



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

MAY 24, 2018

SYSTEM OFFICE

CONCORD, NH

MEETING MINUTES

Trustee Participants: John Small, Chair, Joe Morone, Vice Chair, Amy Begg, Secretary, Kass Ardinger, Bob Baines, Jamie Burnett, Ted Dey, James Gray, Cathy Green, Mark Huddleston, Shawn Jasper, Todd Leach, Scott Mason, Ken Moulton, Mark Rubinstein

Via Phone: Amy Begg, Don Birx, Morgan Rutman

Staff: Karen Benincasa, Jim McGrail, Ron Rodgers, and Tia Miller

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**Call to Order**

Chair Small called the meeting to order at 4:07 pm and noted presence of quorum.

**Minutes**

Chair Small moved, Trustee Dey seconded the following motion. A vote was taken and the motion carried.

*VOTED, that the Executive Committee approve the minutes of the Executive Committee meetings of April 19, 2018 and May 11, 2018 as presented.*

**Legislative Update**

Chancellor Leach reported that Committee of Conference has completed work. The bill adding the senate president and speaker designees as voting members passed and sunsets December 31, 2019 and the ability for campuses to design custom sticker for license plates also passed.

**Campus Updates & FY '19 Budget Updates**

GSC - President Rubinstein reporting that the FY '19 budget is balanced, with a projected 8.5% decline in enrollment, and have a 5% margin. FY'18 will end with a 5% margin, and GSC will be giving one-time payments based on merit, but some will be across the board.

UNH – President Huddleston reported that UNH completed three commencements. FY '18 has unspent money, unsure of specific amount, still some questions around revenue. FY '19 budget is on track for 3% margin. Enrollment looks great, exceeded numbers on targets, SAT scores are up and the Law School revenue has also increased.

PSU – President Birx reports that they had two graduations, split graduate and undergraduate and ceremonies went well. FY '18 may come in as projected or even better. Next year targeting zero margin, this will be the fourth year. This will be tough year, moving to cluster format and is a critical year for PSU and a lot will depend on retention, balanced budget, and getting close to settling union contract. Enrollment is about the same as last year, but this is highest performing entering class.

KSC – Chancellor Leach that KSC is struggling to get balanced budget, but have realigned scholarship dollars lowering the E&G discount. KSC is continuing conversations with CCSNH to move onto the KSC campus.

### **September Board Retreat**

Chair Small reported that Huron will be attending the retreat to remind us what we said we were going to do, as a lot of current trustees were not here when that work was done. They will share external trends, discuss our experiences, and facilitate dialogue so that everyone is on the same page. The two major topics are what does the system look like in ten years, what is our vision of where the system is heading and answering the governance questions.

### **State Operating Appropriation Request**

USNH submission is due in August so at the June Board meeting we will either have to vote decision or authorize the Executive Committee to act on behalf of full board. Currently it appears the State will have more funding potential in this upcoming biennium, but those funds may not be long term, so discussion is about strategic, one-time investments for internships. Administrative Board will create a proposal that could help with the biosciences and help a critical mass, funding priorities that are going to lead to economic growth.

### **Action Items**

#### **Ratification of Vote Approved During Special Meeting**

Trustee Dey moved the motion, Trustee Moulton seconded the following motion. A vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

*VOTED, the Executive Committee hereby ratifies the vote approved at the committee's special meeting on May 11, 2018 to appoint an interim provost at the University of New Hampshire.*

## Motion to Approve Tenure for the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs at Keene State College

Trustee Dey moved the motion, Trustee Moulton seconded the following motion. A vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

*VOTED, on recommendation of Melinda Treadwell, Interim President of Keene State college, and chancellor Todd Leach that the Executive Committee, pursuant to its authority to act on behalf of the Board of Trustees, hereby appoints Dr. Nancy Fey-Yensan, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs to the position of full professor with tenure in the Health Sciences Department at Keene State college.*

Chancellor Leach shared concerns on behalf of Trustee Jasper regarding the circumstances that lead up to the special meeting held on May 11, 2018 which included: There should have been more of an effort for lead time so that a physical meeting might have had a better chance of being organized; could some members of the executive committee attend the physical location; why was not having a provost an emergency, is there (or should there be) a contingency plan on the campus for senior level executives like provosts; where the circumstances of the resignation clear enough to BOT leadership (were there conversations directly with the individual); should the board chair have a conversation such as an exit interview with any positions that the board approves the hiring for (i.e., CFO, provost)

A discussion of each question and issue was undertaken by the committee and while the committee affirmed the appropriateness of having the chair (in consultation with legal council) make the decision as to whether an emergency meeting was called for, Chair Small stated clearly that an emergency should be an emergency and the board will not get in the habit of having emergency meetings. Chair Small also indicated that if such a meeting was called for in the future that he would make every attempt as chair to be at the physical location. The committee also felt that presidents had the responsibility for contingency planning, as well as exit interviews of senior staff. However, it was also discussed that the Board does have a fiduciary responsibility to understand an unusual situation (one that raises red flags). In this particular circumstance, the Chair was satisfied (based on prior conversations leading up to the resignation) that the circumstances were as described.

### Nonpublic Session

Chair Small moved the motion, Trustee Moulton seconded the following motion. A roll call vote was taken to go into nonpublic session at 5:36 pm.

*VOTED, that the Executive Committee go into nonpublic session for the purpose of discussing matters relating to (1) strategy or negotiations with respect to collective bargaining; (2) the hiring and compensation of public employees; and (3) consultation*

*with legal counsel as authorized by RSA 91:A:2, I (a) and (b), and RSA 92-A:3, II (a) and (b).*

A motion was made and seconded to come out of nonpublic session at 6:12 pm.

Chair Small noted that the following votes and actions were taken.

Motion to Recommend Ratification of the Collective Bargaining Agreement between Keene State College and the Keene State college Education association, the NEA-Affiliated Union Representing the Keene State College Tenured and Tenure-Track Faculty

Trustee Dey moved, Trustee Moulton seconded the following motion. A vote was taken and the motion carried.

***VOTED**, on recommendation of the Chancellor and Interim President of Keene State College, that the Executive Committee, pursuant to tis authority to act on behalf of the Board of Trustees, hereby approves and ratifies the proposed collective bargaining agreement with the Keene State College Education Association (KSCEA).*

***AND FURTHER**, hereby authorizes the Interim President to execute the July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2020 collective bargaining agreement on behalf of the Board of Trustees.*

The committee heard a report from Ron Rodgers on a pending legal matter regarding allegations by a former UNH graduate student of discrimination based on disability and veteran’s status and retaliation. The committee members received hard copies of six pages of the former student’s demand letter and Ron Rodgers read a statement prepared by the former student. The committee took no votes and made no decisions relating to this matter.

KSC President Process Next Steps

Trustees Arding, Baines and Burnett will meet with Chancellor Leach to determine timeline and process.

**Adjourn**

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 6:15 pm.