

UTAH STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Utah State University Eastern, Price, Utah
August 14, 2020

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Utah State University Board of Trustees held at USU Eastern in Price, Utah, commencing at 10:02 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Jody K. Burnett	Chair
Kent K. Alder	Vice Chair
Sami I. Ahmed	
Laurel Cannon Alder	
John Y. Ferry	
Gina Gagon	
David H. Huntsman – via telephone	
Wayne L. Niederhauser	
David A. Petersen – via telephone	
Jacey Skinner	
Terryl Warner	

UNIVERSITY REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT

Neil N. Abercrombie	Vice President, Government Relations
Noelle E. Cockett	President
David T. Cowley	Vice President, Business and Finance
Teresa Denton	Staff Assistant
Francis D. Galey	Executive Vice President and Provost
Mica A. McKinney	General Counsel and Vice President, Legal Affairs – via telephone
Sydney M. Peterson	Secretary of the Board of Trustees
Laurens H. Smith	Vice President, Statewide Campuses
Robert W. Wagner	Vice President, Academic and Instructional Services

OTHERS PRESENT

Geoffrey T. Landward	Deputy Commissioner and General Counsel, Utah System of Higher Education
Dave R. Woolstenhulme	Commissioner, Utah System of Higher Education

Chair Burnett called the meeting to order and welcomed those present for their attendance.

Action: Trustee Kent Alder moved in accordance with 52-4-205 of the Utah Code, that the Trustees go into a Closed Session for the sole purpose of discussing the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of individuals, pending or reasonably imminent litigation, and the possible sale of real property. Trustee John Ferry seconded the motion. The voting was unanimous in the affirmative.

Chair Burnett reopened the Regular Meeting at 10:49 a.m., thanking those present for their attendance.

I. CHAIR'S REPORT

A. Information Items

1. Discussion on the Next Board of Trustees Meeting

The next meeting of the USU Board of Trustees will be on October 16, 2020 via Zoom.

2. Higher Education/Board Retreat October 29-30, 2020

Commissioner Woolstenhulme confirmed the Board of Higher Education Retreat on October 29-30, 2020. The Board of Higher Education will meet the morning of October 29. The retreat including trustees will begin the afternoon of October 29. More details will follow.

II. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

A. Recent Events

1. Farmers Feeding Utah, Northern Utah Miracle Press Conference – Logan, June 23, 2020
2. Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities Virtual Board Meeting – June 24-26, 2020
3. Higher Education Strategic Planning Virtual Meeting – June 24, 2020
4. Council of Presidents by Video Conference – June 29, 2020
5. APLU Commission on Food, Environment & Renewable Resources Executive Committee Virtual Meeting – June 30, 2020
6. Utah Board of Higher Education Virtual Meeting – July 1, 2020
7. Council of Presidents by Video Conference – July 6, 2020
8. Mountain West Board of Directors Executive Committee Virtual Meeting – July 10, 2020
9. Mountain West Board of Directors Virtual Meeting – July 13, 2020
10. EDCUtah Board of Trustees Virtual Meeting – July 14, 2020
11. Council of Presidents by Video Conference – July 20, 2020
12. Mountain West Board of Directors Virtual Meeting – July 20, 2020
13. Mountain West Board of Directors Virtual Meeting – July 31, 2020
14. Council of Presidents by Video Conference – August 3, 2020
15. USU Foundation Board Executive Committee Virtual Meeting – August 3, 2020
16. USU Board of Trustees Executive Committee conference call – August 4, 2020
17. Mountain West Board of Directors Virtual Meeting – August 5, 2020
18. Salt Lake Chamber Board of Governors Meeting – Salt Lake City, August 11, 2020
19. Remarks at Research Landscapes Virtual Session – August 11, 2020
20. USU Board of Trustees Workshop – Price, August 14, 2020

B. Upcoming Events

1. Council of Presidents by Video Conference – August 17, 2020
2. Presidents' Alliance Steering Committee Conference Call – August 19, 2020
3. Utah Board of Higher Education – Orem, August 21, 2020
4. Year of Woman Celebration of 100th Anniversary – Logan, August 26, 2020
5. USU Football vs. Washington State – September 3, 2020

6. K-16 Alliance Meeting – Logan, September 10, 2020
7. USU Football vs. Southern Utah – September 12, 2020
8. Utah Board of Higher Education Committee Virtual Meeting – September 18, 2020
9. NEHMA Exhibition Opening Remarks – September 18, 2020
10. USU Football at University of Washington – September 19, 2020
11. Council of Presidents by Video Conference – September 21, 2020
12. Virtual Remarks to Departmental Seminar at University of Wisconsin at Madison – September 22, 2020
13. Plenary Session Panelist at Experiment Station Section Virtual Annual Meetings – September 28-30, 2020
14. USU Football at BYU – October 2, 2020
15. Council of Presidents by Video Conference – October 5, 2020
16. Remarks at Research Landscapes – Salt Lake City, October 6, 2020
17. USU Football vs. San Diego State – October 10, 2020
18. Salt Lake Chamber Board of Governors Meeting – Salt Lake City, October 13, 2020
19. Utah Board of Higher Education Retreat – October 15-16, 2020
20. USU Board of Trustees – October 16, 2020

III. CONSENT AGENDA

Chair Burnett stated that the Trustees received the following agenda items for review.

- A. Minutes from the Regular Meeting held on June 19, 2020
- B. Minutes from the Closed Session held on June 19, 2020
- C. Academic Proposal
 - a. College of Science, Department of Computer Science, proposes creating five new institutional certificate online programs [Resolution 20-08-01] (Appendix A)

Action: Trustee Terry Warner moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Trustee Jacey Skinner seconded the motion. The voting was unanimous in the affirmative.

IV. ACTION AGENDA

- A. Faculty and Staff Adjustments [Resolution 20-06-02] (Appendix B)
 1. Paul T. Mitri to be Department Head and Professor with tenure, Department of Theatre Arts, Caine College of the Arts; effective January 1, 2021, replacing Adrienne Moore. B.A. University of Washington, 1986; M.F.A. University of Washington, 1989.

Action: Trustee Laurel Cannon Alder moved to accept the Faculty and Staff Adjustments. Trustee Gina Gagon seconded the motion. The voting was unanimous in the affirmative.

B. Utah State University Innovation Campus Annual Update [Resolution 20-06-03]
(Appendix C)

Vice President David Cowley presented the Innovation Campus annual update. The Space Dynamics Laboratory (SDL) is growing dramatically and a private development is planned.

On the map, the red-shaded building is currently under construction for SDL. The two blue-shaded buildings have recently been completed – one was built by SDL and the other was built by a private developer and SDL will lease the building.

The oval track on the map is the electrified roadway where research is being conducted to develop a way to charge an electric vehicle while it is in motion. USTAR Professor Regan Zane won a grant from the National Science Foundation for \$26M over five years and renewable for an additional five years to establish the Sustainable Electrified Transportation Center (SELECT) at USU.

The southeast part of the campus (red-dashed area of the map) contains the Old Chicago Pizza and Taproom on the corner of 1400 North and 800 East. More retail space is available for development along 1400 North. The purpose of this space is to provide retailers to support the people working at the Innovation Campus. The large square building is in the design phase and will be built by SDL. The entire building will be secured to accommodate classified research. A future hotel is planned along 800 East. The developer is waiting to see what happens with the pandemic before moving forward with construction.

The High Bay Building is under construction. This building will contain high bays and cranes for assembly of large satellites.

The Woodbury Building is being built by a group of investors and will be leased to SDL.

The Space Dynamics Building is finished and was opened without celebration due to the pandemic. A part of this building will be secured to accommodate classified research.

Trustee Niederhauser asked the length of ground leases for retailers along 1400 North. Vice President Cowley explained that the typical lease is 40 years but can be negotiated between USU and the developer. USU will never sell the land but will redevelop as needed.

Trustee Skinner asked who would use the hotel. Vice President Cowley said that the hotel is located far from downtown and will be available for visitors to the Innovation Campus. SDL has a lot of federal visitors. The hotel is located close to sports venues and would attract participants in sporting events.

Action: Trustee Kent Alder moved to accept the USU Innovation Campus Annual Update. Trustee Jacey Skinner seconded the motion. The voting was unanimous in the affirmative.

C. Utah State University 2020-21 Budgets [Resolution 20-06-04] (Appendix D)

Vice President Dave Cowley said the budget is typically brought before the Board of Trustees before the fiscal year begins; however, the pandemic changed the usual schedule.

Chair Burnett suggested that this item be deferred to the next meeting of the Board of Trustees for consideration. The Executive Committee will review the information and include it in the action agenda for the meeting on October 16, 2020.

Trustee Warner asked if the CARES Act funding helped the budget. Vice President Cowley explained that the CARES Act monies were divided into two parts – one part going directly to students and the other part for institutional needs. The institutional part may only be used to pay for academic delivery changes needed during the pandemic and has helped USU in that respect. These funds will also cover supplies, such as hand sanitizer. Any funds not used by April will need to be returned. Governor Herbert has ongoing funds available for more technology-related expenses.

Action: This item will be moved to the action agenda for the meeting on October 16, 2020.

V. INFORMATION AGENDA

- A. Report of Investments for March 2020 (Appendix E)
- B. Report of Investments for April 2020 (Appendix F)
- C. Report of Investments for May 2020 (Appendix G)

VI. COMMISSIONER OF HIGHER EDUCATION PRESENTATION ON ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES (Appendix H)

Commissioner Dave Woolstenhulme said that Senate Bill 111 combined the Board of Regents and the technology colleges into the Board of Higher Education. This state board will focus on high-level issues and will delegate local issues to local boards of trustees.

The document titled “Summary: Delegation of Responsibilities and Authority of USHE Governing and Administrative Officers” was distributed and will be presented for approval to the Board of Higher Education at its next meeting.

Deputy Commissioner Geof Landward explained the first column “Statutory Guidance” was broken up into different responsibilities starting with the president. The Utah System of Higher Education (USHE) will still appoint presidents of institutions; however, search committees will be chaired by a member of the institution’s board of trustees and a member of USHE. Search activities will be delegated to the boards of trustees. The annual evaluation of the president will shift more to the boards of trustees in partnership with the resource and review team appointed by USHE. The comprehensive evaluation of presidents will still be done by USHE after the first year of appointment and then every four years throughout the president’s term. The resource and review team along with the chair and vice

chair of the boards of trustees will report to the Board of Higher Education about the president's goal setting and priorities.

The boards of trustees will have the responsibility for oversight and will monitor how the institution contributes to USHE goals. The boards of trustees will set a performance matrix for the institution and monitor progress toward strategic planning. USHE will have a system strategic plan; however, all institutions will have strategic plans specific to their institution's vision, mission, and role developed by its board of trustees and president. The USHE strategic plan will be built from the institutions' strategic plans. The boards of trustees will be present when the statewide strategic plan is discussed.

For effective administration, the Board of Higher Education will establish general parameters and reporting requirements and will delegate day-to-day oversight to boards of trustees and presidents. The Board of Higher Education will only be involved with system-wide policies. The boards of trustees will approve policies for its institution.

Trustee Niederhauser asked if the mission of the institution would be a subset of the statewide strategic plan. Commissioner Woolstenhulme explained that the state's role is to make sure all institutions stay within their mission.

Deputy Commissioner Landward continued by stating that the Board of Higher Education will have final approval for increases in tuition and fees. With each institution submitting justifications for increases, the Board of Higher Education would not have time to understand each institution's budget and budget needs. The Board of Higher Education will set criteria and the boards of trustees will scrutinize proposals before approving. The Board of Higher Education will make sure the boards of trustees have done their due diligence and met the criteria before approving tuition increases.

The Board of Higher Education will restrict its role to setting system parameters and policy on budgeting and finance and will require only necessary reporting by the institutions. The boards of trustees will have oversight of budgets and controls to make sure resources are being used appropriately. The Board of Higher Education would only step in if there is an issue.

Facilities will be handled similarly to budget and finance. The Board of Higher Education will monitor system risk levels and audits.

The Board of Higher Education will set criteria for review of programs. The boards of trustees will approve new programs within the mission of their institution. The Board of Higher Education will be involved only in situations where an institution wants to start a program that falls outside of their mission and role to make sure the program does not already exist at another institution. In this situation, the institutions will be encouraged to collaborate rather than have stand-alone programs at both institutions.

The boards of trustees will still have responsibility for community relations, alumni relations, fundraising, advancement relationship, presidential relationships, honorary degrees, etc. A new responsibility is to approve research and training grants. Institutions will report highlights and most impactful research to the Board of Higher Education annually.

The Board of Higher Education will review all policies over the next year and will ask all general counsels to review their institution's policies.

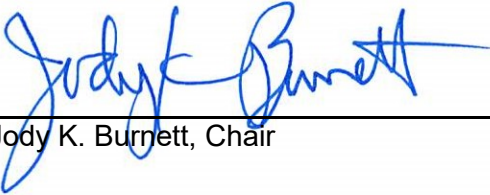
Presidents have the leadership responsibility of setting the institution's vision, external relations, strategic plan, master plan, goals and initiatives to assure students' success, etc. The day-to-day management of the institution will be the responsibility of the president.

Trustee Niederhauser asked about any changes to the capital development process.

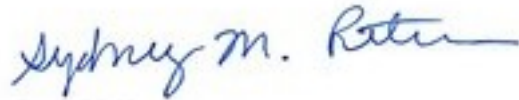
Commissioner Woolstenhulme said Senate Bill 102 states that capital development funds go to the institutions and the institutions may decide how those funds are spent. The Board of Higher Education will take forward the buildings that were funded and then defunded this year. In the future, money will flow to the institutions and the institutions will decide how the money is spent. The boards of trustees will have a lot more input in prioritizing building funds.

Chair Burnett asked if there were any other items the Trustees would like to discuss before the meeting closed; none were mentioned.

The meeting adjourned at 12:07 p.m.



Jody K. Burnett, Chair



Sydney M. Peterson, Secretary
(Minutes taken by Teresa Denton)

October 16, 2020

Date Approved