



## BOARD OF TRUSTEES EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Meeting Held at New Hampshire Technical Institute  
31 College Drive, Concord, NH  
*(April 17, 2025)*

### Meeting Minutes

**In Attendance:** Executive Committee members present at meeting location: Vice Chair Kass Ardinger, Jackie Eastwood, Cathy Green, and Peter Paul. Executive Committee member participating by videoconference: Kevin Knarr (unavoidable scheduling conflict). Committee members unable to attend: Chair Mike Pilot, Gregg Tewksbury. Other Trustees present at meeting location: Don Bix, Elizabeth Chilton, James Gray, Shawn Jasper, Joël Nkounkou, Cathy Provencher, Melinda Treadwell. Other Trustees participating by videoconference: Maureen Beauregard, Jamie Burnett, MJ Condon, Brian McCabe, Mackenzie Murphy, and David Westover.

**Call to Order:** At 4:06 pm, Acting Chair Ardinger called the meeting to order and confirmed the presence of a quorum sufficient for the conduct of business.

**Approval of Consent Agenda:** By motion made by Trustee Green and seconded by Trustee Eastwood, the Committee unanimously **VOTED** as follows to approve the following items on the consent agenda:

**Minutes of Previous Meeting:** the Executive Committee approved the minutes of the February 20, 2025 meeting as presented.

**Affirmative Action Policy Amendments:** the Executive Committee approved amendments to Board Policy BOT.V.B. (Equal Employment Opportunity) as presented.

**Federal Transit Administrator Authorizing Resolution:** The Executive Committee approved a resolution authorizing UNH Wildcat Transit to apply for programs overseen by the Federal Transit Administrator.

**ERM Update on Talent Management:** The Committee accepted a report, for information only, consistent with the annual System's Enterprise Risk Management process.

**Standing Item: Update on President and Chancellor Systemwide Goals:** Chancellor Provencher updated the Committee on the status of this work. She reported that work on two of the six goals are materially complete. She also reported that she believes the Presidents' Council will be ready to present an updated strategic vision at the June meeting. In response to trustee questions, Chancellor Provencher acknowledged that the vision will need to reflect the reality that student enrollment is expected to decline over the coming years.

Chancellor Provencher then updated the Committee on the (thus far limited) impact of federal student visa cancellations and federal stop-work orders on UNH. Chancellor Provencher then updated the Committee on the status of the state budget process. The House has passed a proposed budget that would reduce funding by an additional \$25 million from the level proposed by the Governor (an approximate 30% cut from current levels). USNH representatives have met with each of the Senators on the Senate Finance Committee to provide information about the depth of the proposed cut in the hopes of restoring funding to the Governor's proposed level. Trustees then discussed the ongoing budget process, with particular input from legislative members.

**Nonpublic Session:** At 4:27 pm, by motion made by Trustee Green and seconded by Trustee Eastwood, the Committee voted unanimously by roll call as follows to enter nonpublic session for the reasons stated:

*VOTED*, that the Executive Committee enters nonpublic session for the purposes of discussing (1) personnel matters including the performance and compensation of one or more public employees, (2) the hiring of any person as a public employee, and (3) consultation with legal counsel as authorized by RSA 91-A:2,1 (b) and 91-A:3, II (a) and (b).

**Executive Nonpublic Session:** At 4:34 pm, the Executive Committee unanimously voted by roll call to go into executive nonpublic session as follows:

*VOTED*, that the Executive Committee go into executive nonpublic session as authorized by USNH Board Bylaws, Article V, Section 4g.

The Chancellor and Presidents were then excused from the nonpublic session.

**Return to Public Session:** At 4:38 pm, on motion duly made and seconded, the Committee returned to public session.

**Report of Action Taken in Nonpublic Session:** Acting Chair Ardinger reported that the Committee had taken the following actions in nonpublic session on motion made by Trustee Eastwood and seconded by Trustee Paul:

*VOTED*, on recommendation of the Executive Compensation and Performance Review Committee, the Executive Committee hereby renews the executive employment agreement of Plymouth State University President Donald L. Birx for a period of three (3) years, effective July 1, 2025; and

*FURTHERMORE*, authorizes Board Chair Pilot to execute the renewal agreement memorializing the terms and conditions of President Birx' appointment

**Sealing of Nonpublic Minutes:** By motion made by Trustee Green and seconded by Trustee Knarr, the Committee voted unanimously to seal the remainder of the nonpublic minutes for the reasons stated:

*VOTED*, pursuant to R.S.A. § 91-A:3.III., that the remainder of the minutes of the nonpublic session be sealed until such time as the President of UNH determines that disclosure of the action taken will no longer render the nonpublic session ineffective.

**Additional Business:** Chancellor Provencher informed the Board that the Board's suggested candidates for the upcoming open trustee seat have been submitted to the Governor's office.

**Adjourn:** At 4:47 pm, Acting Chair Ardinger called for further business and, hearing none, adjourned the meeting.

**UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**ADDENDUM TO MEETING MINUTES  
MEETING OF APRIL 17, 2025**

Addendum Dated April 23, 2025

As noted in the minutes, during the meeting the Committee voted unanimously as follows to seal the minutes of its non-public session:

***VOTED***, pursuant to R.S.A. 91-A:3(III), that the minutes of the nonpublic session be sealed until the President of UNH determines that disclosure will no longer render the nonpublic session ineffective.

The President having determined that disclosure will no longer render the nonpublic session ineffective, the Committee now reports that upon motion made by Trustee Eastwood and seconded by Trustee Paul, the following action was taken by unanimous roll call vote during the nonpublic session:

***VOTED***, on recommendation of Elizabeth Chilton, President of the University of New Hampshire, with endorsement of the Executive Compensation and Performance Review Committee, that the Executive Committee hereby approves the appointment of Dr. Jeannette E. Riley to the position of Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs at the University of New Hampshire, contingent upon her acceptance of the appointment, under the terms specified in the meeting materials.