

Rogers State University
Budget Advisory Committee Minutes
September 13, 2019

The RSU Budget Advisory Committee held a meeting September 13, 2019 in the OMA Conference Room beginning at 9:00 a.m.

Members Present: Mark Meadors, Interim Chair; Jerry Bowen, Frank Elwell, Heidi Hoskinson, David Johnk, Keith Martin, Madison Dunn, Chris Ratcliff, Brian Reeves, Karl Reynolds, Marla Smith, Susan Willis, David Bath, Paul Dunham, Mary Millikin

Members Absent: David Hamby, Tobie Titsworth, Danette Boyle

Others Present: Heather Andris, Ginger Miller

CALL TO ORDER

Interim Chair Meadors called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the May 17, 2019 meeting were reviewed. Dr. Elwell moved to approve the minutes, and Dr. Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Interim Chair Meadors introduced three new committee members: David Bath, Ph.D., Department of History & Political Science; Madison Dunn, SGA Student Representative; and Paul Dunham, Staff Advisory Council.

RECAP OF FY 2020 BUDGET

Interim Chair Meadors briefed the committee on a recap of the FY20 budget. Final budgeted expenses for FY 20 were \$1.1M over FY 19. The increase is attributable to several factors including furlough relief and mandatory costs, faculty pay raises, and a provision for a staff pay raise. He also pointed out a few items describing how FY20 actuals are comparing to budget:

- 1.) Fall enrollment has stayed flat with FY19 despite budgeting a 4% decline; this equates to approximately \$326k of revenue. If we presume this momentum flows to spring and summer, we could see an annualized additional \$700k of revenue.
- 2.) During the timeframe of March to April, the City of Claremore issued an increase in utility rates costing RSU around \$10k a month. Of the 11 cities in the area served by GRDA, Claremore has been the only municipal electricity reseller that has passed on the increase to their customers. Currently, a rate study is being performed by City of Claremore and we are hopeful a rate reduction will happen soon.
- 3.) The OU Benefits Committee (including RSU and Cameron) has recommended and the OU Board has approved the migration of our health care provider from Cigna to Blue Cross Blue Shield, effective January 1. By making this move, rates are expected to decrease 5% to 6%. The projected savings for

the last six months in FY20 is estimated to be \$116k. In the short term, structural plan benefits will not change from what is currently being offered by Cigna.

- 4.) Housing occupancy continues to be on the decline. We are losing money and need to brainstorm for solutions to increase occupancy by 80-100 students.

BUDGET SURVEY DISCUSSION

The budget survey is due on October 1st for FY21, FY22, and FY23. Interim Chair Meadors and Dr. Millikin each passed out a listing of priorities based on our strategic plan. After discussions, it was decided to hold off on making final recommendations until the committee meets again on September 20th.

DISCUSSION ON FY21 ACADEMIC SERVICE FEE UPDATES/CHANGES

In October, we should receive the request to make updates to our academic service fee structure effective fall 2020. As a group, we need to take a hard look at our current fees and make adjustments where necessary. In some cases, this could be an opportunity to increase revenue.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:38 a.m.