Mr. Jon Hardister, Mr. Tim Haskett, Mr. Ken Hughes, Mr. Jake Robinson, Ms. Susan Strum, and Mr. Hiler.

The following members of the Board were absent: Mr. Dan Field, Mr. Bob Roberts, and Mr. Jake Robinson.

Present – Faculty and staff of Western Carolina University: Chancellor Kelli R. Brown, Dr. Richard Starnes, Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs; Dr. Melissa Wargo, Chief of Staff; Mr. Shea Browning, General Counsel; Mr. Mike Byers, Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance; Dr. Sam Miller, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs; Mr. Chris Williams, Chief Information Officer; Mr. Alex Gary, Director of Athletics; Mr. James Hogan, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Engagement; Ms. Julia Duvall, Senior Media Relations Coordinator; Mr. Frank Hachadurian, Tech Support; and Ms. Jessica Woods, Assistant to the Chancellor/Assistant Secretary to the Board of Trustees to take minutes.

Roll Call

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

Ethics Statement

Chair Cooper 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 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 Cooper reminded everyone that the meeting is a public meeting and is being recorded, via the Zoom platform, and is being livestreamed, and members of the media may be present.

Impact on Campus Operations in response to Hurricane Helene

Chair Cooper recognized Chancellor Brown for the discussion of the impact on campus operations in response to Hurricane Helene. Chancellor Brown provided an update,