MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE BOARD OF REGENTS WESTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY September 25, 1976

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the Board of Regents of Western Kentucky University was held on Saturday, September 25, 1976, at 10:00 a.m., CDT, in the Regents Conference Room of the Wetherby Administration Building on the Western campus. Mr. John David Cole, Chairman, presided.

A prayer of invocation was given by Dr. Paul B. Cook, Assistant to the President for Resources Management and Director of the Budget.

All members were present; namely,

Dr. William G. Buckman Mr. John David Cole Mr. Hugh Poland Mr. John L. Ramsey

Others present, in addition to Dr. Cook, were Dr. Dero G. Downing,

President; Dr. James L. Davis, Interim Vice President for Academic Affairs; Dr.

John D. Minton, Vice President for Administrative Affairs; Mr. Harry K. Largen,

Vice President for Business Affairs and Treasurer; Miss Georgia Bates, Secretary;

Mr. Rhea P. Lazarus, Staff Assistant, Office of the President; and Mr. William E.

Bivin, University Attorney.

Chairman Cole stated that the meeting had been called at the request of the President relative to a number of matters which in their opinions, warranted discussion prior to the regular meeting of the Board scheduled for October 30.

After preliminary remarks, President Downing reported on a conference in which he and other Western officials and representatives of the Bureau of Highways and of City Government had recently engaged for the purpose of giving more formal attention and direction to matters of mutual interest that had been informally discussed over a period of several months. Succinctly summarizing, he stated that--

- 1. A traffic signal for the intersection at Fifteenth and State Streets had been ordered by the city and should be installed within the near future.
- 2. Traffic problems at the intersection of Virginia Garrett Avenue and Normal Drive are being reviewed by city officials to determine the feasibility of the installation of a traffic signal at that location.

- 3. The Bureau of Highways is studying the feasibility of constructing a connecting link for the block of Fourteenth Street between State and College Streets and will compile information which could be used in seeking support at the state level. City officials are also considering ways in which the city might facilitate efforts to improve existing conditions in that area.
- 4. Western has made a commitment to make land available at the intersection of Center and Fourteenth Streets, if needed, for the proposed improvements which would expedite the flow of traffic around the campus. The participants in the conference agreed to study the options which might improve the traffic flow in these areas.
- 5. The Bureau of Highways is giving attention to the solution of the problem regarding traffic patterns at the intersection of University Boulevard and Normal Drive and to the possible installation of an appropriate traffic light and to any other means which would expedite a safer traffic flow at this critical intersection.

In the discussion which followed, President Downing stated that while the University had received a very cooperative response from the Bureau of Highways regarding the above projects, there had been no firm commitment as to the extent to which the services being requested could be provided at the state level.

The President next reported to the Executive Committee that planning for the two major capital construction projects is progressing on schedule. He stated that (1) the Phase A document for the Agricultural Exposition Center, which outlines the program, had been approved by the Executive Department for Finance and Administration in Frankfort and that (2) the Phase B document for the Kentucky Building renovation and expansion, which takes the project through what is considered to be approximately 75 percent of the planning stage, including architectural drawings, had received similar approval. It was anticipated by the President, barring unforeseen delays, that planning for both projects could be finalized and sent out for bids during the remaining days of the calendar year, with construction actually getting underway during the current fiscal year.

Full discussion followed relative to both projects and included an explanation for the cutback from the original scope of the Agricultural Exposition Center, the procedure that is followed in the selection of architects, and the anticipated completion

dates of construction.

As authorized by the Board of Regents at the meeting on September 10, Dr. Downing stated that he had appointed the following members of the student body, faculty, and administrative staff to serve as the special committee for the purpose of making a study and subsequent recommendations to him on selected facets of residence hall living: Dr. John D. Minton, Mr. Lewis Bauer, Mr. Tom Blair, Miss Stephanie Buckner, Dr. Faye Carroll, Dr. Curtis Englebright, Mr. Dee Gibson, Mr. Charles Keown, Mr. Harry Largen, Miss Courtlann Melton, and Mr. Horace Shrader. He stated that the committee, under the chairmanship of Dr. Minton, had held its initial meeting and that upon receipt of its report, his recommendations would be transmitted to the ad hoc committee of the Board of Regents appointed by the Chairman for their review and study. In response to Chairman Cole's statement that it would be highly desirable for the ad hoc committee to report on its deliberations at the October 30 meeting of the Board, President Downing explained the factors involved that would make it most difficult for the special committee of the University to complete its assignment in time for the honoring of such a timetable. He expressed the hope that patience would be exercised in bringing about the continued refinement of the important program of campus housing.

At this point in the meeting and at the request of the President, Chairman Cole entertained a motion to go into closed session to discuss a personnel matter which might affect the reputation of an individual person. Such motion was made by Dr. Buckman, seconded by Mr. Ramsey, and carried unanimously.

Upon returning to the meeting, Chairman Cole stated that no matter was discussed in the closed session other than the one announced prior to convening the closed session and that no final action was taken.

There being no further business, on motion made and duly seconded, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:10 a.m.; and the group moved to the Downing University Center where they were joined by other members of the Board, wives, and other guests for luncheon in the Executive Dining Room, following which they attended the Western vs. Austin Peay football game in the L. T. Smith Stadium.

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