



8-20-2018

WMU Board of Trustees Formal Session August 20, 2018

WMU Board of Trustees

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**Western Michigan University
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

SPECIAL MEETING – Conference Call

Monday, August 20, 2018

Formal Session – 2:30 PM, Bernhard Center, Connable Board Room

1. Acceptance of the Agenda – *Rinvelt*
2. Remarks by the President – *Montgomery*

Action Items – *Rinvelt*

3. 2018-2021 Agreement Between Western Michigan University and the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employee’s Union AFL-CIO (AFSCME) – *Van Der Kley*
4. Temporary Easement of Property on Howard Street Between W. Michigan and Stadium Drive – *Van Der Kley*
5. General Public Comments – *Schuemann*

Supplemental and supporting agenda materials can be viewed at: <http://www.wmich.edu/trustees>

PROPOSAL: Temporary Easement of Property on Howard Street Between W. Michigan and Stadium Drive

Background

MDOT has obtained funding that is dedicated for the re-design of the Howard Street/Stadium Drive intersection. This intersection is critical for Western Michigan University due to the volume of students, faculty and staff, and campus visitors who access our campus via this intersection. MDOT received the project funding due to the accident counts in this intersection which allowed the project to be initiated due to safety factors.

Both the University and the City of Kalamazoo have an interest in this project and have been engaged with MDOT during the design sessions. As a result, WMU has had input in lane width, safety lights, pedestrian walkways, pedestrian medians, and location of the bus stop. Construction will begin 2019.

In tandem with the intersection design project, the City of Kalamazoo has been engaged in designing a sidewalk to run along the east side of Howard Street between Stadium Drive and W. Michigan. Currently, a sidewalk does not exist along this road stretch on either edge of Howard Street. The placement of the sidewalk in light of the MDOT project is one consideration. The University is also interested in the placement for our student safety when considering proximity to Howard Street's traffic, the wooded areas and lighting, the topography, and the bridge between main campus and Lawson Arena. WMU has worked collaboratively with the City on the design. The City of Kalamazoo plans on initiating this project in 2019 as well.

In order for the City to obtain funding from MDOT and proceed, it is necessary for WMU to grant a temporary grading easement that allows the work to be done. WMU owns the land on which the sidewalk will be located. The temporary easement is attached for your review.

Recommended Action

It is recommended the Treasurer and the Assistant Treasurer be granted authority to negotiate terms and conditions and to enter into agreements as necessary that allow the City of Kalamazoo temporary easement to our property to allow the construction of the sidewalk on the eastern edge of Howard Street between W. Michigan and Stadium Drive.

PROPOSAL: 2018-2021 Agreement Between Western Michigan University and the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employee's Union AFL-CIO (AFSCME)

Background

On August 10, 2018 Western Michigan University and the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employee's Union AFL-CIO (AFSCME) reached a tentative agreement on a three-year labor contract.

The AFSCME bargaining unit consists of 418 members, and the membership ratified the tentative agreement August 16, 2018. The agreement is effective from August 12, 2018 through August 12, 2021.

The agreement provides for wage increases in each of the three years of the contract. Increases vary each year based on the grade level of the position. In the first year, an increase of 1.5% to 2.5% would be provided July 1, 2018, an increase of 1.75% to 2.5% would occur at July 1, 2019, and an increase of 2% to 2.5% would be effective July 1, 2020.

Other changes occurred including employee health care premium contributions and health care plan modifications.

WMU's strategic plan includes the purpose of advancing economic and environmental sustainability policies. In advancement of this purpose, and in order for this contract to become effective, it is necessary for the Board of Trustees to approve this contract.

Recommended Action

It is recommended the Board of Trustees authorize administration to implement the 2018-2021 agreement between Western Michigan University and AFSCME.