

**THE UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING**

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES MINUTES**

**September 16-17, 2020**

Final minutes can be found on the University of Wyoming Board of Trustees website at [www.uwyo.edu/trustees](http://www.uwyo.edu/trustees)

## **University of Wyoming Mission Statement (July 2017)**

We honor our heritage as the state's flagship and land-grant university by providing accessible and affordable higher education of the highest quality; rigorous scholarship; the communication and application of knowledge; economic and community development; and responsible stewardship of our cultural, historical and natural resources.

In the exercise of our primary mission to promote learning, we seek to provide academic and co-curricular opportunities that will:

- Graduate students who have experienced the frontiers of scholarship and creative activity and who are prepared for the complexities of an interdependent world;
- Cultivate a community of learning energized by collaborative work among students, faculty, staff and external partners.
- Nurture an environment that values and manifests diversity, internationalization, free expression, academic freedom, personal integrity and mutual respect; and
- Promote opportunities for personal health and growth, physical health, athletic competition and leadership development for all members of the university community.

As Wyoming's only public university, we are committed to scholarship, outreach and service that extend our human talent and technological capacity to serve the people in our communities, our state, the nation and the world.

**THE UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING  
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
September 16-17, 2020  
Via Video Conference  
Laramie, Wyoming**

As will be reflected in the public and executive session meeting minutes, the Board of Trustees of the University of Wyoming met in Laramie, Wyoming, on Wednesday, September 16, 2020, and Thursday, September 17, 2020. The meeting was held at the Marian H. Rochelle Gateway Center, Salons C, D & E. Committees met on Wednesday, September 16, 2020. The Board's business meeting was held on Thursday, September 17, 2020.

**THE UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MINUTES  
September 16-17, 2020  
Marian H. Rochelle Gateway Center, Salons C, D & E  
Laramie, Wyoming**

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<i>Vice President and Dean Search Committee; Laura Schmid-Pizzato (Chair)</i>	

## Business Meeting

Roll Call

Approval of Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes (*Public Session & Executive Session*)

- August 12, 2020 (conference call)

Reports

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Public Testimony [*Scheduled for Thursday, September 17, 2020, at 11:00 a.m.*]

Committee of the Whole

Regular Business

Board Committee Reports [*Scheduled for Thursday, September 17, 2020, at 1:30 p.m.*]

### **Trustee Committees and Board Liaisons**

*[Note: Committees of the Board will provide reports during the regular work sessions and will not have a formal report to provide during the Business Meeting. Liaisons will provide a written report in advance of the regular Business Meeting.]*

#### Proposed Items for Action:

- Approval of Agreements, Contracts, and Procurements – Evans.....15
- Contracts and Grants Report – Jewell/Synakowski.....15
- Personnel – Appointment of Academic/Non Academic Employees – Alexander/Seidel.....15

#### Information Only Items: [*no action, discussion or work session*]

- Contracts and Procurement Report (per UW Regulation 7-2) – Evans
- Capital Construction Report – McKinley/Mai
- Foundation Monthly Giving Report – Blalock

New Business

Date of Next Meeting: October 14, 2020 (conference call meeting)

Adjourn Meeting

**AGENDA ITEM TITLE: COVID-19 Update, Seidel, Benham-Deal**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING:**

University of Wyoming President Ed Seidel provided the Board an update on the university's ongoing response to the COVID-19 pandemic. He explained the university's plan focused on the well-being of staff, faculty, and the community contemplating considerations that are science driven. Seidel reiterated the importance of the comprehensive testing program to identify outbreaks and provide for interventions to stop the spread.

Vice Provost Tami Benham-Deal provided the Board an update on bridge testing reporting the program was running smoothly, noting an increase in the number of administered tests, and the benefit of additional staff support. Benham-Deal provided an update on the distribution of CARES Act funding stating the assistance has been critical in support of the university's testing program, acquisition of necessary technology, administering proper cleaning protocols, and to students and the institution. Benham-Deal gave an early report on the launch of *Phase II*. She discussed feedback received from campus constituents, and stated the opportunity to review the campus contingency plan during the pause was beneficial to the identification and implementation of next steps. Governor Gordon's Senior Policy Advisor Lachelle Brant inquired about how potential additional funds from the Governor would be allocated. President Seidel and Associate Vice President for Financial Affairs David Jewell discussed the need to distribute additional financial aid to students, and stated an update to the Governor's office was forthcoming. Chairman Jeff Marsh expressed his appreciation of the Governor's support of the university.

Vice President and General Counsel Tara Evans discussed the proposed set of updated indicators factors going forward, such as tracking total on campus student cases per day, the university's capacity for isolation/quarantine, and the total number of active cases. Evans described possible action may include a pause, though alternatives could include quarantining a single residence hall or reducing density of a designated area. Evans stated this approach will provide the university a flexible set of actions to enable the goal of continued on campus learning. Trustee Dave True stated his appreciation for the allowance for a human interpretation of data in response to triggers and corresponding interventions.

In response to inquiry about surveillance testing by Faculty Senate Chairman Rudi Michalak, President Seidel discussed the timeframe for the roll out of the program, and the statistical sampling capability. In response to inquiry from Trustee David Fall, Evans explained that if a student receives a positive test result through the surveillance program, a confirmation test will be required through student health services since the surveillance testing is not considered a diagnostic test. There was discussion around Trustee Fall's stated concern about the stigma of a student's positive test result and the corresponding consequences. ASUW President Riley Talamantes inquired about the enforcement of protocol after a positive test result. Evans explained that the contact tracers reinforce guidelines and advice from the Wyoming Department of Health, and work to encourage social responsibility and compliance. Vice President for Student Affairs Kim Chestnut discussed the differentiation in enforcement practices at the university and those of Albany County.

Trustee Dick Scarlett discussed the guidelines regarding employee travel and requested a more stringent control mechanism. Trustee Jeff Marsh explained that protocols were already in place. Evans further explained the process for approving mission critical travel.

Vice President for Student Affairs Kim Chestnut explained the difference between isolation and quarantine in that a person would be in isolation housing if they tested positive and in quarantine housing if they were in close contact with a positive case. She described the resources at the disposal of a student with COVID-19. Benham-Deal added counselors from department of social work had begun daily reaching out to check on the welfare of students in isolation and quarantine. Trustee Macey Moore expressed appreciation of the team and for the efforts of those providing these services. In response to inquiry from Trustee Fall, Chestnut explained the university was working with the Wyoming Department of Health on guidelines related to quarantine restrictions, further stating students under quarantine are encouraged to go out and be active as long as they are alone and wearing a mask.

Trustee True asked for information distinguishing the delivery, content, and quality of online courses before and since the response to the COVID-19 pandemic. President Seidel discussed the allocation of funds toward improving the delivery of courses, and providing for the enhancement of digital components. Benham-Deal described the summer-long faculty preparation for fall online course delivery. Interim Provost Anne Alexander added two instructional design vendors were obtained to provide professional development, training, and support to faculty for converting traditional face to face courses to a completely online or online and face to face hybrid experience. ASUW President Riley Talamantes provided student perspective on the difference between the content of online courses in March when the university pivoted quickly in response to the campus shut down, and the offerings this fall.

**AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Update: Statewide Outreach, Seidel**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING:**

President Ed Seidel provided the Board an update on the resignation of Office of Engagement and Outreach Director Jean Garrison stating the unit would undergo review to determine efficient coordination of its functions with other outreach arms on campus. Seidel went on to report on recent *World Needs More Cowboys* events in the Afton and Star Valley communities, and visits to Douglas and Casper. Seidel provided information about a number of recent visits with university constituents. Seidel remarked that the majority of his interaction takes place via Zoom; he looks forward to future statewide travel and exploration.

**AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Annual Report: Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, Monago**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING:**

Chief Diversity Officer Emily Monago provided an annual report to the Board with a presentation including information about recruitment efforts over the last year. Monago discussed retention efforts and employee networking opportunities, elaborating on the Council on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion's membership and charge. Monago discussed new programs and initiatives to include Search Equity Advisors to support UW employee search committees, and the Restorative Justice and Practice Program. Trustee David Fall inquired about the office's relationship with the police department and whether or not diversity training is being offered. Monago reported ODEI has partnered with campus police for the Restorative Justice and Practices Program and the Bias Engagement and Response Team development further stating the Council on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion subcommittee on Community Engagement is making plans to reach out to the City of Laramie Police Department. Trustee Laura Schmid-Pizzato commended the work of the office and discussed the results of a recent survey indicating an increase in employees reporting as having a disability.

**AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Western Research Institute, Evans, Synakowski**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING:**

Trustee Dave True stressed the importance of the UW Board of Trustees resolution in support of UW's divestment from the Western Research Institute (WRI).

***WRI Resolution***

***Approved 09-17-2020 @ 10:45 a.m.***

Trustee Dave True moved the Board approve the attached resolution in support of University of Wyoming divestment from the Western Research Institute. Trustee David Fall seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous decision.

**AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Annual Report: Intercollegiate Athletics, Burman**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING:**

Athletic Director Tom Burman discussed the continuing changes related to athletics in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. He described the emotional and mental effects on student athletes as a result of the cancellation of play, and the subsequent decisions being made in consideration of student health and safety. Burman discussed the Big Ten's decision to return to football play further stating the necessary testing protocols consequential to decision making on the part of the Mountain West Conference (MWC) and NCAA.

In response to inquiry from Trustee Dick Scarlett, Burman stated paths toward a basketball season are being identified, remarking on the challenges surrounding these decisions, and the flexibility that is required. Trustee Scarlett also inquired about the retention of the assistant coaches to which Burman expressed importance of attention to human capital. Burman expressed optimism in athletics for the upcoming future. ASUW President Riley Talamantes expressed concern on behalf of her constituency regarding the student fees connected to athletics. In response to a remark from Trustee Jeff Marsh, Burman discussed media rights owned by the MWC, and plans to live-stream games, which may result in a small monetary charge. Burman discussed the training efforts of different sports in response to inquiry from Trustee Dave True about the ability of student athletes to pivot safely to play. In response to Trustee Brad LaCroix's inquiry about wrestling, Burman explained the wrestling team has begun workouts emphasizing the importance of rapid testing in order to move forward.

President Ed Seidel commended the work toward keeping student-athletes safe. Burman expressed appreciation for President Seidel on his handling the constituent response to the MWC decision to suspend play.

**AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Annual Report: UW Foundation Investments (per MOU), Blalock, Mendicino, Treick**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING:**

Vice President for Institutional Advancement Ben Blalock reported the University of Wyoming Foundation's endowment pool grew from \$535.5 million at the June 30, 2019 mark to \$589.0 million on June 30, 2020. This growth resulted from a combination of investment returns, new endowed gifts, estate gifts, reinvestment of funds available for appropriation, and transfers of university funds to be invested like endowments. Chief Investment Officer Philip Treick stated fiscal year 2020 should be viewed through



the lens of the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Treick reported on investments prior to and during the COVID-19 pandemic. Blalock stated the last year established the internal investment team and investment process further stating his expectation of future opportunities for better results in the coming year. UW Foundation Board Member Frank Mendicino expressed optimism about the future of the endowment pool.

**AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Tuition Recommendations, Jewell**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING:**

Associate Vice President for Financial Affairs David Jewell reported the current tuition policy remains in effect and college deans are reviewing proposed revisions that will be presented to the Board at its November 2020 meeting.

**AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Annual Report: Enrollment Management, Moore**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING:**

Associate Vice Provost for Enrollment Management Kyle Moore provided the Board an update on the current enrollment at the University of Wyoming and explained they have seen a 3% decline attributed to changes to financial aid strategies and declining nonresident enrollment during the COVID-19 pandemic. Moore further described other enrollment figures as of the September 14, 2020, Census Date.

Trustee Michelle Sullivan inquired about deferrals, non-traditional students, and if the university plans to continue to keep improving graduate programs admissions in the future. Moore explained that CARES Act funding had a great impact on non-traditional students, and they are seeing a higher number of students deferring their enrollment, though many students have put a pause on their search process because of the pandemic. President Ed Seidel discussed the relationship with Wyoming Community Colleges and expressed his appreciation for the continued work on articulation with these colleges. Trustee Dick Scarlett stated the Brown and Gold Alumni Champions Admitted Student Writing Project coordinated by the UW Alumni Association was invaluable to student recruitment.

**AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Consideration and Action: UW Regulation 2-12 (Budget Reductions) and Budget Reduction Plan, Seidel**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING:**

Trustee John McKinley stated the Board had approved the FY2021 budget without anticipation of the Governor's directive for a reduction to the block grant of 10 percent, equating to \$42.3 million. Trustee McKinley reported the Biennium Budget Committee has determined the fiscal year's revenue may be insufficient to cover the projected expense, and recommends the Board direct the president to prepare a Budget Reduction Plan as outlined in UW Regulation 2-12.

***UW Regulation 2-12 (Budget Reductions)***

***Approved 09-17-2020 @ 10:58 a.m.***

Trustee John McKinley moved that the Biennium Budget Committee has determined that revenue may be insufficient to cover budgeted expenses and recommends UW Regulation 2-12 be triggered, that the Board direct President Seidel to provide the UW Board of Trustees a proposed budget reduction plan within 45 days from approval of this motion, and that the budget reduction plan shall include all of the data and information outlined on the attached one-page supplement. Trustee Brad Bonner seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous decision.

**AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Annual Report of Expenditures MHRGC Facilities Maintenance Fund (per lease agreement), Blalock**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING:**

Vice President for Institutional Advancement Blalock presented a summary of the activity and remaining balance of the FF&E Replacement Fund for the Marian H. Rochelle Gateway Center (MHRGC) as of the end of fiscal year 2020. Blalock thanked the MHRGC Facilities Manager Josh Carroll and Vice President for Financial Services Troy Caserta who have been instrumental to the success of events at the MHRGC. Blalock discussed the use of the building during the COVID-19 pandemic and the exploration of virtual uses of the facility. Trustee Jeff Marsh thanked the staff of the MHRGC for their generous hosting of the UW Board of Trustees.

***Annual Report of Expenditures MHRGC Facilities Maintenance Fund  
Approved 09-17-2020 @ 11:23 a.m.***

Trustee David Fall moved the Board authorize acceptance of the Annual Report of Expenditures MHRGC Facilities Maintenance Fund. Trustee Dick Scarlett seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous decision.

**AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Academic and Student Affairs Committee, Sullivan**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING:**

Trustee Michelle Sullivan discussed the nationwide concern that high school seniors graduating in 2021 are facing difficulty finding an available ACT/SAT exam date due to social distancing requirements and other issues related to the COVID-19 pandemic. Sullivan reported higher educational systems were making decisions to provide “test optional” for admissions. State funded universities in Colorado, Sullivan reported, mandated by the legislature with governor approval have adopted “test optional” admissions. The NCAA, Sullivan went on to say, will not require an ACT/SAT exam for the incoming fall 2021 class. Trustee Sullivan requested approval that UW not require an ACT/SAT to determine admissibility, rather reviewing the student’s curriculum and unweighted GPA instead.

Providing “test optional” admissions requires contemplation of how awarding of scholarships will be determined without test score criteria; there was significant Board discussion around the “test optional” consideration and its effects on the Hathaway and Trustee scholarships, and its fundamental changes to admission standards, both statutorily, and philosophically. Trustee Brad LaCroix stated concern about potential discrimination related to varying criteria for admission. Superintendent Jillian Balow reported statewide conversations conducted on this topic, and stressed the importance for the Board to make clear whether this adoption would be in the short-term or a permanent change to requirements and further discussed the challenges presented by the pandemic on the upcoming admissions cycle. There was Board discussion about appropriate and clarifying language on the admissions website and communications to prospective students.

Trustee Sullivan made a motion that was amended by Trustee Macey Moore as follows.

***ACT/SAT Test Optional***

***Approved 09-17-2020 @ 2:45 p.m.***

Trustee Macey Moore moved the Board amend the previously adopted motion “I move to authorize administration to allow students to choose a Test Optional consideration for admission to the University of Wyoming for the 2021/2022 academic year. The application materials will provide a disclosure statement to acknowledge that this option could result in financial aid implications for Wyoming students” as follows: “I move to authorize administration to allow for students to choose a Test Optional consideration for admission to the University of Wyoming for the 2021/2022 academic year. The application materials will provide a disclosure statement to acknowledge that this option could result in financial aid implications for students.” Trustee Laura Schmid-Pizzato seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous decision.

**AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Facilities Contracting Committee, McKinley**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING:**

Trustees John McKinley and Kermit Brown discussed at length two housing design concept slides as well as the housing presentation to the Facilities Contracting Committee. Trustee McKinley asked the Board to further review the material in preparation for proposed consideration and action at the Board’s November 2020 meeting as it relates to site location, number of dorm beds, and number of seats in the dining facility. Trustee McKinley stated the decisions were necessary to a bond issuance. Trustee David Fall stated the need for the Board to have a clear and united consensus on the decisions in November.

Trustee Dave True requested the Board be distributed committee materials on housing prior to its decision making.

***Wyoming Public Radio Gillette, WY Site Lease Extension with Alpha Communications***

***Approved 09-17-2020 @ 1:53 p.m.***

Trustee John McKinley moved the Board authorize administration to execute the Lease Agreement with Alpha Communications. Trustee Dick Scarlett seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous decision.

***Distance Education Center Lease Extension at Ft. Washakie with Wind River Development Fund***

***Approved 09-17-2020 @ 1:53 p.m.***

Trustee John McKinley moved the Board authorize administration to execute Lease Amendment No. 1 with Wind River Development Fund. Trustee Brad Bonner seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous decision.

***College of Business Student Success Center- Constructor Contract Authorization and FF&E Considerations***

***Approved 09-17-2020 @ 1:54 p.m.***

Trustee John McKinley moved the Board authorize administration to enter into the construction contract with GE Johnson Construction in the amount of \$1,375,000.00 for the College of Business Student Success Center. Trustee Dick Scarlett seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous decision.

***Bus Maintenance Facility Revised Budget***

***Approved 09-17-2020 @ 1:55 p.m.***

Trustee John McKinley moved the Board allow administration to accept the FTA 5339(b) Grant in the amount of \$4,237,262, and authorize administration to utilize the previously authorized \$2,779,260 from the Construction Reserve Account, and authorize the Senior Vice President of Finance and Administration to use Unrestricted Operating Reserves in the amount of \$421,467 for a total construction budget not to exceed the amount of \$7,437,989 for the Fleet and Transit Relocation project. In addition, the Board direct administration to modify the current reimbursement requirement for this project as follows: the amount of \$2,779,260 from the Construction Reserve Account shall be reimbursed by proceeds from the future bond issuance on student housing. Trustee David Fall seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous decision.

***AMK Ranch Update***

***Approved 09-17-2020 @ 2:01 p.m.***

Trustee John McKinley moved the Board authorize administration to proceed with the AMK exterior renovation and roof project, and to increase the project budget from \$175,000 to not to exceed \$300,000 to be funded from the Senior Vice President of Finance and Administration's Indirect Cost Account. Trustee Laura Schmid-Pizzato seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous decision.

***Design and Construction Templates and Action Needed to Implement 2020 Legislation***

***Approved 09-17-2020 @ 2:02 p.m.***

Trustee John McKinley moved the Board approve the design and construction templates as submitted to the Board and to direct administration to implement policies and procedures in accordance with the applicable 2020 legislation. Trustee David Fall seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous decision.

***Agreement for Assignment of Reversionary Interest from the Estate of William Ellsworth Harvey; Agreement for Assignment of Reversionary Interest from the Estate of Edwin Hull Chambers (Administration)***

***Approved 09-17-2020 @ 2:03 p.m.***

Trustee John McKinley moved the Board authorize administration to sign the Agreement for Assignment of Reversionary Interest from the Estate of William Ellsworth Harvey and the Agreement for Assignment of Reversionary Interest from the Estate of Edwin Hull Chambers. Trustee Kermit Brown seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous decision.

***Pilot Hill Access***

***Approved 09-17-2020 @ 2:04 p.m.***

Trustee John McKinley moved the Board authorize administration to provide verbal consent and permission to Pilot Hill Inc. that would allow access to Pilot Hill Inc., the university community, and the public over and across section 31 to access recently acquired state lands to the east by non- motorized means. This permission is subject to the criteria, use restrictions, and purposes established by Pilot Hill Inc. for management of the recreation area. Trustee Michelle Sullivan seconded the motion. Trustee Kermit Brown recused himself from consideration, discussion and action on this topic. The motion carried.

**AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Biennium Budget Committee, McKinley**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING:**

Trustee John McKinley reported on impacts to the university resulting from budget cuts due to the state's economic downturn. He explained the decrease in revenue on an annual basis of \$21,150,000 and expressed the importance of the university's reconsideration of ongoing expenses. Trustee McKinley reminded that the Board's approval of FY21 budget in June 2020 based on prior assumptions would go into effect on July 1, 2020. Trustee McKinley discussed the reduction in major maintenance funding for next biennium of ~ \$30 million resulting in a balance of ~\$18 million in budget for the next biennium the balance of which to be managed by Senior Vice President of Finance and Administration Neil Theobald in consultation with President Ed Seidel.

**AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Fiscal and Legal Affairs Committee, Moore**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING:**

Trustee Macey Moore provided the Board a summary of a presentation to the committee introducing the Financial Affairs FAST Team and their services, expanding on the internship opportunities through the program for UW students, which provides an upward path in employment at the university. Trustee Moore commended Internal Auditor Danika Salmans on her additional work supporting the COVID-19 response.

**AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Trustees Research and Economic Development Committee, Fall**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING:**

Trustee David Fall provided a status update on the Science Initiative Building and research occupancy plan. Trustee Fall expressed enthusiasm for the electronic research administration project, and updated the Board on the efforts to revised UW Regulation 9-2 (Patents and Copyrights) and the recommendations regarding university intellectual property. Both Trustee Fall and President Ed Seidel expressed optimism about future alignment with the Wyoming Business Council (WBC) as the university moved forward with economic development.

**AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Vice President and Dean Search Committee, Schmid-Pizzato**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING:**

Trustee Laura Schmid-Pizzato reported interim Director of the Art Museum and Chief Curator Nicole Crawford had been appointed to the position permanently. Trustee Schmid-Pizzato stated the College of Arts and Sciences Dean search was concluding with a public announcement expected in the coming weeks. Trustee Schmid-Pizzato reported the Senior Vice President and Provost search had launched with support by Parker Executive Search with President Ed Seidel and with interim College of Engineering and Applied Sciences Dean Cam Wright as co-chairman of the committee.

**Thursday, September 17, 2020**

**Business meeting**

**Marian H. Rochelle Gateway Center, Salons C, D & E**

**Roll Call**

The business meeting was called to order at 2:45 p.m. Deputy Secretary, UW Board of Trustees RoseMarie London took roll.

Trustees participating: Mel Baldwin (via video conference), Kermit Brown, Brad Bonner, David Fall, Brad LaCroix (via video conference), Jeff Marsh, John McKinley, Macey Moore, Laura Schmid-Pizzato,

Dick Scarlett, Michelle Sullivan, and Dave True. Ex-officio Trustees participating: University of Wyoming President Ed Seidel, ASUW President Riley Talamantes, and State Superintendent of Public Instruction Jillian Balow. Governor Mark Gordon was not in attendance; Senior Policy Advisor Lachelle Brant attended on his behalf. Wyoming Community College Commission Executive Director was not in attendance, Ben Moritz attended on her behalf

## **Reports**

### **ASUW Report**, Talamantes

#### MINUTES OF THE MEETING:

ASUW President Riley Talamantes provided an update to the Board describing recent accomplishments of the ASUW team, and discussed ongoing projects, and the collaboration with the College of Agriculture and ACRES Farms. She discussed the university's food pantry, commending the efforts to address food insecurity. In response to inquiry from Trustee David Fall regarding the recent fundraiser to provide financial support to students due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Talamantes reported on the student response to available CARES Act funding and discussed the availability of work for students as a result of the university's COVID-19 response. She stated ASUW will continue to work with Vice President for Student Affairs Kim Chestnut to support students during the pandemic.

### **Staff Senate Report**, Wheeler

#### MINUTES OF THE MEETING:

Staff Senate President James Wheeler provided an update to the Board on COVID-19 budget updates among staff. He expressed gratitude towards the administrators who attend their monthly meetings to answer questions.

### **Faculty Senate Report**, Michalak

#### MINUTES OF THE MEETING:

Faculty Senate Chairman Rudi Michalak provided an update to the Board on COVID-19 committees and budget reduction committees. He expressed a commitment from faculty to face-to-face teaching; however, this has been difficult and the work load has increased. Summer research for certain classes has also been delayed.

### **Public Testimony** [*Scheduled for Thursday, September 17, 2020, at 11:00 a.m.*]

No public testimony was provided.

## **Committee of the Whole**

### **Board Committee Reports** [*Scheduled for Thursday, September 17, 2020, at 1:30 p.m.*]

#### **Liaisons to Other Boards**

- *UW Alumni Association Board* – Laura Schmid-Pizzato
- *Foundation Board* – Macey Moore
- *Haub School of Environment & Natural Resources* – Michelle Sullivan
- *Energy Resources Council* – Dave True
- *Cowboy Joe* – John McKinley

Written reports were provided to the Board in advance of the meeting and can be found on the University of Wyoming Board of Trustees website.

## **OTHER ACTIONS TAKEN DURING MEETING**

### ***Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes (Public Session & Executive Session)***

***Approved 09-17-20 @ 2:48 p.m.***

Trustee Mel Baldwin moved approval of the UW Board of Trustees' meeting minutes both public and executive sessions for the August 12, 2020, Board of Trustees Conference Call meeting. Trustee Dick Scarlett seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous decision.

### ***Trustees' Annual Schedule of Items to Approve, Discuss or Report***

***Approved 09-17-2020 @ 2:49 p.m.***

Trustee Brad Bonner moved the Board approve the *Trustees' Annual Schedule of Items to Approve, Discuss or Report*. Trustee David Fall seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous decision.

### ***Contracts and Grants Report***

***Approved 09-17-2020 @ 3:06 p.m.***

Trustee David Fall moved the Board approve the Contracts and Grants Report as presented to the Board. Trustee Macey Moore seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous decision.

### ***COVID Contingency Framework***

***Approved 09-17-2020 @ 3:08 p.m.***

Trustee John McKinley moved the Board approve the revised COVID Contingency Framework with the flexibility for the President and administration to revise the plan as needed according to the evolving situation. Trustee Michelle Sullivan seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous decision.

### ***ARMS Software, LLC Order Form***

***Approved 09-17-2020 @ 3:09 p.m.***

Trustee Brad Bonner moved the Board authorize administration to sign the ARMS software order form. Trustee David Fall seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous decision.

### ***Memorandum of Understanding***

***Approved 09-17-2020 @ 3:10 p.m.***

Trustee Brad Bonner moved the Board authorize administration to sign the Phase 7 Memorandum of Understanding with Federal Demonstration Partnership. Trustee Macey Moore seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous decision.

### ***Personnel Report***

***Approved 09-17-2020 @ 3:11 p.m.***

Trustee Macey Moore moved the Board approve the personnel report as presented to the Board. Trustee Brad Bonner seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous decision.

## **New Business**

### **Date of Next Meeting**

October 14, 2020 (conference call)

## **Adjournment**

The meet adjourned at 3:16 p.m.

## **Executive Session Information**

*[The UW Board of Trustees met in Executive Session on Wednesday, September 16, 2020, in the Marian H. Rochelle Gateway Center, Salons C, D & E.]*

## **Executive Session**

**Wednesday, September 16, 2020**

**4:15 – 5:45 p.m.**

## **Marian H. Rochelle Gateway Center, Salons C, D & E**

The University of Wyoming Board of Trustees called the meeting to order at 4:16 p.m. Trustee Michelle Sullivan moved the Board enter into Executive Session for the purpose of:

- 1) Matters concerning litigation to which the governing body is a party or proposed litigation to which the governing body may be a party under Wyoming Statute 16-4-405(a)(iii);
- 2) Receiving information classified as confidential by law under Wyoming Statute 16-4-405(a)(ix); and
- 3) Consideration of the appointment, employment, right to practice or dismissal of a public employee under Wyoming Statute 16-4-405(a)(ii).

The Executive Session was attended by the 12 voting members of the Trustees, ex-officio trustees, and UW administrators and staff as appropriate. Trustee Laura Schmid-Pizzato seconded the motion, which carried. The Board entered Executive Session at 4:18 p.m.

Trustees participating: Mel Baldwin (via video conference), Brad Bonner, Kermit Brown, David Fall, Jeff Marsh, John McKinley, Macey Moore, Dick Scarlett, Laura Schmid-Pizzato, Michelle Sullivan, and Dave True. Trustee Brad LaCroix was not present. Ex officio Trustees participating: University of Wyoming President Edward Seidel, ASUW President Riley Talamantes, and State Superintendent of Public Instruction Jillian Balow (via video conference). Governor Gordon was not in attendance; Senior Policy Advisor Lachelle Brant attended on his behalf. Executive Director of Wyoming Community College Commission Sandy Caldwell was not in attendance.

Vice President and General Counsel Tara Evans, Deputy General Counsel Paula Whaley, UW Board of Trustees Deputy Secretary RoseMarie London, and IT Specialist Lisa Stafford attended the entirety of the meeting. The following administrators attended during their respective topics: Deputy Vice President for Administration Bill Mai, Vice President for Research and Economic Development Ed Synakowski, Associate Vice President for Financial Affairs David Jewell, Athletic Director Tom Burman, Interim Provost Anne Alexander, and Vice Provost Tami Benham-Deal.

Respectfully submitted,



RoseMarie London  
Deputy Secretary  
UW Board of Trustees