

PRESIDENT'S CABINET MEETING

May 1, 2007

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Steven Jones, Terry Berg, Victor Fite, Brad Johnson, Paul Matney, and Damaris Schlong

OTHERS PRESENT:

P. J. Pronger, Director, WTAMU Small Business Development Center; and Brenda Sadler

ENTREPRENEURIAL ALLIANCE – Johnson introduced P. J. Pronger, director of WTAMU Small Business Development Center. Pronger distributed a fact sheet concerning the Entrepreneur Alliance. They are concerned with getting businesses started, relocating businesses, or expanding a business. They are a 501(c)(3) Texas non-profit corporation which helps small businesses in the area with economic opportunities. Pronger said he is working with the Amarillo Economic Development Corporation to create a single point of contact. Membership is composed of individuals from local organizations providing services in the economic development arena. The entrepreneur alliance is funded by participating organizations with a three year commitment for annual operating support. Membership currently includes: AEDC, Amarillo Chamber of Commerce, First Bank and Trust, Texas Tech School of Pharmacy, WTAMU College of Business, WTAMU Enterprise Network (incubator), WTAMU Small Business Development Center (SBDC) and West Texas Coalition for Innovation & Commercialization. Pronger said he thought being a member of the alliance could benefit Amarillo College in obtaining future training programs. He views SBDC on the consulting end of the spectrum. Johnson will arrange for Schlong to meet with the SBDC and determine if it would be a good fit for Amarillo College to join the Entrepreneur Alliance.

WT REQUEST TO INSERT LETTER – Johnson told the Cabinet that Cherie Clifton, AC counselor, had mentioned to him that she thought it would be a nice gesture to put a letter into the empty diploma sleeves distributed at graduation promoting the transfer of graduates to WTAMU. Jones suggested having a letter drafted by Johnson and Matney with his and Dr. O'Brien's signatures and respective college logos congratulating the graduate and encouraging further education opportunities.

BADGER HEARTS – Cabinet members were invited to sponsor a "Badger Hearts" student which would cost around \$600 per student. Jones expressed his desire to sponsor a student and asked Cabinet if they would contribute \$50 a piece or whatever they thought appropriate and he would cover the remaining amount.

FY08 BUDGET – Berg said that including a 2.5% raise we were still \$1,670,000 short of balancing the budget. For the last three years, property taxes have come up with 6-1/2% or \$365,000 additional revenue. Estimating the retained earnings and the state allocation, he got it down to \$1,020,000. Johnson took \$60,000 out of the image campaign budget; Berg removed one police car and determined some items which could be paid out of reserves, A & I, or other funds. At the end of the session Berg had the deficit down to \$127,200. Jones requested Cabinet members to decide on a solution of how to disburse raises equitably.

MISCELLANEOUS –

- ❖ On May 30 – June 1, CampusWorks will facilitate a technology planning retreat at Amarillo College. CampusWorks will have individual meetings with Cabinet members and give presentations and have discussions with key members from areas within the College. Interested Board members are encouraged to participate on day three when preliminary findings and planning will be discussed.
- ❖ Jones discussed the results of the budget survey he emailed to everyone and some of the responses he received. He would like to share some recommendations and hold forums and small group discussions in the summer and fall to talk about some of the items on the survey, i.e., tuition/fees; taxes; and “What Matters Most.”

Next meeting: May 16, 2007

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