

WPCC board approves plans

By JOHN McCURRY
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The Western Piedmont Community College board of trustees gave its approval Monday to design development plans for the college's planned Learning Resource Center.

The board now has approved two of three planning stages for the center which will house the college's new library.

Meeting at the college in Morganton, trustees were shown an interior design of the building by architects Don Stuart and Robert Salsbury and were given a view of the building's electrical and plumbing systems by mechanical engineer Clint Canaday of McDermott, Canaday and Little Engineers of Hickory.

The board approved schematic drawings in August, which were subsequently approved by the N.C. Department of Administration.

The plans which were approved Monday are more detailed and will be sent for state approval to the N.C. Department of Labor and the N.C. Department of Com-

munity Colleges as well as the Department of Administration.

If all goes well, the plans will be approved in 60-90 days. Administrators and trustees now have the opportunity to review the plans and make suggestions.

One more planning stage remains which will involve even more detailed drawings of the \$4 million center.

The college is also distributing a brochure, "Blueprint for PROGRESS," to some 25 foundations in an effort to raise funds for the center. The college now has approximately \$1.6 million for the project, college President Jim Richardson said.

The brochure lists several long-term capital projects for the college, with the center given top priority.

In other business, the board decided to request \$55,330 from the Burke County Board of Commissioners for medical insurance and water and electricity costs.

The request is due to increases in insurance premiums and due to longer operating hours caused by increases in enrollment.