March 20, 2020

Trustees Present (via ZOOM):
Ron Erickson, Chair
Robert Nellams, Vice Chair
Erin Black
Ray Conner
Gladys Gillis
Jeff Hensler
Zabrina Jenkins
Alex Harrington

Staff to the Board:
James Gaudino, President
Linda Schactler, Board Secretary & Chief of Staff
Joel Klucking, Board Treasurer & Vice President for Business & Financial Affairs
Lynn Franken, Interim Provost/Vice President for Academic & Student Life
Josh Hibbard, Vice President for Enrollment Management
Kandee Cleary, Vice President for Inclusivity & Diversity
Andreas Bohman, Vice President for Operations
Kremiere Jackson, Vice President for Public Affairs
Rick Paradis, Interim Vice President for University Advancement
Sarah Scott, Administrative Operations Coordinator, Office of the President
Alan Smith, Assistant Attorney General (via ZOOM)

Ron Erickson convened the meeting at 1:08 PM. Ms. Schactler took roll to confirm that a quorum of the Board was present. The purpose of the meeting was for the President to brief the Board on issues related to the university’s response and next steps for the COVID-19 pandemic.

President Gaudino provided a Power Point with a COVID-19 Situation Report, describing how the epidemic had unfolded for CWU, with increasing restrictions on teaching and learning, and operations statewide. The university anticipates that the responses to the virus ultimately will erode enrollment, including retention; eliminate most “System” (housing, dining, Wildcat Shop) revenue, which generates resources required to issue bond payments for non-state buildings; and may result in reductions in state funding, as the legislature responds to economic decline, including reductions in state revenue collections.
Given the likelihood of grave financial consequences of the COVID-19 epidemic, Mr. Erickson asked for board consideration of Resolution 20-01, declaring a state of financial exigency for the university, and asked Ms. Schactler to read the resolution:

“Whereas, on March 13, 2020, Governor Inslee issued proclamation 20-12, prohibiting “all public and private universities, colleges, technical schools, apprenticeship programs, and similar schools and programs from conducting in-person classes in all counties of Washington State”; and

Whereas, on March 19, 2020, the Public Health Officer for Kittitas County issued a public health order that requires CWU to cancel all in-person classes and labs; close all campus buildings to the public; issue a statement strongly encouraging students, whether they live on or off campus, to stay in place; prohibit in-person dining services; and cancel in-person, university-sponsored student or community events; and

Whereas, CWU anticipates that measures required to inhibit the spread of COVID-19 will reduce overall enrollment through the erosion of retention as well as the recruitment of new students; and

Whereas, CWU anticipates the absence of students, employees and visitors will result in a significant loss of revenue that supports bond payments, “System” revenue that is realized through the use of dining services, the Wildcat Shop, residence halls, and other services; and

Whereas, the required cancellation of university-sponsored events will result in the loss to the university of revenue associated with conferences, camps, and many other student-life and academic events; and

Whereas, the State of Washington, Kittitas County, and the City of Ellensburg have declared states of emergency in their respective jurisdictions; and

Whereas, the impact of the epidemic has reduced economic activity and the flow of tax revenue to the State of Washington, which may result in reduced state budget allotments to and less state biennial funding for Central Washington University; and

Whereas, the Revised Code of Washington RCW 28B.35.120 gives the Board “full control of the regional university and its property of various kinds, except as otherwise provided by law,” and authorizes the board to “promulgate such rules and regulations, and perform all other acts not forbidden by law, as the board of trustees may in its discretion deem necessary or appropriate to the administration of the regional university”;

Now, therefore, be it resolved, that, as a result of the above described situation, the Trustees of Central Washington University do hereby proclaim that a State of Financial Exigency exists and directs the president of the university to pursue any measures that are legal and necessary to preserve the educational and financial integrity of the university.”

** Approval of Resolution 20-01 of Financial Exigency **

** Motion 20-13:** Mr. Conner moved that the Board of Trustees of Central Washington University approve the adoption of a resolution declaring a state of Financial Exigency. Ms. Gillis seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved by roll call.
Approval of Technology Fee Budget Expansion

**Motion 20-14:** Mr. Nellams moved that the Board of Trustees of Central Washington University approve a motion directing staff, in consultation with the Student Technology Fee Council, to amend the technology fee annual expenditure plan to include one-time and recurring expenditures related to further enhancement of the virtualized and cloud-based student experience, authorized this day, March 20, 2020. Ms. Gillis seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved by roll call.

Mr. Erickson appointed Ray Conner and Erin Black to the executive committee of the board and asked for a motion to authorize the executive committee to provide consultation and guidance to staff on emergency response.

Approval of Executive Committee Consultative Authority

**Motion 20-15:** Alex Harrington moved to approve authority of the executive committee to provide emergency consultation and guidance to staff for emergency response. Mr. Nellams seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved by roll call.

The meeting adjourned at 2:05 PM.

The next meeting of the Board of Trustees is March 31, 2020 in Ellensburg, WA.

Linda Schactler, Secretary to the CWU Board of Trustees

Ron Erickson, Chair
CWU Board of Trustees