

Greenhouse bids within budget

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Bids for a new greenhouse for Western Piedmont Community College are within budget, and work is expected to proceed for a grand opening for the fall quarter.

Received last week, bids for the new college facility ranged from \$16,750 to \$30,650, said Chester West, engineer for the college. An additional cost of \$4,000 for heating and ventilation, and about \$5,000 to ready the site will be incurred. The college has \$31,000 to build the greenhouse.

West made his presentation to the college's board of trustees Monday night at the college during their quarterly meeting. West and college staff members will make a final recommendation at the board's March meeting.

The greenhouse, to house the college's new horticulture program, will be built near C Building (the auto mechanics shop) and should be ready by August.

WPCC horticulture students now must take their second and final year of study at Catawba Valley Technical College partly because of the lack of a greenhouse.

In other trustee action, a revised set of bylaws was presented. The new bylaws call for 10 meetings a year, instead of the four now scheduled. Also, the new rules allow dismissal of members who fail to attend at least five of

the meetings a year. That rule would affect board vice chairman D. Holman Sigmon, whose illness has caused him to miss many meetings in the past year.

Changes in the proposed bylaws also reduces the power of the board's executive committee, which has met between regular board sessions and taken action. Questioned by trustees were an age limit and required consultation with the president by trustee committees.

Trustees will study the proposed new rules and act at a later meeting.

College President Jim Richardson and trustee Bob Byrd also reported on meetings with county commissioners on the college's crowded F Building for vocational education. Richardson expressed hope that an expansion will be funded by the county, either on campus or in a location in downtown Morganton.

"It's so crowded in F building," Byrd said, "you can hardly turn around. We've got to bolster it up, folks." Commissioners recently toured the building, college officials said. "They're aware of our needs," Richardson said.

In other action, the board:

- Issued a resolution of appreciation to former board administrative assistant Anne Hodges, who stepped down to take a position in Winston-Salem. Her replacement will be Ruth Bowman.

- Heard staff reports on efforts to cut telephone and photocopying ex-

penses.

- Learned that a long-range plan will be completed by the college planning office by summer.

- Heard reports on preparations for accreditation renewal in 1982-83.

- Received copies of new forms college staff are using to compile the 1982-83 college budget. Richardson said this year's new budget would be easier to understand as a result.

- Heard that a faculty salary plan, required in reaccreditation, to include merit pay increases, was being prepared by Dean of Instruction Richard Greene.

- Discussed a proposed new faculty-staff evaluation system, which will include using student opinions in evaluating instructors.

- Heard a report to increase the fund-raising activity of the private Western Piedmont Foundation.

- Learned that a management training class for Southern Devices Inc. will be expanded, and WPCC materials will be used in other towns for the company.

- Learned that college staff is preparing a new policy-procedure manual.