

THE UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING
MINUTES OF THE TRUSTEES

May 2, 1912

For the confidential information
of the Board of Trustee

A special meeting of the Board of Trustees of the University of Wyoming was held this date pursuant to call, there being present Mr. Burke in the chair, Messrs. Brooks, Clark, Crawford, Hamilton, Ingham and Tidball, State Superintendent Rose Bird, and Dr. Merica, the president of the University.

After roll call, the president of the Board stated that the first business was to act upon the resignation of Dr. Merica as president of the University. The Secretary read Dr. Merica's resignation, which was as follows:

March 23rd, 1912.

Mr. F. S. Burrage,
Secretary Board of Trustees,
University of Wyoming,
Laramie, Wyoming.

Dear Sir:-

I hereby resign my position as president of the University of Wyoming, the resignation to take effect July 1st, 1912. In taking this action I want to express to those who now constitute the Board of Trustees as well as to all of those who have been members during my administration, my sincere appreciation of their kindness and courtesy. I wish also to assure you of my love for the University and of my hope for its continued growth and prosperity.

I leave the University to take charge of the Minnesota State Training School for Boys at Red Wing, Minnesota. It is needless for me to attempt to give any reason for making this change. Perhaps no one reason would suffice. I have been long interested in the problems that have to do with the retarded and so-called wrong going boy. The invitation to return to this work seems to me to be somewhat insistent.

I assure you that I shall have the University's welfare upon my heart and that, during the months that I remain I shall continue to serve loyally. I shall always be glad, too, to remember the years that I have spent here and the men and women with whom I have been associated and to hope for the very best things for the University.

Yours very truly,

(Signed) Chas. C. Merica,
President.

Colonel Crawford moved that the Board accept with regret, Dr. Merica's resignation as President of the University, the same to take effect July 31st, 1912. The motion was seconded and Mr. Burke called for remarks. At this point every member of the Board paid a tribute to Dr. Merica, expressing his appreciation of the Doctor's services, and his great regret that the relationship between Dr. Merica and the University must end. Instructions to the president of the Board to appoint a committee to draw up resolutions with reference to Dr. Merica's resignation were also incorporated in this motion, a copy of these resolutions to be sent to the Doctor, and the same also to be spread upon the minutes of the Board. Dr. Merica, himself, feelingly thanked the members of the Board for their expressions of esteem and appreciation. The motion was then put and carried.

The matter of a successor to Dr. Merica was next taken up. Mr. Burke first reported on a trip he had made to Palo Alto and Berkeley, California, to see the presidents of Leland Stanford Junior University, and the University of California, respectively, with reference to suitable men for the position; and also on a trip made to Denver to see the President of the University of Michigan, on the same errand.

The Board having learned that Dr. C. A. Duniway, the president of the University of Montana, Professor J. L. McBrien of Lincoln, Nebraska and Professor W. H. Nichols of Monrovia, California, were present in the city and wished to be considered by the Board with reference to the vacancy in the presidency, the Board decided to ask each gentleman in turn, that they might become better acquainted with them and allow them to ask any questions they desired of the Board, and also that the Board might talk to each one of them.

Professor McBrien first appeared, and he was followed by Professor Nichols.

The hour of noon having arrived, the Board adjourned to re-assemble at half-past one.

All the members present at the morning session were on hand at the afternoon session, called to order at two o'clock.

Dr. Duniway was first interviewed. At the request of one of the members of the Board, Professor Creager of the Faculty of the University of Wyoming was called in, it being understood that he also was a candidate.

At the conclusion of these interviews, a ballot was taken by the Board as to whether the Board should first take an informal ballot on the matter of the presidency before proceeding to the regular election. By vote of five to two, the Board decided to ballot informally.

Informal ballot being taken, the vote was found to be as follows:

For Dr. C. A. Duniway 6 votes.
For Professor Creager 1 vote.

At four o'clock, the Board took recess for half an hour.

At four-thirty, the Board re-assembled, and upon motion, proceeded to take a formal ballot on the matter of the presidency. The ballot being counted, it was found that Dr. C. A. Duniway was unanimously elected President of the University of Wyoming. Dr. Duniway was called in and informed of the action of the Board, and expressed his appreciation. Mr. Burke said that the Board would take up the matter of details with him in a few minutes.

The matter of the purchase of Dr. Merica's residence as a home for the President of the University was next taken up. Dr. Merica offered his house and furniture complete, to the Board for \$8,500.00. He then withdrew, that the Board might be free to discuss the matter. Colonel Crawford moved that the Board of Trustees purchase Dr. Merica's house with furniture, for a President's residence for the sum of \$8,500.00. There was a full discussion on this motion, and Dr. Duniway was called in and asked whether he would prefer a straight salary or a house and salary. He stated that he would much prefer the latter, as he did not feel that the president of

the University should be asked to build a house himself. The motion being put, it was carried.

Dolonel Crawford moved that the Board offer Dr. Duniway a salary of \$4,500.00 per annum, and the use of the president's house and furniture. Seconded by Mr. Brooks. Carried.

Dr. Duniway was again asked into the Board meeting and the offer just adopted was presented to him. He accepted the same. After further discussion, Dr. Duniway left the room.

Mr. Tidball moved that Mr. Burke be compensated for the expenses of his trips to California and Denver with reference to presidential possibilities. Mr. Burke stated that his expenses from Ogden to San Francisco and return, and from Cheyenne to Denver and return amounted to \$91.50. Mr. Burke stated that he had gone to Ogden on personal business, so would not accept compensation for that part of his trip., from Cheyenne to Ogden and return. The motion was unanimously carried.

Mr. Burke appointed Judge Clark, Mr. Ingham and Mr. Burrage a committee on the resolutions relative to Dr. Merica, and instructed the committee to bring in these resolutions at the annual meeting of the Board in June.

Mr. Burke appointed the Secretary of the Board a committee of one to draft suitable resolutions to be sent to Professors Nichols, McBrien and Creager, thanking them for their courtesey in appearing before the Board, and giving the Board an opportunity of learning about their qualifications. The Secretary was further instructed to acknowledge all letters, applications and endorsements.

Judge Clark moved that the Executive Committee be authorized to close the deal with Dr. Merica in the matter of his house, agreeing on the details of payment, etc., as appeared best to them.

Mr. Brooks moved that the term and salary of Dr. Duniway as president of the University begin on August 1st, 1912. This was agreeable to Dr. Duniway.

Mr. Burke fixed the Executive Committee meeting for Saturday, May 11th, Dr. Merica being unable to be present on Tuesday, May 14th, the regular date.

The Board authorized Dr. Merica to grant permission to the city authorities to take fifty loads of gravel from the gravel pits, to be used on the streets of the city, and to the county, permission to take twenty-five loads, to be used on the stretch of road leading to the bridge across the Laramie River.

Upon motion of Mr. Brooks, the Board adjourned.

Secretary.