

Minutes of a meeting of the USask Board of Governors

Tuesday, December 12, 2022
Emmett Hall Boardroom - PMB 238

Present: Shelley Brown (chair), Joy Crawford, Grant Devine, Abhineet Goswami, Nadeem Jamali, Ritu Malhotra, Grit McCreath, Marty Seymour, Louise Simard, Peter Stoicheff (via zoom)

Regrets: Keith Martell

Resource Officers: Airini, Greg Fowler, Cheryl Hamelin, Baljit Singh, David Stack, Devan Mescall, Julian Demkiw (university secretary), Sheena Tait-Rowan (recording secretary), Anna Okapiec

Guests: Victor Schwab, Nicole Dressler, Jennifer Robertson, Office of the Provincial Auditor (Audit and Finance Committee meeting), Mayor Charlie Clark and Chief of Staff Michelle Beveridge, City of Saskatoon (agenda item 9); Steve Webb, Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer, Global Institute for Food Security (agenda item 8), Janelle Hutchinson, Chief Sustainability Officer (agenda item 12)

1. Roll Call

2. Welcome and Chair's remarks

3. The Chair called the meeting to order with Board members and management present at 8:30 am on Monday, December 12, 2022, noting the Indigenous land acknowledgement and declared the meeting properly constituted for the transaction of business, with herself as chair and the university secretary and chief governance officer as secretary. Management joined the meeting at 8:42 am.

4. President's statement

5. The President wished the board of Governors a happy holiday season and noted there was much to celebrate this past year.

Items noted by the President included a winter term enrolment update, Fall Convocation reflection, Huskies update, recent USask Rhodes Scholar recipient, and overview of USask participation in COP 27. The president also referenced a recent Globe & Mail article that highlights post-secondary education in Canada.

6. Identification of Conflicts of Interest related to the business of the meeting

None identified

7. Approval of the agenda

The agenda was approved as distributed.

8. Approval of the consent agenda

That the Board of Governors approved the agenda as distributed.

CARRIED

Committee and Board proper decision items were presented via consent agenda.

7. CONSENT AGENDA

BOG 7 Approval of Consent Agenda

Please note that all decision items from committees are on the consent agenda. Consent agenda items may be removed at a member's request, for further discussion

That the Board of Governors approves the consent agenda as presented.

CARRIED

BOG 7 Minutes of the Board of Governors meeting, October 3, 2022; Public minutes June, July 2022

HR Human Resources Committee

HR3. a. Exempt total rewards

That the Board of Governors approves the proposed changes to Exempt Total Rewards, effective May 1, 2023.

HR3. b. Appointment, dean, college of education

That the Board of Governors approve the appointment of Dr. Julia Paulson as Dean, College of Education for a five-year renewable term effective May 1, 2023, subject to receipt of the signed letter of appointment.

HR3. c. Appointment, vice provost, students and learning

That the Board of Governors approve the appointment of Dr. Jerome Cranston as Vice-Provost, Students and Learning, for a five-year renewable term effective August 1, 2023, pending receipt of the signed letter of appointment

LF Land and Facilities Committee

LF5. W.P. Thompson Building renewal

The Board of Governors accepts the funding strategy for the W.P. Thompson Building Renewal and provides final approval of the project program, design, schedule, and capital costs for the W.P. Thompson Building Renewal project.

LF6. Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI) Proposals Exceeding \$500,000

1. CFI – JELF – Super-resolution ultra-fast confocal imaging for studying the molecular mechanisms of pulmonary diseases

The Board of Governors grants final approval of the program, capital and operating budgets for the Super-resolution ultra-fast confocal imaging for studying the molecular mechanisms of pulmonary diseases CFI proposal.

2. CFI – JELF - Cultural Safety Evaluation, Training, and Research Lab (Updated Submission)

That the Board of Governors grants final approval of the programme, capital and operating budgets for the Good Medicine People (formerly called Cultural Safety Evaluation, Training and Research Lab) CFI proposal.

LF7. Continuing Education project (ICT project)

That the Board of Governors provides Phase 1 and Phase 2 approval for the Continuing Education Systems Modernization project with an expected capital cost of \$725,000

LF8. CONFIDENTIAL

LF9. Sale of the Vienna Building

That the Board of Governors approves the listing and sale of the Vienna property to the highest offer, subject to all conditions of the sale being satisfied.

AF Audit and Finance Committee

AF6. University Risk Management update

The Board approves the university's top risks as presented, effective immediately.

AF7. Amendments to the Signing Authority Policy

The Board of Governors approves the amended policy effective December 13, 2022.

GE Governance and Executive Committee

GE3. Annual work plan and terms of reference

The Board of Governors approves the proposed amendments to the Board and committee annual work plans for 2022/23 and to the terms of reference of the Board Bylaws as outlined in the written meeting materials effective immediately.

GE4. Appointment of Board of Directors for land trust

That the Board of Governors approves the appointment of the initial Board of Directors of USask Properties Investment Inc. as follows:

University representatives: Shelley Brown, Keith Martell, Peter Stoicheff

External representatives: Muir Barber, Phil Elenko, Doug Hodson, Grant Kook

The following resolution was moved and seconded.

The Board of Governors approves the consent agenda items as presented.

CARRIED

BOG 8 Approval of Sylvia Fedoruk Canadian Centre for Nuclear Innovation, Inc. New Board Member

The Board of Governors appoints Mr. Iain Harry, senior business advisor at SaskPower, to the Board of Directors of the Sylvia Fedoruk Canadian Centre for Nuclear Innovation, Inc. for a term ending at the AGM in June 2025.

CARRIED

BOG 9 Joint Committee on Chairs and Professorships (*moved from Item 10)

The Board of Governors approves the Jarislowsky Chair in Regenerative Agriculture, pending the approval of the Council.

CARRIED

BOG 10 Expenditures from the Greystone Heritage Trust

a. Huskie Athletics Championship Funding

The Board of Governors approves up to a five-year commitment from the Flair Fund, under the Greystone Heritage Trust, to support annual Huskie Athletics Championship Funding.

b. Bridge Funding to match a donor's gift

The Board of Governors approves a temporary expenditure of from the Greystone Heritage Trust, as per the Trust's terms (1989), to match a gift from a donor.

CARRIED

BOG 11 Meewasin Valley Authority (MVA) Presentation

The Board Chair welcomed to the meeting Andrea Lafond, Chief Executive Officer, and Mike Velonas, Manager of Planning and Conservation at MVA. Ms. Lafond and Mr. Velonas shared the history of the Meewasin Valley project and spoke to the MVA's mandate – conserve, develop and educate. The Board Chair thanked Ms. Lafond and Mr. Velonas for an excellent presentation.

The following items were provided for information:

BOG 12 University Relations update

BOG 13 Commercialization and Innovation Strategy – Global Institute for Food Security (GIFS)

BOG 14 Items from Council

Policy Oversight Committee Annual Report 2021-2022

BOG 15 Electronic Approvals since July 2022

The meeting adjourned at 4:35 pm and the Board moved to in-camera sessions.

BOG 16 Board only session – including president

BOG 17 In-camera session – without president