

WPCC building approved

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Architectural plans were approved for a new vocational education building at Western Piedmont Community College when the board of trustees convened Monday night for its fall quarterly meeting.

The board also approved its 1983-84 fiscal budget resolution for a \$5,248,276 total budget, and re-elected its executive committee officers.

The approved vocational building plans will be submitted to the Division of State Construction, and after approval there trustees may advertise for construction bids, according to Chester West, the architect hired by the college for the project.

Estimated to cost around \$200,000, the building will house such vocational education classes as welding, light and general construction and electrical work.

And, according to West, the design was completed after consultation with instructors for those classes. "I met with the instructors to make sure we included what they want and left out what they don't want," West told the trustees.

The perimeter of the 64 by 148 foot metal construction will consist of block interior and brick exterior built to match F building to which the new construction will connect. West said the plans are drawn to meet state building code regulations.

Robert B. Byrd, trustee and grounds committee spokesman, called for the board's approval of the plans submitted by West "subject to minor and non-substantial deviations." The plans were unanimously approved.

Kenneth Clark, vice president of administrative services, submitted the budget resolution which includes appropriated revenues of \$3,723,782 from the state, and a little more than \$457,338 from the county.

State appropriations cover such costs as instructional curriculum, learning resources, and student service, and county appropriations cover such costs as plant operation and maintenance and institution expenses.

During his report, Clark told the board as of Sept. 30 the budget is "in very good shape." Even if the expected two to three percent of appropriated state funds, or about \$100,000, has to be returned to the state as has been the case in past years, according to Clark, the budget was planned with enough "flexibility" to cover such fund losses.

"We planned early on," Clark said. "We can handle it."

President Jim Richardson told the board that such recalls will not affect the college programs. In addition, he reported, if any recalls to state funds are to be made, announcement of such will be made by Feb. 1.

Clark also reported a \$300 scholarship donation to college funds from Blue Ridge Electrical Cooperation which was approved by the board.

Executive committee officers were re-elected to another year after a motion from nomination committee spokesman D. Holman Sigmøn. Those elected are Mrs. E.W. Phifer Jr., chairman; Charles S. Digh, vice chairman; and Claude S. Sitton, secretary.

In the president's report, he announced a six percent increase in college enrollment this quarter over the fall quarter of 1982. "This is a 19.8 percent increase over fall quarter of 1981," he said.

Richardson attributed some of the increase to three new programs being offered by the college this fall, and to the new campus opened for the first time this quarter at East Burke.