

Minutes of the Meeting
of the
Oakland University
Board of Trustees
November 11, 1971

The meeting was called to order at 11:25 a. m. on November 11, 1971, in the Oakland Center by President Donald D. O'Dowd.

Present: Chairman Katke, Trustees Carr, Kyes, Lewis, Saltzman and Schwartz

Absent: Trustees Morris and Smith (Mr. Morris was present at the Executive Session.)

Approval of Minutes of September 11, 1971

On a motion by Mr. Carr, seconded by Mrs. Kyes, the minutes of the September 11, 1971 Board meeting were approved as distributed.

Ratification of Contract with OU Chapter of American Association of University Professors

President O'Dowd recommended ratification of the agreement negotiated with the Oakland University chapter of the American Association of University Professors. Mr. Schwartz moved that the Board ratify the contract. Mr. Katke seconded the motion.

Mr. Saltzman asked for recognition and stated that Appendix B was un-administrable and that he questioned whether anyone could interpret its provisions.

Mr. Lewis stated that he was concerned about the loss of peace and tranquility at the University during the negotiating and strike period and wanted to have the University return to more academic tasks. Therefore, he felt that it was necessary to approve the contract at this time. He further stated that he had several questions regarding the workability of the proposed wage structure.

There being no further discussion, President O'Dowd called for a vote and the motion was carried. Mr. Saltzman voted no.

Ratification of the Contract with American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees

The AFSCME contract was submitted to the Board for ratification by President O'Dowd. The Board was asked to approve the provisions of the agreement negotiated with Local 1418 in principle since the actual contract document was not available for review. President O'Dowd stated that a two-year contract has been negotiated with this employee association. Mr. Carr moved that the contract be approved in principle and as outlined to the Board. Seconded by Mrs. Kyes, the motion carried.

Ratification of the Contract with the Clerical-Technical Association

President O'Dowd recommended the ratification of the agreement negotiated with the Clerical-Technical Association. The Board was requested to approve the terms and conditions set forth by President O'Dowd with the understanding that the complete written contract will be submitted as soon as it is available. It was moved by Mr. Saltzman that the CTA contract receive ratification by the Board. Seconded by Mr. Lewis, the motion carried.

Ratification of Contract with Police Officers' Association

President O'Dowd recommended the ratification of a two-year agreement negotiated with the Police Officers' Association. The full contract document was not available. However, the basic contract document language was provided and President O'Dowd requested approval. It was moved by Mr. Carr, seconded by Mr. Lewis that the contract be ratified. Motion carried.

Trustee Lewis stated that the University and Board have been operating under a very stringent timetable during the past few months with respect to the negotiation of contracts. The University's fiscal problems were further complicated by the absence of a legislative appropriation and the enactment of the wage-price freeze. It would be preferable to have completed contract documents but the necessity to move forward on these very critical matters requires approval for ratification on the outlines presented.

Awarding of Contract for the Construction of "Heating Plant Road" (Pavilion Road)

President O'Dowd recommended the awarding of a contract to the low bidder, G. A. Morrison and Company for the construction of a section of the Pavilion

Road which is adjacent to the heating plant. President O'Dowd called upon Mr. Glen Brown to provide more specific information.

Mr. Brown stated that bids were taken on this project on October 27, 1971. The low bidder was G. A. Morrison and Company, whose bid amounted to \$79,680. The total project budget, which includes professional services, supervision and construction costs, would amount to \$89,460. Since the original estimate for this project was approximately \$50,000, it was determined, in concert with the State Building Division, that \$10,300 should be deducted from the project for sodding and seed, reducing the total project to \$79,160. Members of the Board inquired about the grading of the area. Mr. Brown stated that he has a very dedicated group of students who are interested in ecology and that they will assist him in stabilizing the area with landscaping.

Mr. Lewis inquired about the contract provisions for employment of minority subcontractors. In addition, he inquired about the solicitation of bids from minority contractors. Mr. Brown stated that the contract contained the fair employment practices provisions and that the bids were advertised in the Detroit and Pontiac papers as well as in the trade journals in order to provide wide coverage and knowledge to all contractors. Only two bids were received and it was Mr. Brown's understanding that the contract was to be performed in five stages and required a company with considerable resources. Mr. Brown requested immediate Board approval in order to begin preliminary grading prior to freezing weather. This would permit the area to settle over the winter and the early spring so that the project could be completed before the opening of the Meadow Brook Festival.

Mr. Katke moved to award the contract to the low bidder, G. A. Morrison and Company. Seconded by Mr. Saltzman, the motion carried.

Approval of Administrative-Professional Salary Levels

President O'Dowd recommended the approval of administrative salaries submitted to the Board at the Executive Session. Mr. Carr recommended acceptance of the salaries as submitted with the amendments discussed with President O'Dowd at the Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Kyes, and carried.

Establishment of a University Ombudsman

President O'Dowd recommended the establishment of the position of ombudsman. He stated that there is need to provide a mechanism by which

students, faculty and staff can seek answers to questions and complaints they have regarding the University. Mrs. Kyes moved for the appointment of this position. It was seconded by Mr. Katke. Mr. Carr stated that the role is indicative of the times and that it is necessary to appoint a person of great competence who can act as a catalyst for the solution of problems. He further stated that it is a difficult job and he supports this action. Mr. Saltzman requested that the ombudsman make a report to the Board at least on a yearly basis. Mr. Schwartz concurred in the need for reports and recommended that they be on a more frequent basis than once a year. The motion for the appointment of the position of ombudsman was unanimously approved.

Appointment of Ombudsman

President O'Dowd recommended that Professor Kenneth H. Coffman be appointed to this position. Mr. Coffman is Director of Psychological Services and Associate Professor of Psychology. Mr. O'Dowd stated that he has discussed this subject with the University community and Mr. Coffman has received unanimous support. Mr. Lewis moved that Mr. Coffman be appointed as ombudsman. Mr. Carr seconded the motion and the recommendation carried.

Mr. Lewis asked for recognition by the Chairman.

"I shall be unable to attend the next Board meeting, however, I have asked the members of the Board to adopt the following statement as the basis for a resolution at the December 4 meeting.

During the course of negotiations between Oakland University and the Oakland Chapter of the American Association of University Professors toward a mutually satisfactory collective bargaining agreement, inquiries were made by members of the University community as to the impact of such agreement on the directions and ambitions of the University.

In light of these deep concerns by members of the University community, the Board deems it appropriate to make the following statement:

1. The Board of Trustees reaffirms and reassures the University community that the Board supports the ambitions and directions of the University as stated by President O'Dowd in his commencement address to the graduating class of 1971 on June 5, 1971.

2. There shall be no retrenchment in or retreat by the University from its programs, commitments and goals to meet its social responsibilities to the communities which it serves."

Moved by Mrs. Kyes, seconded by Mr. Katke, the meeting was adjourned at 11:55 a. m.