

THE UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Wednesday, April 15, 2020

Meeting Minutes

Public Session

**Final minutes can be found on the University of Wyoming Board of Trustees website at
www.uwyo.edu/trustees**

THE UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Wednesday, April 15, 2020
Via Video Conference
No Physical Location Due to COVID – 19
Laramie, Wyoming

Public Session

Consideration and Action: UW Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes (public & executive session)
– True

- March 16, 2020, UW Board of Trustee “Special Meeting”4
 - March 25-26, 2020, UW Board of Trustees “Special Meeting”4
- 2020 Legislative Budget Session Update – Brown/Asay [postponed from March meeting]
COVID-19 Update – Theobald [*Verbal Report*]
S/U Grading Extension – Theobald

Proposed Items for Action

Contracts, agreements, procurements over \$1 million or 5 years in length – Evans

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**THE UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Wednesday, April 15, 2020
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Laramie, Wyoming**

The University of Wyoming Board of Trustees held a conference call on Wednesday morning, April 15, 2020. Trustee Chairman Dave True called the meeting to order at 8:01 a.m. Trustee Kermit Brown took roll.

Trustees participating included: Mel Baldwin, Brad Bonner, Kermit Brown, David Fall, Brad LaCroix, Jeff Marsh, John McKinley, Macey Moore, Dick Scarlett, Laura Schmid-Pizzato, Michelle Sullivan, and Dave True. Ex-officio Trustees participating: ASUW President Jason Wilkins, UW Acting President Neil Theobald, the Executive Director of the Wyoming Community College Commission Sandy Caldwell. Governor Gordon was not in attendance; Senior Policy Advisor Lachelle Brant attended on his behalf. Superintendent for Public Instruction Jillian Balow was not in attendance; Wyoming Department of Education Director of Communications Kari Eakins attended on her behalf.

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Consideration and Action: Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes (public session and executive session), True

MINUTES OF THE MEETING:

Approved 4-15-20 @ 9:29 a.m.

Board of Trustees Public and Executive Session Meeting Minutes

Trustee Mel Baldwin moved to approve the public and executive session minutes for the March 16, 2020, UW Board of Trustees “Special Meeting”, and March 25-26, 2020, UW Board of Trustees Meeting as presented to the Board. Trustee Michelle Sullivan seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous decision.

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Update: 2020 Legislative Budget Session – Asay

MINUTES OF THE MEETING:

Director of Governmental Affairs Meredith Asay provided the Board a summary of the State of Wyoming Legislative Budget Session. Asay discussed several other bills of interest to the University which were brought forward, discussed and acted on with a focus on those bills which require University follow up or compliance. Asay walked the Board through documents in the Board Report discussing actions the legislature took that will have an impact on the University of Wyoming, including the budget bill and the reports bill which both require new reports to be submitted to the legislature. Asay discussed the University of Wyoming Governance Study, which Asay reported, passed without an appropriation. Asay further stated the Legislative Service Office (LSO) is charged to retain a third party consultant to conduct the study and provide a report on the University of Wyoming's governance structure and administrative practices. Asay stated the topic is assigned to the Joint Education Committee.

Trustee Kermit Brown discussed the potential for a special legislative session due to the state's economic downturn accelerated by the COVID-19 pandemic. Trustee Kermit Brown requested further information from the Facilities Contracting Committee related to its discussions about flameless pressurized oxy-combustion technology. Trustee McKinley reported on the process so far to identify an appropriate location for the test plant and the guiding principles related to a successful grant application process.

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Update COVID-19 – Theobald

MINUTES OF THE MEETING:

Acting President Neil Theobald provided the Board an update on the university's response to COVID-19 and the work of the COVID-19 Executive Emergency Policy Group (EEPG). Theobald discussed the ongoing *Pokes Make a Difference* fundraising efforts and further discussed new safety guidelines for upcoming field research. Chairman of the Trustees Ad Hoc Task Force on COVID-19 Trustee Kermit Brown described the weekly receipt of information about the university's COVID-19 response stating the task force will be involved in the creation of university plans related to the timing and implementation of lifting current restrictions. Vice Provost Tami Benham-Deal reported on the support and resources available to students with the cooperation of student affairs. Benham-Deal went on to update the Board on the status of online class delivery and the information gathering for potential fall semester course delivery scenarios and alternatives. Benham-Deal described national attention the university has received regarding its response to course delivery during the COVID-19 pandemic. Benham-Deal discussed the reasoning behind the recommendation the Board extend the S/U deadline.

Interim Vice President for Student Affairs Kim Chestnut provided the Board a report on resources and services to students through WyoCares. Chestnut discussed the plans to move the remaining

in residence students to White Hall, and the functions to meet social distancing guidelines. Chestnut further reported on student affairs contemplation of enhanced efforts toward student retention and success.

Director of Government Affairs Meredith Asay provided the Board a report on the university's assistance to the state during the COVID-19 pandemic, and the creation of a working group of university experts to facilitate specific requests from the governor's office. Senior Policy Officer Lachelle Brant expressed her appreciation to the university on behalf of Governor Gordon.

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: S/U Grading Extension – Theobald

MINUTES OF THE MEETING:

At its March 2020 meeting, the Board voted to allow students to opt-in to S-U grading through April 17, 2020. Acting President Neil Theobald reported Student Advising had reported sophomores and juniors, who are the last to receive advice and register, would benefit from additional time to meet with their faculty and advisors to discuss the best options for student success. Theobald recommended the Board consider an extension to the temporary exception to UW Regulation 2-106 so as to allow students to opt-in to S-U grading through April 30, 2020.

Approved 4-15-2020 @ 10:33 a.m.

S/U Grading Extension

Trustee Michelle Sullivan moved to authorize administration to extend the temporary deadline for students to opt-in to S-U grading through April 30, 2020. Trustee Macey Moore seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous decision.

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Contracts, agreements, procurements over \$1 million or 5 years in length – Evans

MINUTES OF THE MEETING:

Approved 4-15-2020 @ 10:37 a.m.

Avcon Aircraft Modification Agreement

Trustee David Fall moved to authorize administration to sign the Avcon Aircraft Acquisition and Support Agreement and the Aircraft Modification Agreement and expend up to \$150,000 in earnest money as a deposit for the future purchase of the replacement baseline aircraft. Trustee Dick Scarlett seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous decision. A friendly amendment was made to move the \$150,000 will come from the special projects reserve account. Trustee Fall accepted the amendment.

Incoming UW Board of Trustees Chairman Jeff Marsh recognized outgoing Chairman Trustee True for his service and leadership.

Trustee John McKinley reported the UW Budget Hearings are scheduled May 11-12, 2020, and will be delivered by video conference and WyoCast.

Date of Next Meeting

May 13-14, 2020 (Laramie, Wyoming)

Adjournment

The Board adjourned the meeting at 10:40 a.m.

Executive Session Information

[The UW Board of Trustees met in Executive Session on Wednesday April 15, 2020, via video conference; there was no physical location due to COVID-19.]

Wednesday, April 15, 2020

The University of Wyoming Board of Trustees called the meeting to order at 8:01 a.m. Trustee Brown moved the Board enter into Executive Session for the purpose of:

- 1) Matters concerning litigation to which the governing body is a party or proposed litigation to which the governing body may be a party under Wyoming Statute 16-4-405(a)(iii); and
- 2) Considering or receiving information classified as confidential by law under Wyoming Statute 16-4-405(a)(ix).

The Executive Session was attended by the 12 voting members of the UW Board of Trustees, ex-officio members, and UW administrators and staff as appropriate. Trustee Dick Scarlett seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous decision. The Board entered into Executive Session at 8:07 a.m.

Trustees participating: Mel Baldwin, Brad Bonner, Kermit Brown, David Fall, Brad LaCroix, Jeff Marsh, John McKinley, Macey Moore, Dick Scarlett, Laura Schmid-Pizzato, Michelle Sullivan, and Dave True. Ex-officio Trustees participating: ASUW President Jason Wilkins, UW Acting President Neil Theobald, the Executive Director of the Wyoming Community College Commission Sandy Caldwell. Governor Gordon was not in attendance; Senior Policy Advisor Lachelle Brant attended on his behalf. Superintendent for Public Instruction Jillian Balow was not in attendance; Wyoming Department of Education Director of Communications Kari Eakins attended on her behalf.

Vice President and General Counsel Tara Evans, Deputy General Counsel Paula Whaley, UW Board of Trustees Deputy Secretary RoseMarie London, and IT Specialist Lisa Stafford attended the entirety of the meeting. The following administrators and external individuals attended during their respective agenda items: Associate Vice President for Financial Affairs David Jewell, Director of Budget and Planning Alex Kean, Interim Vice President for Administration Bill Mai, Assistant Professor Atmospheric Science Jeff French, and Outside Counsel Rob Jarosh, Hirst Applegate

Executive Session adjourned at 9:24 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



RoseMarie London
Deputy Secretary, UW Board of Trustees