

**BOARD OF VISITORS BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE  
MINUTES**

**March 22, 2021**

The Buildings and Grounds Committee of the Board of Visitors of Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University met on Monday, March 22, 2021, at 7:50 a.m. A quorum of the Buildings and Grounds Committee was present.

**Buildings and Grounds Committee Members**

**Present:**

Mr. Horacio Valeiras (Rector)  
Ms. Tish Long (Vice Rector)  
Mr. C.T. Hill (Committee Chair)  
Ms. Sharon Brickhouse Martin  
Ms. Shelly Butler Barlow  
Mr. Mehul Sanghani

**Absent:**

**Other Board Members Present:**

Mr. Preston White

**Constituent Representatives Present:**

Dr. Eric Kaufman (Faculty Representative)  
Ms. Camellia Pastore (Undergraduate Student Representative)  
Ms. Sabrina Sturgeon (Graduate Student Representative)

Also present were the following Virginia Tech staff members:

President Timothy Sands, Ms. Kim O'Rourke (Secretary to the Board), Mr. Mac Babb, Mr. Eric Brooks, Mr. Bob Broyden, Ms. Caroline Buscaglia, Mr. David Chinn, Mr. Al Cooper, Mr. Ted Faulkner, Mr. Kevin Foust, Major General Randal Fullhart, Ms. Elaine Gall, Mr. Mark Gess, Dr. Alan Grant, Ms. Wendy Halsey, Mr. Patrick Hilt, Ms. Elizabeth Hooper, Ms. Mary-Ann Ibeziako, Mr. Travis Jessee, Dr. Frances Keene, Mr. Nathan King, Dr. Chris Kiwus, Ms. Jamie Lau, Mr. Ken Miller, Ms. Liza Morris, Dr. Saied Mostaghimi, Mr. Justin Noble, Mr. Paul O'Keefe, Mr. Charlie Phlegar, Dr. Dwayne Pinkney, Dr. John Randolph, Mr. Dwyn Taylor, Mr. Jon Clark Teglas

**Open Session**

- 1. Tour of the Creativity and Innovation District Living-Learning Community:** The Committee toured the Creativity and Innovation District Living-Learning Community construction site.
- 2. Welcome:** The Committee Chair provided welcoming remarks. The Committee Chair recognized and congratulated Elaine Gall, University Building Official, and

Kevin Foust, Associate Vice President for Safety and Security, on their upcoming retirements from the university.

3. **Consent Agenda:** The Committee approved and accepted the items listed on the Consent Agenda:
  - a. **Approval of the Minutes from the November 15, 2020 Meeting:** The Committee approved the minutes from the November 15, 2020 meeting.
  - \* b. **Resolution on Appointment to the New River Valley Emergency Communications Regional Authority:** The Committee reviewed for approval an appointment to the New River Valley Emergency Communications Regional Authority. The Committee recommended the Resolution on Appointment to the New River Valley Emergency Communications Regional Authority to the full Board for approval.
  - c. **Acceptance of the Capital Project Status Report:** The Committee accepted the quarterly capital project status report.
4. **Update on Agricultural Facilities Planning and Construction:** The Committee received an update from Alan Grant, Dean of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, on agricultural facilities planning and construction. Dr. Grant was joined by Dr. Michael Schwarz, Director of the Virginia Seafood Agricultural Research and Extension Center, to discuss the impacts of the center and current improvement projects underway.
5. **Design Review for the New Upper Quad Residence Hall:** The Committee approved the design review for the New Upper Quad Residence Hall. Located in the Northeast and Upper Quad District on the corner of Stanger Street and Old Turner Street, the New Upper Quad Residence Hall (NUQRH) will serve to expand the housing capacity for the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets with the addition of 301 beds.

The 67,876 gross square feet, five-story facility will accommodate a mix of residential rooms and support spaces on the ground floor. The second through fourth floors are residential, and the fifth will be comprised of attic space and mechanical equipment. This project will occupy the current site of Femoyer Hall, an existing facility that will be demolished as a part of this facility's construction. Adjacent to this project's eastern edge is the site of another capital project, the Corps Leadership and Military Science Building (CLMS), which is anticipated to begin construction in summer 2021. These two projects will be constructed concurrently and managed by a single construction manager at risk. The NUQRH is currently in working drawings with construction start and substantial completion to be coordinated with the adjacent CLMS schedule.

The \$40 million project includes debt service to be provided by Residential Programs revenue and includes the \$7 million supplement approved by the Board of Visitors in

November 2020. This project was first proposed as part of the 2018-2024 Capital Outlay Plan.

6. **Future Agenda Items and Closing Remarks:** The Committee discussed possible topics for future meetings and other topics as needed.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:18 a.m.

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The Buildings and Grounds Committee and Finance and Resource Management Committee of the Board of Visitors of Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University met in Joint Open Session on Monday, March 22, 2021, at 10:45 a.m. A quorum was present.

**Joint Committee Members**

**Present:**

Mr. Horacio Valeiras (Rector)  
Ms. Tish Long (Vice Rector)  
Mr. Ed Baine  
Mr. C.T. Hill  
Ms. Sharon Brickhouse Martin  
Ms. Shelly Butler Barlow  
Ms. Anna James  
Mr. Mehul Sanghani  
Mr. Preston White

**Absent:**

Also present were the following Virginia Tech staff members:

President Timothy Sands, Ms. Kim O'Rourke (Secretary to the Board), Mr. Mac Babb, Ms. Callan Bartel, Mr. Eric Brooks, Mr. Bob Broyden, Ms. Caroline Buscaglia, Mr. Al Cooper, Mr. David Crotts, Mr. John Cusimano, Mr. Kevin Foust, Ms. Elaine Gall, Mr. Mark Gess, Ms. Wendy Halsey, Ms. Kay Heidbreder, Mr. Tim Hodge, Ms. Elizabeth Hooper, Mr. Travis Hundley, Ms. Mary-Ann Ibeziako, Dr. Frances Keene, Ms. Sharon Kurek, Mr. Nathan King, Dr. Chris Kiwus, Ms. Jamie Lau, Mr. Jack Leff, Ms. Nancy Meacham, Mr. Ken Miller, Ms. Liza Morris, Mr. Justin Noble, Mr. Mark Owczarski, Dr. Dwayne Pinkney, Dr. John Randolph, Ms. Rachel Spector, Mr. Dwyn Taylor, Mr. Jon Clark Teglas, Ms. Tracy Vosburgh

Also present was the following guest:

Mr. Henri Gendreau

**Joint Open Session with the Finance and Resource Management Committee**

- \* 1. **Approval of the 2022-2028 Capital Outlay Plan:** The Committees reviewed for approval the 2022-2028 Capital Outlay Plan. The university prepares an updated

Six-Year Capital Outlay Plan every two years as part of its normal planning and budgeting cycle. The Plan is a critical component of positioning the university for state support of major Educational and General projects and for advancing high priority projects that may be funded entirely with nongeneral fund resources. The next state capital outlay plan will be for 2022-2028 and will be established in the 2022 budget development process. Traditionally, the state requires each institution to submit a capital plan in June of the year before a new biennium begins. Based on that timetable, a plan from the university for 2022-2028 will be due to the state in June of 2021.

Preliminary work has been done to identify potential projects for inclusion in the 2022-2028 Capital Outlay Plan in anticipation of future guidance and instructions from the state. These projects are consistent with programmatic needs established for the planning period and with the strategic plan of the university, and they position the university with options to respond to guidance from the state.

Since the submission date for the new Plan may occur before the June 2021 Board of Visitors meeting, the university is requesting the review and approval of the list of potential projects for inclusion in the 2022-2028 Capital Outlay Plan. The university will provide an update to the status of the 2022-2028 Plan at a future Board of Visitors meeting.

The Committees recommended the 2022-2028 Capital Outlay Plan to the full Board for approval.

- 2. Financial Considerations of the Virginia Tech 2020 Climate Action Commitment:** The Committees received a presentation on the financial considerations of the Virginia Tech 2020 Climate Action Commitment. A highly collaborative cross-divisional team worked to identify the financial impacts to achieve each prescribed pathway of the updated commitment. The team analyzed the economic and financial impacts of each initiative in depth.

While detailed and comprehensive, the analysis was based on assumptions regarding technologies, costs, and policies for the future that are dynamic in nature. Current developments and future projections in energy markets and in state and federal energy policy indicate that future values of those assumptions may become more favorable for cost-effective implementation of the updated commitment. These evolving factors will be monitored and incorporated into five-year revisions in 2025 and 2030. In addition, the updated commitment requires an annual report of progress. That annual report will evaluate the assumptions and actual costs and/or savings of the commitment's implementation.

No specific funding decisions are to be made at this time. Funding requests will be incorporated into annual operating and/or capital budgeting processes. All financial needs compete for resources while considering tuition/fee constraints and university debt capacity.

- \* 3. **Resolution to Approve the Virginia Tech 2020 Climate Action Commitment:** The Committees reviewed for approval a resolution on the Virginia Tech 2020 Climate Action Commitment. Approved initially in 2009 by the Board of Visitors and revised in 2013, the Virginia Tech Climate Action Commitment serves as the university's guiding framework around sustainability and energy efficiency in campus operations, facilities, curriculum, and research.

In late 2019, President Sands called for its renewal and revision to ensure the most stringent climate and sustainability standards are implemented as the university continues to grow and seeks to be a leader in environmental stewardship. The mission of the revised commitment is to achieve carbon neutrality by changing our physical infrastructure, collective and individual behaviors, and educational mission; to engage everyone in creating a culture of sustainability; and to achieve these objectives through just and equitable means.

A working group of faculty experts, governance representatives, students, operations professionals, and community members led this charge and crafted the revision. Through participation in working group and subcommittee meetings, brainstorming sessions, and community engagement events, students involved in the revision process had countless opportunities to gain practical sustainability experience. Senior Vice President and Chief Business Officer, Dwayne Pinkney, sponsored the initiative. The work group was chaired by John Randolph, professor emeritus of urban affairs and planning, and co-chaired by Todd Schenk, assistant professor of urban affairs and planning and member of the Commission on Faculty Affairs.

On an aggressive timeline, the revision moved through university governance during Fall Semester 2020, receiving approval from the Energy and Sustainability Committee, the Commission on University Support, and the University Council. It was endorsed by the Faculty and Staff Senates, the Student Government Association, and the Graduate Student Assembly. The Board received a preview of the updated Climate Action Commitment at its November 2020 meeting.

The Committees recommended the Virginia Tech 2020 Climate Action Commitment resolution to the full Board for approval.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

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