

MINUTES OF ATHLETICS COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, October 31, 2023/via videoconference

Members Present

Steve Smith, Chairman

Steve Frye	Julie Baker	Jeff Roberts	John Smith
Kristine Craven	Debra Bryant	Gabriella Garcia	Robert Owens
Matt Smith	Michele Niec	Christy Killman	Mary McCaskey

Mark Wilson, Executive Officer

Members Absent

George Chitiyo	Madison Jones	Mary Clemons	Diana Popa
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Support Staff Present

Amanda Thatcher

Chairman Steve Smith called the meeting to order at 11:03 a.m. Introductions were made and the meeting agenda and the minutes of the March 23, 2023 meeting were approved with a friendly amendment by unanimous voice vote.

Old Business – none.

New Business:

Missed Class Time Report

- Mark Wilson presented the missed class time report for Spring 2023, with reference to Spring 2022. He notified the committee about the increase in missed class time with the addition of Western Illinois University to the Ohio Valley Conference. The report was adopted unanimously.

NCAA Graduation Success Rate

- The NCAA GSR report was presented to the committee by Mark Wilson, who noted that this information was published and released to the public. Mr. Wilson explained why the graduation rates were lower for the 2016-17 cohort and that Athletics had anticipated the drop and was planning on increases in the future. There was some discussion regarding the calculation of graduation rates with transfers. The committee accepted the report.

Budget Update

- Mr. Wilson noted that Athletics was working within a balanced budget, although with the increased cost of travel and the mandatory increases to officials it would still be a tight year due to the reduction of revenue on the student athletic fee. Matt Smith explained to the committee the breakdown of the program and service fees that also include the student athletic fee and also explained how the Business Office received projected enrollment numbers.

Capital Projects

- Mr. Wilson updated the committee on upcoming capital projects, starting with the completion of several projects. The baseball locker room, Eblen Center bathrooms and men's and women's basketball locker rooms are nearly complete. The short game facility at the Golden Eagle Golf Club was in the growing phase and should be available next fall, depending on the grass growing. The baseball and softball fields were torn up for the turf project and should be done by January, depending on the padding for the fence. Athletics is replacing the roof at the indoor tennis center, which has been leaking for a while. Mr. Wilson said that the Board of Trustees approved the indoor pitching and hitting facility for baseball. For football, the Tucker Stadium plan has taken longer than anticipated due to value engineering; the timeframe for construction is still being discussed.

Other Such Matters

- Mr. Wilson mentioned a few other topics that would be of interest to the committee that may affect Athletics on the national level, including the new NCAA president, conference realignment and the proliferation of lawsuits against the NCAA. He also told the committee the Tennessee Tech had placed second in the OVC Commissioner's Cup and received the Sportsmanship Award at the OVC Spring Meetings.

Adjournment

A motion was made and seconded for adjournment. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 11:56 a.m.