

UTAH STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Utah State University, Logan, Utah
May 5, 2021

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Utah State University Board of Trustees held via videoconference commencing at 1:02 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

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| Jody K. Burnett | Chair |
| Kent K. Alder | Vice Chair |
| Laurel Cannon Alder | |
| John Y. Ferry | |
| Gina Gagon | |
| David H. Huntsman | |
| Wayne L. Niederhauser | |
| David A. Petersen | |
| Jacey Skinner | |
| Lucas Stevens | |
| Terryl Warner | |

UNIVERSITY REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT

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| Sami I. Ahmed | Outgoing USU Student Association President |
| Jodi Bailey | Chief Audit Executive |
| Paul Barr | Vice Provost |
| Lisa Berreau | Vice President, Research |
| Noelle E. Cockett | President |
| David T. Cowley | Vice President, Business and Finance |
| Teresa Denton | Staff Assistant Senior |
| David Forbush | Associate Director, Center for the School of the Future |
| Francis D. Galey | Executive Vice President and Provost |
| Mica A. McKinney | General Counsel and Vice President, Legal Affairs |
| James Morales | Vice President, Student Affairs |
| Sydney M. Peterson | Secretary of the Board of Trustees |
| William M. Plate | Vice President, University Marketing and Communications |
| Laurens H. Smith | Vice President, Statewide Campuses |
| Timothy Taylor | President, Faculty Senate |
| Scott Theurer | Board of Higher Education, Member |
| Robert W. Wagner | Vice President, Academic and Instructional Services |
| Kenneth L. White | Vice President, Extension; Dean, College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences; Director, Agricultural Experiment Station |

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

I. CHAIR'S REPORT

A. Information Items

1. Resolution of Appreciation and Commendation to Sami Ahmed (Appendix A)

Chair Burnett read the Resolution of Appreciation and Commendation and presented a gift to outgoing trustee Sami Ahmed. Sami served two terms as Utah State University Student Association (USUSA) president and trustee. He also served as president of the Utah Student Association (USA) representing 180,000 higher education students in Utah. He worked long hours representing students' interests and gave the highest level of care to students dealing with COVID-19 concerns and challenges this past year. His efforts were integral in USU's student fee restructuring initiative as well as uniting all students across the university's statewide system to come together under a unified USUSA Constitution.

Sami Ahmed stated that when he first arrived on campus five years ago, he never dreamed that he would be a member of the Board of Trustees. He has a great appreciation for President Cockett. He was able to see how much administrators and trustees care for the students at USU. He will be working at Leavitt Partners doing healthcare consulting and lobbying. In the future, he hopes to pass the exams to become an air force pilot.

President Cockett said that Sami has done exceptionally well especially helping with the COVID-19 approach, student fees, and the USUSA constitution. She presented Sami with a picture of the Old Main building.

2. Introduction of new USUSA President and Trustee Lucas Stevens and Oath of Office

Lucas Stevens is the newly elected USUSA president and new trustee. Chair Burnett swore him in with the oath of office.

3. USHE Board of Higher Education Schedule 2021-22 (Appendix B)

The Board of Higher Education will hold their meeting in Logan on July 15-16, 2021. Board of Trustee members are invited to attend a breakfast with the Board of Higher Education members on Friday, July 16. This is a great opportunity for the members of both boards to discuss issues related to USU.

4. The next Board of Trustees Meeting will be held on June 25, 2021, in the morning via videoconference.

B. Committee Reports

1. Academic Approval Committee Report

Trustee John Ferry reported that several academic proposals are included on the Consent and the Action agendas. Consent agenda items are managerial in nature. Action agenda items include two new programs at USU Eastern.

2. Audit, Risk and Compliance Committee Report

Trustee Kent Alder reported that the committee met last week and discussed the report to regents on the audit. Mica McKinney discussed risk committee issues and

activities. Jodi Bailey reported on the quality assurance and improvement committee.

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 Dave Petersen seconded the motion. The voting was unanimous in the affirmative.

Chair Burnett reopened the Regular Meeting at 2:08 p.m.

II. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

A. Information

President Cockett stated that this time last year everyone was learning how to use Zoom videoconferencing when the campus closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. There have been a lot of disappointments this past year with the cancelations of graduation ceremonies, student activities, spring award ceremonies, and Founders Day activities. Now students are coming back to campus with their parents to attend graduation. They are taking pictures in their regalia at various places around campus. Campus is polished and looking nice for graduates. Statewide campuses have had their commencement ceremonies except for Moab where the ceremony will be held virtually on Friday. The main ceremony this year has been recorded and will be released for virtual viewing at 7:00 p.m. tonight. She thanked Vice President Bill Plate and Andrew Diamond for their work on the recording which includes musical numbers and comments from the three honorary degree recipients – Linda Daines, Julie Ann Robinson, and Karen Morse. College convocations will be held Thursday and Friday with students and parents attending in person in the Spectrum and the Daines Concert Hall. Each location will have an hour between ceremonies to sanitize.

Trustee Lucas Stevens said that students he has talked to are happy to have this opportunity to meet in person for graduation. It's exciting that campus is returning to normal.

President Cockett clarified that facial coverings will be required for all college ceremonies. She anticipates that facial coverings will still be required for events and activities in the fall. COVID-19 precautions have been eased to allow people to go without facial coverings when they are outside and in a group less than 50 people. President Cockett is proud of USU employees and students who took the pandemic seriously and obeyed the procedures put in place.

Since the honorary degree recipients were not able to come to campus in person this year, Chair Burnett asked that board members send notes to them congratulating them on receiving this award from USU.

B. Recent Events

1. Mountain West Women's Basketball Championship Tournament – Las Vegas,

- March 7-10, 2021
2. Mountain West Men's Basketball Championship Tournament – Las Vegas, March 10-13, 2021
 3. Speak to USU Emeriti and Retired Employees Association – March 17, 2021
 4. NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament – Indianapolis, Indiana, March 18-20, 2021
 5. Envision Utah Board of Directors Virtual Meeting – March 18, 2021
 6. USU Alumni Event – Indianapolis, Indiana, March 18, 2021
 7. Association of Public Land-grant Universities Board of Directors Virtual Meeting – March 19, 2021
 8. USU Men's Basketball vs Texas Tech – Indianapolis, Indiana, March 18, 2021
 9. Utah Board of Higher Education Virtual Meetings – March 25-26, 2021
 10. USU Founders Day Virtual Ceremony – March 26, 2021
 11. Remarks at Encircle Ground Breaking – March 30, 2021
 12. Remarks at USU Faculty Awards Virtual Ceremony – March 30, 2021
 13. State of the University Virtual Address – March 31, 2021
 14. Legislative Appreciation Dinner – April 7, 2021
 15. USU Board of Trustees Teleconference – April 9, 2021
 16. Congratulatory Breakfast with USU Cross Country Athletes – April 13, 2021
 17. EDCUtah Board of Trustees Virtual Meeting – April 13, 2021
 18. Congratulatory Breakfast with USU Gymnastics Team – April 14, 2021
 19. Utah Board of Higher Education Committee Virtual Meetings – April 16, 2021
 20. USU Foundation Board Executive Committee Virtual Meeting – April 16, 2021
 21. Opening Remarks at Blue Plate Research Virtual Session – April 20, 2021
 22. Opening Remarks at Association of Public & Land-grant Universities Earth Day Webinar – April 22, 2021
 23. Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities Spring 2021 Mid-Cycle Accreditation Virtual Visit – April 26-27, 2021
 24. Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities April Commission Virtual Meeting – April 27, 2021
 25. USU Board of Trustees Regular Meeting – May 5, 2021
 26. USU Virtual Commencement Ceremony – May 5, 2021

C. Upcoming Events

1. USU Commencement Convocations – May 6-7, 2021
2. Envision Utah Executive Committee Virtual Meeting – May 13, 2021
3. Utah Board of Higher Education Committee Meeting – Tooele Technical College, Tooele, May 21, 2021
4. Association of Public & Land-grant Universities Board of Directors Virtual Meeting – June 15, 2021
5. Utah Board of Higher Education Committee Virtual Meetings – June 18, 2021
6. Association of Public & Land-grant Universities Council of Presidents Summer Virtual Meeting – June 21, 2021
7. Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities Virtual Summer Meetings – June 23-25, 2021

III. CONSENT AGENDA

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

- A. Minutes from the Regular Meeting held on April 9, 2021
- B. Minutes from the Closed Session held on April 9, 2021
- C. Approval of 2021-22 Board of Trustees Meeting Schedule (Appendix C)
- D. Academic Proposals
 - 1. Department of Applied Economics, College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences, proposes creating a Community Development Economics Minor (Appendix D) [Resolution 21-05-01]
 - 2. Department of Aviation and Technical Education, College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences, proposes changing the CIP Code for the Bachelor of Science in Aviation Technology – Professional Pilot degree (Appendix E) [Resolution 21-05-02]
 - 3. Department of Aviation and Technical Education, College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences, proposes offering a Nail Technician Certificate of Proficiency (Appendix F) [Resolution 21-05-03]
 - 4. Department of Sociology, Social Work and Anthropology, College of Humanities and Social Sciences, proposes changing the name of the Institute for Social Science Research on Natural Resources to Community and Natural Resources Institute (Appendix G) [Resolution 21-05-04]
 - 5. Department of Computer Science, College of Science, proposes discontinuing the Computer Science Master of Science Plan C degree program (Appendix H) [Resolution 21-05-05]
- E. Approval of Changes to Policies 311 and 321 (Appendix I) [Resolution 21-05-06]
- F. Approval of Changes to Policy 404.3.6 (Appendix J) [Resolution 21-05-07]

Action: Trustee John Ferry moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Trustee Laurel Cannon Alder seconded the motion. The voting was unanimous in the affirmative.

IV. ACTION AGENDA

- A. Academic Proposals
 - 1. Academic and Instructional Services proposes creating a new Student Money Management Center (Appendix K) [Resolution 21-05-08]
 - 2. Department of Art and Design, Caine College of the Arts, proposes offering an Associate of Arts in Art at USU Eastern (Appendix L) [Resolution 21-05-09]
 - 3. Department of Theatre Arts, Caine College of the Arts, proposes offering an Associate of Arts in Theatre at USU Eastern (Appendix M) [Resolution 21-05-10]
 - 4. Department of Engineering Education, College of Engineering, proposes

offering a Master of Science in Engineering Education (Appendix N)
[Resolution 21-05-11]

Trustee John Ferry explained that the first academic proposal to create a Student Money Management Center will provide students assistance in managing their finances including scholarships. The next two proposals will create associate of arts programs in art and theatre at USU Eastern. The last proposal for a master of science program in engineering education will train students to be able to handle the demands of industry and to make themselves more marketable.

Action: Trustee Kent Alder moved to approve the academic proposals. Trustee John Ferry seconded the motion. The voting was unanimous in the affirmative.

B. Update on Dean Searches

Provost Francis Galey stated that Dr. Al Smith from Michigan State University has been hired to be the new dean of the Emma Eccles Jones College of Education and Human Services beginning July 1, 2021. Dr. Smith's background is in kinesiology and psychology. The search for a new dean in the College of Science has been extended to the fall. Interim Dean Michelle Baker has agreed to continue in this position until a new dean is appointed. Dean Brad Cole of USU Libraries has announced his retirement at the end of June. Librarian Jennifer Duncan has agreed to serve as interim dean during the search for a new dean.

C. Center for the School of the Future, Emma Eccles Jones College of Education and Human Services, proposes approving the Career Academy of Utah charter application (Appendix O) [Resolution 21-05-12]

Trustee John Ferry reminded board members that last year the Center for the School of the Future was approved as an accreditor for charter schools. The first applications were received and the Center for the School of the Future selected the Career Academy of Utah to be accredited. The Career Academy of Utah has a virtual program to empower students especially from rural Utah. They provide vocational education that may be tailored to a student's interests allowing them to graduate with a marketable skill. This program is in addition to the public school system so students will receive a high school diploma from their public school and a certificate from the Career Academy of Utah. No tuition will be charged for students to participate. The academy will receive state funding and a portion of that funding will come to USU as part of the accreditation agreement.

Action: Trustee John Ferry moved to approve the Career Academy of Utah charter application. Trustee Lucas Stevens seconded the motion. The voting was unanimous in the affirmative.

V. INFORMATION AGENDA

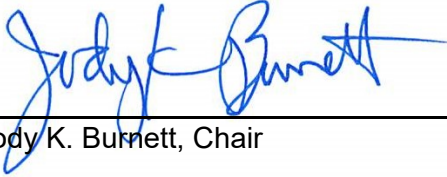
A. Report of Investments for December 2020 (Appendix P)

B. Public Safety Annual Security and Fire Safety Report (Appendix Q)

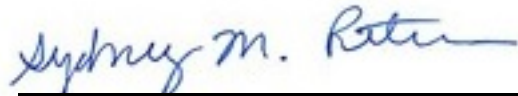
Chair Burnett asked if there were any other items the Trustees would like to discuss before the meeting closed; none were mentioned.

Action: Trustee Lucas Stevens made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee John Ferry seconded the motion; voting was unanimous in the affirmative.

The meeting adjourned at 2:41 p.m.



Jody K. Burnett, Chair



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

June 25, 2021
Date Approved