

**Board of Governors  
of  
Pennsylvania's State System of Higher  
Education**

**Meeting Minutes**

280th Meeting  
Thursday, February 4, 2021

Via Zoom

9:00 a.m.

**ATTENDING**

**Board of Governors:**

Representative Timothy P. Briggs  
Nicole L. Dunlop  
Alexander H. Fefolt  
William A. Gindlesperger  
Donald E. Houser, Jr.  
Senator Scott Martin  
David M. Maser (Vice Chair)  
Marian D. Moskowitz  
Thomas S. Muller (Vice Chair)  
Acting Deputy Secretary Tanya I. Garcia

Representative Brad Roae  
Senator Judith L. Schwank  
Cynthia D. Shapira (Chair)  
Samuel Smith (Vice Chair)  
Larry C. Skinner  
Secretary Meg Snead  
Alternate Designee Allison Jones  
Stephen L. Washington, Jr.  
Neil R. Weaver  
Janet L. Yeomans

In attendance was (non-voting) Board Faculty Liaison, Jamie L. Phillips.

Chairwoman Shapira called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

Attendance taken at the direction of Chairwoman Shapira established that a quorum of the Board was present.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION NOTATION**

The Chair reported that the Board met in executive session Wednesday, February 3, 2021 from 4:00 p.m. – 4:47 p.m. to discuss items related to personnel and legal matters.

**CHAIR'S REMARKS** (Full remarks in video archive.)

Chairwoman Shapira welcomed new Board of Governor members, reviewed the meeting agenda, and offered additional comments on the efforts underway to return to the campus and the start of the spring semester.

**RESOLUTIONS** (Full remarks in video archive)

A resolution was offered honoring former Pennsylvania Governor Richard Thornburgh, who recently passed away. On behalf of his father and former member of the Board of Governors, Mr. John Thornburgh offered remarks and accepted the resolution.

A resolution was offered honoring former California University of Pennsylvania President, Ms. Geraldine Jones, following her retirement. She offered remarks and accepted the resolution.

There was an acknowledgement of recent passing of former President of California University of Pennsylvania, Dr. John Pierce Watkins, who served as President from 1977-1992.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

#### **REMARKS BY UNION LEADERS** (Full remarks in video archive)

APSCUF President - Dr. Jamie Martin

#### **REMARKS BY PACT PRESIDENT** (Full remarks in video archive)

PACT President - Mr. Jack Wabby

#### **CONSENT AGENDA**

Chairwoman Shapira moved that the Consent Agenda be approved, which includes meeting minutes for October 14-15, 2020 and November 18, 2020.

Voice vote. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **CHANCELLOR GREENSTEIN REMARKS** (Full remarks in video archive)

Chancellor Greenstein offered remarks on the accountability framework and the institutional integrations.

#### **ACCOUNTABILITY FRAMEWORK UPDATE** (Full remarks in video archive)

Dr. Kate Akers provided an overview and update on the accountability framework, which also included information on the diversification of employee complement, available on the DEI dashboard for university specific information.

#### **SYSTEM REDESIGN – INSTITUTIONAL INTEGRATIONS** (Full remarks in video archive)

Chancellor Greenstein provided an update on the implementation planning to date. President Dale Elizabeth Pehrsson and President Bashar Hanna each provided updates on the implementation planning, key benefits, issues and risks, and next steps in the Western and Northeastern university integrations.

#### **COMMISSION ON DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION IN SYSTEM-LEVEL**

##### **GOVERNANCE UPDATE** (Full remarks in video archive)

Dr. Denise Pearson, Vice Chancellor, Chief Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Officer, and Governor Janet Yeoman, Commission Chair, provided an update on the Commission's charges and progress report.

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### **UNIVERSITY SUCCESS COMMITTEE**

(Full remarks in video archive)

Committee Chair, Mr. Thomas Muller, reviewed the Committee items as presented in the meeting materials. Roll call was conducted and the following committee members were present for the discussion: Governors Weaver, Dunlop, Gindlesperger, Roae, Snead, and Yeomans.

Ms. Molly Mercer, Chief Financial Officer, provided a review of each of the following items for consideration:

- Authorization to issue refunding bonds in FY 2021-22
- SERS pre-funding authorization
- SERS pre-funding bond issuance
- Capital reprogramming request, Millersville University of Pennsylvania

**COMMITTEE CHAIR MULLER MOVED THAT THE BOARD APPROVES THE MOTIONS FOR SERS PRE-FUNDING AND BOND ISSUANCE AND CHARGE THE CHANCELLOR TO CONSULT WITH THE PRESIDENTS TO DEVELOP AN ACCOUNTABILITY-BASED INVESTMENT STRATEGY THAT PROVIDES A POSITIVE RETURN-ON-INVESTMENT EMPHASIZING STUDENT SUCCESS AND MITIGATES ANY ASSOCIATED FINANCIAL RISKS; NET PROCEEDS ARE NOT TO BE USED FOR GENERAL OPERATING EXPENDITURES.**

Voice Vote. The motion passed unanimously. No opposition.

**COMMITTEE CHAIR MULLER MOVED THAT THE BOARD APPROVES THE BOND REFUNDING AS PRESENTED IN THE MEETING MATERIALS.**

Voice Vote. The motion passed unanimously. No opposition.

**COMMITTEE CHAIR MULLER MOVED THAT THE BOARD APPROVES THE CAPITAL REPROGRAMMING FOR MILLERSVILLE AS PRESENTED IN THE MEETING MATERIALS.**

Voice Vote. The motion passed unanimously. No opposition.

**COMMITTEE CHAIR MULLER MOVED THAT THE BOARD ADOPT THE ATTACHED RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS UP TO A MAXIMUM PROJECT CASH OF \$830 MILLION.**

Voice Vote. The motion passed unanimously. No opposition.

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**CHAIRWOMAN SHAPIRA MOVED THAT THE FULL BOARD APPROVE THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE UNIVERSITY SUCCESS COMMITTEE.**

Voice Vote. The motion passed unanimously. No opposition.

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## **GOVERNANCE AND LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE**

(Full remarks in video archive)

Committee Chair, Mr. Don Houser, reviewed the Committee items as presented in the meeting materials. Roll call was conducted and the following committee members were present for the discussion: Governors Fefolt, Smith, Designee Tom Grombar for Senator Schwank, Maser, Designee Terry Trego Designee for Senator Martin, and Yeomans.

Deputy Chancellor Randy Goin provided an overview of the action items presented in the meeting materials for consideration as follows:

- Approval of new policy 2021-01: *Faculty Council*
- Revision of policy 1983-26: *Student Trustee Selection*

- Revision of policy 1983-25: *Student Governor Selection*
- Appointment of Lock Haven University student trustee

**COMMITTEE CHAIR DON HOUSER MOVED THAT THE FULL BOARD APPROVE NEW POLICY, 2021-01: FACULTY COUNCIL.**

Voice Vote. The motion passed unanimously. No opposition.

**COMMITTEE CHAIR DON HOUSER MOVED THAT THE FULL BOARD APPROVE REVISIONS TO POLICY 1983-26: STUDENT TRUSTEE SELECTION AND POLICY 1983-25: STUDENT GOVERNOR SELECTION.**

Voice Vote. The motion passed unanimously. No opposition.

**COMMITTEE CHAIR DON HOUSER MOVED THAT THE FULL BOARD APPROVE THE APPOINTMENT OF LOCK HAVEN STUDENT TRUSTEE, MIA SWALES.**

Voice Vote. The motion passed unanimously. No opposition.

**BOARD CONSIDERATION** (Full remarks in video archive)

- Ratification of committee actions
- Ratification of Enhanced Sick Leave Payout agreements
- Appointment of Lock Haven University Interim President
- Extension of appointment of Cheyney University President Aaron Walton
- Resolution honoring former Governor Richard Thornburgh
- Resolution honoring President Geraldine Jones, California University

**CHAIRWOMAN SHAPIRA MOVED THAT THE BOARD APPROVE THE ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE UNIVERSITY SUCCESS AND GOVERNANCE AND LEADERSHIP COMMITTEES.**

Voice Vote. The motion passed unanimously. No opposition.

**CHAIRWOMAN SHAPIRA MOVED THAT THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS RATIFY THE SIDE LETTERS WITH APSCUF, AFSCME, OPEIU, SPFPA, SEIU 668, POA AND SCUPA REGARDING THE ENHANCED SICK LEAVE PAYOUT AND AUTHORIZES THE CHANCELLOR TO EXECUTE THE APPROPRIATE DOCUMENTS. FURTHER, THE BOARD AUTHORIZES THE CHANCELLOR AT HIS DISCRETION TO IMPLEMENT AN ENHANCED SICK LEAVE PAYOUT PROGRAM FOR NONREPRESENTED EMPLOYEES.**

Voice Vote. The motion passed unanimously. No opposition.

**GOVERNOR DON HOUSER MOVED THAT THE BOARD APPROVE THE APPOINTMENT OF DR. BASHAR HANNA, CURRENT PRESIDENT OF BLOOMSBURG UNIVERSITY, TO SERVE AS INTERIM PRESIDENT OF LOCK HAVEN UNIVERSITY, EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 5, 2021.**

Voice Vote. The motion passed unanimously. No opposition.

**GOVERNOR SKINNER MOVED THAT THE BOARD EXTEND THE APPOINTMENT OF PRESIDENT AARON WALTON AT CHEYNEY UNIVERSITY TO JUNE 30, 2024, AND AUTHORIZE THE CHAIRWOMAN OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS AND CHANCELLOR TO EXECUTE THE NECESSARY DOCUMENTS.**

Voice Vote. The motion passed unanimously. No opposition.

**CHAIRWOMAN SHAPIRA MOVED THAT THE RESOLUTION HONORING PRESIDENT GERALDINE JONES BE APPROVED.**

Voice Acclamation approved the resolution.

**NEW BUSINESS**

None

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 12:34 p.m.

**ATTEST:**

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Randy A. Goin Jr., Ph.D.  
Deputy Chancellor

The meeting webcast is available here: [BOG Meeting 2/4/21 - YouTube](#)