BOARD OF TRUSTEES
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Meeting by Emergency Videoconference

By Zoom Meeting:
https://unh.zoom.us/j/967009783

(April 7, 2020)

Meeting Minutes

In Attendance: Executive Committee Members (via teleconference): Chair Joseph Morone, Vice Chair Jamie Burnett, Todd Black, Jackie Eastwood, Chris Pope, Morgan Rutman, and Alex Walker. Other Trustees: Amy Begg, Don Birx, Jim Dean, Cathy Green, George Hansel, Shawn Jasper, Todd Leach, Scott Mason, Mike Pilot, Mark Rubinstein, Joe Scala, Marjorie Smith, Rhonda Hensley (for Governor Sununu), Melinda Treadwell, and David Westover. Also participating (via teleconference): Cathy Provencher, Karen Benincasa, Lisa Thorne, Tia Miller, Jim McGrail, and Ron Rodgers.

Call to Order: At 4:05 pm, Chair Morone called the meeting to order, called the roll, and noted the presence of a quorum sufficient for the conduct of business.

Determination of Conditions Necessary for the Conduct of a Telephonic Meeting: Chair Morone made the following findings and declaration, sufficient for conducting a telephonic meeting and counting all members toward the quorum requirement whether or not physically present in the meeting location:

Under the NH Right to Know Law, RSA 91-a:2, III (b), a governmental body such as this Board of Trustees is authorized to meet by conference call when “immediate action is imperative and the physical presence of a quorum is not reasonably practical within the period of time requiring action.” In consultation with USNH General Counsel, it is my determination that a meeting by conference call is justified considering the following facts:

- The individual members of this Board live and work in locations remote to any single meeting place;
- The Governor’s declaration of emergency and Executive Order 2020-04, dated March 13, 2020, permits and encourages governmental bodies to conduct public meetings on an emergency basis using telephonic communications;
• Given the members’ various professional and personal schedules it is not reasonably practical to gather a quorum of the Board members in a single place for a physical meeting;

• The matter to be considered at this meeting developed only very recently;

• The interests of USNH, its students, faculty, and staff, and the State of New Hampshire will be best served by Board’s expeditious consideration of and decision on the matter presented; and

• The notice of the meeting was posted and members of the public are permitted to observe and listen to the proceedings at the Board Room at the System Office at 5 Chenell Drive in Concord, NH.

Campus Updates: The four presidents each provided an oral update on the status of operations including the delivery of educational programs at their respective institution.

Prorated Refund of Housing and Dining Fees: Following a presentation by Vice Chancellor Cathy Provencher and discussion by the committee, Chair Morone moved, Vice Chair Burnett seconded, and the committee unanimously approved by roll call vote, the following action item:

VOTED, on recommendation of the Administrative Board and Financial Affairs Committee, that the USNH institutions refund the prorated room, board, and certain fees for the current semester to students meeting the criteria established by their respective campus; AND FURTHER, that the Administrative Board be authorized to make such adjustments as may be necessary or desirable on the basis of federal or state legislation or otherwise and apprise the Executive Committee of such adjustments.

Nonpublic Session: At 5:10 pm, on motion moved by Chair Morone and seconded by Vice Chair Burnett, the committee voted unanimously by roll call to go into nonpublic session for the purposes indicated:

VOTED, that the Executive Committee go into nonpublic session for the purposes of (1) discussing personnel matters including the performance of one or more public employees, (2) confidential, commercial, or financial information, (3) matters of market strategy which, if discussed in public, would likely benefit a party or parties whose interests are contrary to those of the general public, (4) matters likely to affect collective bargaining strategy, and (5) consultation with legal counsel, all as authorized by RSA 91-A:2, I (a) and (b) and (b); 91-A:3, II (a), (b), and (d); and 91-A:5, IV.

Return to Public Session: At 6:07 pm, on motion moved by Chair Morone and seconded by Vice Chair Burnett, the committee returned to public session. Chair Morone announced the committee did not take any votes or make any decisions while in nonpublic session.

Adjournment: At 6:10 pm, Chair Morone called for further business to come before the committee and, hearing none, accepted a motion to adjourn, duly seconded and approved by the committee, and adjourned the meeting of the Executive Committee.