



Public Session, Board of Trustees Meeting
University of Wyoming
Video Conference/Old Main Boardroom, Old Main 206
2026-10-14 08:00 - 10:00 MDT

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I. 8:00 a.m. Call to Order

1. Roll Call
2. Move to Enter Executive Session

II. ~8:30 a.m. Approval of Meeting Minutes

1. September 23-25, 2026, UW Board of Trustees meeting

III. Discussion: Delegation of Authority.....2

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IV. Information Only.....5

1. October 2026 UW Foundation Monthly Giving Report

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V. Proposed Items for Action [placeholder]

VI. New Business

VII. Date of Next Meeting

1. November 18-20, 2026, Laramie

VIII. Adjourn

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Discussion: Delegation of Authority, Sullivan, Reeves

SESSION TYPE:

- ☒ Work Session
- ☐ Information Session
- ☐ Other
- ☐ [Committee of the Whole – Items for Approval]

APPLIES TO STRATEGIC GOALS:

- ☒ Yes (select below):
 - ☒ Institutional Excellence
 - ☒ Student Success
 - ☒ Service to the State
 - ☒ Financial Growth and Stability
- ☒ No [Regular Business]

☐ *Attachments are provided with the narrative.*

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Pursuant to the Wyoming Constitution, Art. 7, § 17, “[t]he legislature shall provide by law for the management of the university, its lands and other property by a board of trustees, consisting of not less than seven members, to be appointed by the governor by and with the advice and consent of the senate, and the president of the university, and the superintendent of public instruction, as members ex officio, as such having the right to speak, but not to vote. The duties and powers of the trustees shall be prescribed by law.” This authority is also codified by the Legislature, which names the Board of Trustees as a "body corporate" and defines the broad powers of the Board of Trustees as it pertains to the governance of the University. (W.S. § 21-17-203 et.seq.)

The President of the University is an administrative employee who serves as the executive head of and spokesperson for the University, with duties as prescribed by the State of Wyoming, the Bylaws of the Trustees of the University of Wyoming (Bylaws), and the Board of Trustees. The Bylaws authorize the President to perform the duties expressly enjoined upon him by the laws of Wyoming and “such other incidental duties as pertain to his office or as may be assigned from time to time by the Trustees.”

The Trustees’ Executive Committee invited administration to research where the full Board of Trustees consider an expanded scope of responsibility and a distributed decision-making model by delegating approval of some transactional items that come before the board. The intent of this inquiry was to assure that the Trustees focus on providing strategic direction, oversight, and accountability. They asked President Reeves and Executive Vice President Sheetz to work with their team to suggest a strategy for possible delegation, specifically noting that recommendations should be tied to institutional priorities. Administration identified the following transactional processes, and suggested thresholds that might foster more agile decision making:

1. Reducing the two-step process to appoint University Officers to one step pursuant to UW Regulations 1-1 and 2-8.
2. Delegating authority for promotion in rank of faculty, appointment of five-year fixed term faculty, and emeritus designation pursuant to UW Regulations 1-1 and 2-8 (tenure decisions would remain with the Board of Trustees).

3. Increasing authority to authorize capital construction projects from \$500,000 to \$5,000,000, including the selection of architects, the adoption of plans, specifications and details for construction, receiving of bids, and awarding of contracts for the design and construction of all University buildings pursuant to UW Regulations 6-1 and 6-9.
4. Delegating authority for change orders for non-capital and capital construction, if within the approved construction project budget pursuant to UW Regulations 6-1 and 6-9.
5. Delegating authority for major maintenance projects, if within the approved annual operating budget pursuant to UW Regulations 6-9 and 7-2.
6. Increasing authority for unbudgeted transfers between units and divisions and their reserves from \$100,000 to \$2,000,000 pursuant to UW Regulation 7-1.
7. Delegating spending from the Special Projects Reserve account if there is an unforeseen and unbudgeted opportunity during a fiscal year that requires timely action before the next annual budget cycle.
8. Increasing authority for approval of contracts, federal contracts, agreements, memorandums of understanding, procurements, equipment leases, and permits from \$2,000,000 and 10 years to no cap, if within the approved annual operating budget pursuant to UW Regulation 7-2. This would not include the sale or purchase of real property, improvements to real property, timber sales, easements (unless for a public utility), or water rights and development, which would remain with the Board of Trustees.
9. Increasing authority for leases and licenses of real property from \$50,000 or 1 year to \$1,000,000 or 5 years pursuant to UW Regulation 7-2.
10. Delegating authority for oil, gas, and mineral leases where the expected bonus is less than \$100,000 pursuant to UW Regulation 7-2.
11. Delegating authority for the patent, copyright, sale, license, or use of University inventions, discoveries or works by an outside user where negotiated terms fall outside of the typical ranges and are not compensated for elsewhere pursuant to UW Regulation 7-2.
12. Delegating authority for multi-year athletic coach employment contracts, other than head coach contracts for football and men's and women's basketball, which would still require consultation with the Trustees Executive Committee pursuant to UW Regulation 1-1.

The recommendations are not intended to relinquish Board authority; rather, to assure the institution can be responsive to the changing needs of the institution in a time of rapid change. Delegation to the new administration can be revoked at any time and ideally would facilitate the administration's future priorities, while still holding the administration accountable.

Chair Sullivan and President Reeves will lead the discussion. Based on the outcome of this discussion, the Chair may request that those applicable Committees discuss items listed above

during the November 2026 Board meeting, including review of the relevant UW Regulations, examination of the current administrative processes related to those regulations, and discussion of whether these potential changes would allow administration to function in a way that strengthens the ability for UW to pursue excellence.

WHY THIS ITEM IS BEFORE THE BOARD:

The Bylaws of the Trustees of the University of Wyoming authorize the President to perform the duties expressly enjoined upon him by the laws of Wyoming and “such other incidental duties as pertain to his office or as may be assigned from time to time by the Trustees.”

ACTION REQUIRED AT THIS BOARD MEETING:

The Chair may request that appropriate Trustee Committees review the recommendations that fall under their purview and be prepared to provide feedback to the full Board at the November 2026 Board of Trustees meeting.

BACKGROUND SCRIPT AND PROPOSED MOTION:

N/A

PRESIDENT’S RECOMMENDATION

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Foundation Monthly Giving Report, Stark

SESSION TYPE:

- ☐ Work Session
☒ Information Session
☐ Other
☐ [Committee of the Whole – Items for Approval]

APPLIES TO STRATEGIC GOALS:

- ☒ Yes (select below):
☒ Institutional Excellence
☒ Student Success
☒ Service to the State
☒ Financial Growth and Stability
☐ No [Regular Business]

☐ *Attachments are provided with the narrative.*

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

As part of the reporting process to the UW Board of Trustees on philanthropy, a monthly giving report is presented for informational purposes to the Board of Trustees at each meeting. This report summarizes private support overall as well as a breakdown by units on campus for the reported period. The report indicates that the FY27 number as of October 7, 2026, totals \$33,609,487.

Fiscal Year	YTD Fundraising	YTD Donors
2027	\$33,609,487	6,504

PRIOR RELATED BOARD DISCUSSIONS/ACTIONS:

N/A

WHY THIS ITEM IS BEFORE THE BOARD:

Item presented to board at each meeting.

ACTION REQUIRED AT THIS BOARD MEETING:

None.

PROPOSED MOTION:

None.

PRESIDENT’S RECOMMENDATION:

None.