

WPCC OKs construction bids for its vocational building

By LEE BUCHANAN
News Herald Staff Writer

Trustees for Western Piedmont Community College Monday night approved construction bids for interior renovations to the college's vocational building.

In its regular monthly meeting, the board of trustees awarded a general construction contract to the Granite Falls firm of White Fox Construction. White Fox's low bid of \$40,122 was more than \$7,000 less than the next-lowest bid.

Renovations to the vocational building will involve construction of interior block walls.

Three local firms were also awarded contracts Monday: Estes, Inc.'s bid of \$5,905.98 garnered the plumbing contract, South Mountain Enterprises agreed to install air conditioning units and ducts for \$14,551 and Sigmon Electric Co. was awarded the contract for electrical work for a bid of \$9,780.

Ken Clark, the college's vice president for administrative services, told trustees that the total cost of the renovations, including architectural designs, was about \$20,000 less than original estimates.

Clark said the renovations were expected to be completed within 90-120 days after construction begins.

West and Avery Associates received bids for general construction, plumbing and electrical work Jan. 14. Bids for installation of the air conditioning system were accepted Jan. 21.

The trustees unanimously approved the low bids, but also voted to have the board's building and grounds committee present when future construction bids are submitted.

Also Monday night, the board unanimously approved the inclusion of a policy on alcohol and drug use on the campus or at college-sponsored events.

The policy, which prohibits the "sale, use or possession of alcoholic beverages in any manner on campus," will be added to WPCC's policy manual and student handbook.

In addition, college-sponsored groups planning to serve alcohol at an off-campus function will be required to obtain prior written approval from WPCC officials.

Executive Vice President George Fouts assured trustees that adoption of the policy did not signal a drug problem at the college, but merely formalized what has been an unstated WPCC policy.