

Minutes of the
Board of Trustees of Northern Illinois University
Special Meeting
May 13, 2021

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 2:35 p.m. by Board Chair Dennis Barsema virtually. This Special meeting was conducted through video conferencing communications pursuant to Section 6 of Executive Order 2020-7 (Suspending Open Meetings Act requirements of in person attendance by members of a public body). Board Chair Barsema noted that some of the trustees and staff are in-person today for the Board of Trustees meeting, but their in-person attendance is voluntary. The meeting is still being conducted pursuant to Section 6 of Executive Order 2020-7. Recording Secretary Crystal Doyle conducted a roll call.

Trustee Rita Athas: Present

Trustee John Butler: Absent

Trustee Montel Gayles: Present

Trustee Veronica Herrero: Present

Trustee Bob Pritchard: Present

Trustee Aidan Shields: Present

Vice Chair Eric Wasowicz: Absent

Board Chair Dennis Barsema: Present

Also present: President Lisa Freeman; Vice President and General Counsel and Board Parliamentarian Bryan Perry; Board Liaison and Chief of Staff Matt Streb; Executive Vice President and Provost Beth Ingram; Vice President for Administration and Finance and Chief Financial Officer Sarah Chinniah; Vice President for Enrollment Management, Marketing and Communications Sol Jensen; Associate Vice President for Information Technology Matt Parks; Vice President for Research and Innovation Partnerships Jerry Blazey; Vice President for University Advancement Catherine Squires; Executive Director for the Center for Innovative Teaching and Learning; Director of Precollegiate Programs Felicia Bohanon; and University Advisory Council (UAC) Representative Kendall Thu.

VERIFICATION OF QUORUM AND APPROPRIATE NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

General Counsel Perry indicated the appropriate notification of the meeting has been provided pursuant to the Illinois Open Meetings Act. Mr. Perry also advised that a quorum was present.

MEETING AGENDA APPROVAL

Chair Barsema asked for a motion to approve the meeting agenda. Trustee Gayles so moved, and Trustee Athas seconded.

Chair Barsema asked Ms. Doyle to conduct a roll call vote.

Trustee Rita Athas: Yes

Trustee John Butler: Absent

Trustee Montel Gayles: Yes

Trustee Veronica Herrero: Yes

Trustee Bob Pritchard: Yes

Trustee Aidan Shields: Yes

Vice Chair Eric Wasowicz: Absent

Board Chair Dennis Barsema: Yes

The motion was approved.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MARCH 18, 2021

Chair Barsema asked for a motion to approve the minutes of March 18, 2021. Trustee Athas so moved, and Trustee Shields seconded.

Chair Barsema asked Ms. Doyle to conduct a roll call vote.

Trustee Rita Athas: Yes

Trustee John Butler: Absent

Trustee Montel Gayles: Yes

Trustee Veronica Herrero: Yes

Trustee Bob Pritchard: Yes

Trustee Aidan Shields: Yes

Vice Chair Eric Wasowicz: Absent

Board Chair Dennis Barsema: Yes

The motion was approved.

CHAIR'S COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Barsema welcomed the members of the University Advisory Council who were present.

Chair Barsema mentioned that the Board of Trustee officer elections will be held on June 17, 2021 at the upcoming full Board of Trustees meeting. The positions that will be voted on are for the chair, vice chair, secretary, civil service merit board representative and the fifth member representative for the executive committee.

Trustee Gayles thanked Chair Barsema for serving as chair and vice chair and for his leadership while serving in those positions.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair Barsema introduced the public comment portion of the meeting. General Counsel Perry stated that there were no public comments.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT NO. 150

Chair Barsema asked President Freeman to present the President's Report No. 150.

President Lisa Freeman presented Agenda Item 7.a. Collective Bargaining Agreement for the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local Union #364

Chair Barsema asked for a motion to approve item 7.a. Trustee Gayles so moved, and Trustee Pritchard seconded.

Chair Barsema asked Ms. Doyle to conduct a roll call vote.

Trustee Rita Athas: Yes

Trustee John Butler: Absent

Trustee Montel Gayles: Yes

Trustee Veronica Herrero: Yes

Trustee Bob Pritchard: Yes

Trustee Aidan Shields: Yes

Vice Chair Eric Wasowicz: Absent

Board Chair Dennis Barsema: Yes

The motion was approved.

President Lisa Freeman presented Agenda Item 7.b. Classroom Technology Upgrades

Chair Barsema asked for a motion to approve item 7.b. Trustee Athas so moved, and Trustee Gayles seconded.

Chair Barsema asked Ms. Doyle to conduct a roll call vote.

Trustee Rita Athas: Yes

Trustee John Butler: Absent

Trustee Montel Gayles: Yes

Trustee Veronica Herrero: Yes

Trustee Bob Pritchard: Yes

Trustee Aidan Shields: Yes

Vice Chair Eric Wasowicz: Absent

Board Chair Dennis Barsema: Yes

The motion was approved.

OTHER MATTERS

There were no other matters.

NEXT MEETING DATE

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Trustees will be held June 17, 2021 at 9:00 a.m.

CLOSED SESSION

Chair Barsema stated that the Board needed to go into closed session and would not take up new business following the closed session. He asked for a motion to close the public meeting to conduct closed session to discuss the following subjects as authorized by the Open Meetings Act: personnel matters as generally described under sections 2(c)(1)(2)(3) and (21) of the open meetings act; collective bargaining matters as generally described under section 2(c)(2) of the open meetings act; litigation and risk management matters as generally described under sections 2(c)(11) and (12) of the open meetings act; and closed session minutes matters as generally described under section 2(c)(21) of the open meetings act.

Trustee Shields so moved, and Trustee Pritchard seconded.

Chair Barsema asked Ms. Doyle to take a roll call vote to close the public meeting.

Trustee Rita Athas: Yes

Trustee John Butler: Absent

Trustee Montel Gayles: Yes

Trustee Veronica Herrero: Yes

Trustee Bob Pritchard: Yes

Trustee Aidan Shields: Yes

Vice Chair Eric Wasowicz: Absent

Board Chair Dennis Barsema: Yes

The motion was approved.

The Board closed the public meeting at 2:50 p.m.

The meeting reconvened from closed session at 3:45 p.m.

Chair Barsema asked Ms. Doyle to conduct a roll call.

Trustee Rita Athas: Present

Trustee John Butler: Present

Trustee Montel Gayles: Present

Trustee Veronica Herrero: Present

Trustee Bob Pritchard: Absent

Trustee Aidan Shields: Present

Vice Chair Eric Wasowicz: Absent

Board Chair Dennis Barsema: Present

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Barsema asked for a motion to adjourn. Trustee Gayles so moved, and Trustee Athas seconded.

Chair Barsema asked Ms. Doyle to conduct a roll call vote.

Trustee Rita Athas: Yes

Trustee John Butler: Yes

Trustee Montel Gayles: Yes

Trustee Veronica Herrero: Yes

Trustee Bob Pritchard: Absent

Trustee Aidan Shields: Yes

Vice Chair Eric Wasowicz: Absent

Board Chair Dennis Barsema: Yes

The motion was approved.

The meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Crystal Doyle
Recording Secretary

In compliance with Illinois Open Meetings Act 5 ILCS 120/1, et seq, a verbatim record of all Northern Illinois University Board of Trustees meetings is maintained by the Board Recording Secretary and is available for review upon request. The minutes contained herein represent a true and accurate summary of the Board proceedings.