

UTAH STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
Utah State University, Logan, Utah  
August 12, 2022

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Utah State University Board of Trustees held at University Inn – Sonne Conference Room and via Zoom videoconferencing, commencing at 8:37 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Kent K. Alder (Chair)	Kacie Malouf
John Y. Ferry (Vice Chair)	Wayne L. Niederhauser
Clara Alder	Steven L. Palmer
Gina Gagon	David A. Petersen
David H. Huntsman	Jacey Skinner

UNIVERSITY REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT

Jodi Bailey	Chief Audit Executive
Janalyn Brown	Interim Secretary of the Board of Trustees
Noelle E. Cockett	President
Dave Cowley	Vice President Finance and Administrative Services
Amanda DeRito	Associate Vice President for Strategic Communications
John Ferguson	President Faculty Senate
Emmalee Fishburn	Senior Prevention Specialist Office of Equity
Audrey Flood	IT Support & Aggie Radio Station Manager
Nancy Hanks	Executive Assistant to the President
Jane Irungu	Vice President Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
Sarah Kohler	Technical Coordinator SR
Mica A. McKinney	General Counsel and Vice President, Legal Affairs
James Morales	Vice President Student Affairs
Brian Steed	Director Institute of Land, Water and Air
Michael Torrens	Executive Director Analysis Assessment & Accreditation
Ken White	Vice President Dean College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences
Matt White	Vice President Advancement

OTHER ATTENDEES PRESENT

Jesslie Anderson	Vice Chair Utah Board of Higher Education
Scott Theurer	Board Member Utah Board of Higher Education
Dave Woolstenhulme	Commissioner Utah System of Higher Education

1. BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING

Chair Alder called the meeting to order. He welcomed and thanked those present for their attendance.

Action: Vice Chair Ferry moved in accordance with 52-4-205 of the Utah Code, that the Trustees go into a Closed Session for the sole purpose of discussing the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of individuals, pending or reasonably imminent litigation, and the possible sale of real property. Trustee Petersen seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in the affirmative and the motion passed.

Chair Alder reopened the Regular Meeting at 9:25 a.m.

2. CHAIR'S REPORT

a. Committee Reports

a. Executive Committee – Chair Alder shared the Executive Committee met and set the Board of Trustee August 2022 meeting and workshop agendas. They also reviewed the 2022-2023 Utah State University budget as presented by Vice President Cowley. The Executive Committee recommends approving the budget which Vice President Cowley will present later in the meeting.

b. Academic Approval Committee – Chair Niederhauser (no report)

c. Recruitment, Retention, and Completion Committee – Chair Gagon stated recruiting numbers are looking very positive. USU Blanding is a challenge due to the Reservation still being closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The 800 Block housing structure notified 252 students they would not have housing this fall because the building is not completed. Executive Vice President Wagner's team has been working to assist these displaced students in locating other housing options.

The Housing and Dining grant offered by the University has had a 92% acceptance rate and Chair Gagon feels this has really helped with recruitment this year.

Retention is still being looked at, but the committee will not have solid numbers until the third week in October 2022, with final numbers coming in January 2023. The trend is looking positive in reaching goals set previously.

d. Audit, Risk and Compliance Committee – Chair Petersen (no report)

e. Honorary Degrees, Awards, and Recognition Committee – Chair Ferry mentioned this committee would like to correlate this area with Vice President Matt White and the USU Foundation as well as starting the nomination process earlier.

f. Marketing and Communications Committee – Chair Skinner (no report)

g. Student Health, Safety and Well-being Committee – Chair Huntsman confirmed they met and, in the past, discussed mental health and how the campus responds to those in crisis. They have reviewed suicide and Title IX responses and processes. In the latest meeting, Chair Huntsman had Executive Director of Public Safety Kuehn and his team present the University active shooter safety plan. Chair Huntsman and committee members were pleased and satisfied with the report. The Public Safety team is professional and very experienced and walked the committee through their game plan and are very proactive. Chair Huntsman asked Kuehn if any resources were needed and Kuehn stated they have what they need. Huntsman inquired of the Board if they had any specific areas they would like this committee to focus on or learn more about. Trustee Chair Alder attended the meeting and was impressed by the

Public Safety team as well. Alder mentioned new police chief Blair Barfuss was also in attendance.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

a. Chair Alder declared the Board of Trustees received the following agenda items for review and approval.

Minutes from Board of Trustees Regular Meeting held on June 24, 2022

Minutes from Board of Trustees Closed Meeting held on June 24, 2022

Action: Vice Chair Ferry moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Trustee Palmer seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in the affirmative and the motion passed.

4. ACTION AGENDA

a. Real Property Acquisition by Exchange – Vice President Cowley

Vice President Cowley is seeking approval on a property exchange which includes a piece of property in North Logan for some property near the Animal Science Farm in Wellsville also known as the South Farm. The North Logan property was purchased decades ago. The North Logan parcel is just under eight acres and will be exchanged for 64 acres of Wellsville property. The two pieces of land are of similar value though there is a little difference as the North Logan piece appraised at \$1.6 million and the Wellsville piece appraised at \$2.1 million. The difference will be paid by the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences. The North Logan property buyer is planning to build a veterinary clinic on the property. Utah State University had both properties appraised. Dean White shared this exchange is a good opportunity for the agricultural program to expand and grow.

Action: Vice Chair Ferry moved to approve the Real Property Acquisition by Exchange. Trustee Gagon seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in the affirmative and the motion passed.

b. Utah State University 2022-2023 Budget – Vice President Cowley

President Cockett acknowledged the budget had been presented to the Board of Trustees Executive Committee previously and the committee agreed to its validity. Vice President Cowley shared high level details.

Cowley confirmed in fiscal year 2022, the University was appropriated \$420 million from the Utah State Legislature compared to fiscal year 2023 in which USU was appropriated \$480 million. It was an amazing year at the legislature, not just USU but for many others. There was approximately an additional \$44.5 million for ongoing funds with about \$19 million going to compensation. Utah State does have to come up with 25% of the compensation increase which is typically done through tuition increases. The state legislature pushed hard to get larger increases for state employees than have been seen in the past. Over the next four years, the University will receive \$18 million of ongoing monies for the new USU College of Veterinary Medicine which is a unique way to fund a capital project. Cowley was excited to share that approximately \$6 million was awarded to USU for meeting performance metrics set by the Utah Board of Higher Education, the

Commissioner's Office and the Board of Trustees. Additional ongoing money was allocated to Alzheimer's research and technical education.

Most of the one-time money USU was awarded is for research, including USU Regan Zane's electrified vehicle and electric train research which may become part of the Utah Transit Department.

Action: Trustee Palmer moved to approve the Utah State University 2022-2023 Budget. Trustee Petersen seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in the affirmative and the motion passed.

Chair Alder called for a motion to adjourn. Trustee Huntsman moved to adjourn the Regular Meeting. Vice Chair Ferry seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in the affirmative and the motion passed.

  
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Kent K. Alder, Chair

  
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Janalyn Brown, Secretary  
(minutes taken by Janalyn Brown)

October 14, 2022  
Date Approved