

Minutes of a meeting of the USask Board of Governors

December 16 and 17, 2019

Emmett Hall Board Room, 238 Peter MacKinnon Building

Present: Shelley Brown (chair), Allan Adam, Lee Ahenakew, Joy Crawford, Grant Devine (present by telephone for part of December 16), Grant Isaac, Jay Kalra, Ritu Malhotra, Grit McCreath, Regan Ratt-Misponas, Peter Stoicheff

Resource Officers: Beth Bilson (secretary), Karen Chad, Greg Fowler, Debra Pozega Osburn, Tony Vannelli, Dailene Kells

Guests: Chelsea Willness (incoming university secretary), Johannes Dyring (Innovation Enterprise)

1. Call to Order and Chair's Remarks

The meeting was called to order at 8:22 a.m. on December 16. The chair noted that the Board would be engaging in a strategy session on December 18 in addition to the regular Board meeting. She welcomed Chelsea Willness, the incoming university secretary, and noted that the meeting is the last Board meeting with Lee Ahenakew and Grant Isaac in attendance. She thanked them for their service on the Board. She noted that she expected there would be discussions with the government that would allow the Board to express its views on the factors considered in appointing new Board members and to identify possible candidates who might bring required skills to the Board. She said that the agenda would provide an opportunity to discuss this further.

2. Conflicts of Interest

A Board member declared a potential conflict of interest but the circumstances were deemed acceptable by the Chair and Board.

3. Presidential Review and President's Statement

3.1 *In camera* Session – Presidential Review (Board Only)

3.2 *In camera* Session – Presidential Review (Board and President)

The Board moved *in camera* at 8:30 a.m. to discuss the recommendation of the review committee established to consider the request for reappointment of the president.

3.3 President's Statement

The Board reconvened at 9:05 a.m.

The president expressed his thanks to the Board and to the review committee for their confidence in reappointing him for a second term. He noted that the review process had led him to consider the changes that have taken place at the university and in the post-secondary sector during his four years in office. He said that, though there have no doubt been changes in many sectors, the changes for universities over the

past four years have been transformative. The president also reflected on a number of key priorities including Indigenization, a Sustainability Strategy, and Equity, Diversity and Inclusion policy and strategy.

The Board adjourned at 9:40 a.m. to accommodate meetings of the standing committees.

The Board reconvened at 8:40 a.m. on December 17.

4. Approval of Consent Agenda

The following resolution was moved and seconded.

That the Board of Governors approves the minutes of the October 8, 2019

Several corrections with respect to attendance at the meeting were noted.

CARRIED

5. Approval of Agenda

The following item was moved and seconded.

That the Board of Governors approves the agenda as circulated.

CARRIED

6. Business Arising from the Minutes

No items of business arising were identified.

7. Decision Items from Standing Committees

7.1 Finance and Audit Committee

The following resolution was moved and seconded.

That on the recommendation of the Finance and Audit Committee, the Board of Governors approves the Investment Policy effective December 17, 2019.

CARRIED

7.2 Land and Facilities Committee

7.2.4 Griffiths Stadium Turf and Lighting Replacement

The following resolution was moved and seconded.

That on the recommendation of the Land and Facilities Committee, the Board of Governors grants final approval to execute the Griffiths Stadium Turf and Lighting Replacement Project, based on the estimate provided.

CARRIED

7.2.5 Divestment of Poultry Science Building and Seed Barn

The following resolution was moved and seconded.

That on the recommendation of the Land and Facilities Committee, the Board of Governors approves the decommissioning of the Poultry Science Building and the Seed Barn, on the condition that the administration make efforts to identify a third party willing to repurpose

the structures; and that if no such party is identified, approval for demolition be sought from the Board.

CARRIED

7.2.6 Meewasin Valley Trail Expansion

The following resolution was moved and seconded.

That on the recommendation of the Land and Facilities Committee, the Board of Governors approves the Meewasin Valley Authority (MVA) north-east trail expansion on USask land near the former beef research feedlot.

CARRIED

7.3 Human Resources Committee

7.3.3 Exempt Total Rewards

The following resolution was moved and seconded.

That on the recommendation of the Human Resources Committee, the Board of Governors approves the proposed changes to Exempt Total Rewards, effective March 1, 2020.

CARRIED

7.3.6 Appointment of Vice-Dean Indigenous, College of Arts and Science

The following resolution was moved and seconded.

That on the recommendation of the Human Resources Committee, the Board of Governors approve the appointment of Professor Angela Jaime as Vice-Dean Indigenous in the College of Arts and Science for a five-year term, effective July 1, 2020.

CARRIED

7.3.10 Approval of Committee Terms of Reference and Work Plan

The following resolution was moved and seconded.

That the Board approve the terms of reference and annual work plan for the Human Resources Committee.

CARRIED

7.4 Governance and Executive Committee

7.4.4 Board Appointments to Search and Review Committees

The following resolution was moved and seconded.

That on the recommendation of the Governance and Executive Committee, the Board of Governors approves the following appointments to search and review committees for senior administrators:

Dean of Nursing (search) – Shelley Brown

Dean of Law (review) – Jay Kalra

Dean of University Library (review) – Grit McCreath

Dean of Kinesiology (review) – Joy Crawford

CARRIED

8. Learning, Teaching and Student Experience Plan

The provost presented *Fostering Tomorrow's Leaders: Learning, Teaching and the Student Experience 2019-2025*, which includes projections for enrolment over the next six years.

9. Royalties and Innovation Enterprise - presentation

Vice-president Chad introduced Johannes Dyring, Managing Director of Innovation Enterprise. He outlined the history of mechanisms for commercialization at the university.

10. Expenditures from the Greystone Heritage Trust

The president presented a package of requests for funding from the Greystone Heritage Trust, a fund that is an amalgamation of four different funds built on donations.

The first request was to match funds given by a donor for the establishment of a research fellowship to be given to outstanding new research scholars; the second request was to develop and start up a university sustainability plan; the third request was to establish an innovation initiatives fund.

The following resolution was moved and seconded.

That the Board of Governors approves expenditures from the Greystone Heritage Trust, in accordance with the Trust's terms (1989).

CARRIED

11. Correspondence

The chair noted two items of correspondence. The first was a letter from the Ad hoc Committee on Campus Heritage asking for the formulation of criteria and procedures to deal with heritage buildings on campus. This letter was discussed at the meeting of the Land and Facilities Committee in conjunction with the proposal for the divestment of the Poultry Science Building and the Seed Barn. The chair said that a response would be sent to the committee, indicating that this discussion had taken place. In particular, the vice-president finance and resources asked that the letter correct the ad hoc committee's statement that the heat had been turned off in Rugby Chapel and the Emmanuel College building.

The second letter was from the chair of the University of Saskatchewan Faculty Association, raising concern about the process for making certain administrative appointments. The president indicated that the provost's office would be providing a response.

The Board adjourned for lunch at noon.

12. In camera Session – Board with President

The Board convened *in camera* at 1:00 p.m.

13. In camera Session – Board Only

14. Adjournment

The Board adjourned at 3:30 p.m. The next meeting of the Board will take place on March 23 and 24, 2020.