

Minutes of the
NIU Board of Trustees
Of Northern Illinois University
Special Meeting
December 17, 2015

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 12:30 p.m. by Chair Strauss in the Board of Trustees Room, 315 Altgeld Hall. Recording Secretary Kathy Carey conducted a roll call. Members present were Trustees Robert Marshall, Tim Struthers, Raquel Chavez and John Butler. Members absent Trustees Wheeler Coleman, Cherilyn Murer and Robert Boey. Also present: President Doug Baker, Board Liaison Mike Mann, General Counsel Jerry Blakemore, and Provost Lisa Freeman, UAC Representatives Greg Long and Holly Nicholson.

VERIFICATION OF QUORUM AND APPROPRIATE NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

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

MEETING AGENDA APPROVAL

Chair Strauss asked for a motion to approve the meeting agenda. Trustee Butler so moved and Trustee Chavez seconded. The motion was approved.

CHAIR'S COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no comments made.

PUBLIC COMMENT

General Counsel Blakemore indicated that there was one request from Derek Van Buer for public comment.

Speaker Derek Van Buer: I made 12 copies of an e-mail you received today. Good afternoon. About fifteen minutes ago I sent you three e-mails relating to what I'm going to talk about today. They all went to your NIU.edu e-mail addresses that are published. Last Thursday, at the last regular Board of Trustees meeting, I spoke about Ron Walters's spreadsheet and how the spreadsheet was used to drive his salary adjustments and make sure he got paid for all the hours he invoiced over approximately 18 months. Just this morning I received responsive documents from another FIOA request where I requested the e-mails and the spreadsheet in electronic form that accompanied the spreadsheet that I talked about last time because I only got the paper copy. What I passed out was one of the e-mails with the spreadsheet and as you can see it's from Ron Walters and it's sort of interesting that he's using his University of Idaho e-mail address. There's data Sunday, October 27, 2013 and it's titled Budget for Ron Walters, I would assume RW, 10/18/13.xls. Attached is a spreadsheet we went over today, two tabs, and there are two tabs in the electronic spreadsheet; one showing the current pay of 65 hours per month through June another showing it increased to 90 hours per month November 1st. As of the end of October the amount paid is about 270 hours behind so if I stop putting in hours today, the current payout rate would take over four months to catch up i.e. he won't be working for four months. Moving to the 90's for the next eight months adds another 200 hours or if we aren't using that catches me up sooner. Thanks. Again you can sort of see that it's a project based on hours and not a salaried position. Over the weekend, The Edgar County Watchdogs published two relevant articles and I sent you the link to the articles. One is titled *NIU's Intentional Abuse of State Procurement and Travel Rules*. I'm not going to really talk about it

too much because it's pretty easy to go out, but one is on Talents Group and that was an HR firm that was hired, search firm, that didn't even meet the minimum requirement for the bid. One of the requirements was that they would have like experience of an institution of NIUs size and industry. They didn't have it, but they did have a professional basketball team as a client and they got it. And it turns out that it appears the owner of that was good friends with Wally Pfeiffer who was employed by NIU. The current e-mail was what I sent to the Board of Trustees and I think it was March 10, 2015 it was about Keith (Echols). Keith (Echols) was hired by President Baker when he was provost at Idaho. President Baker invited him to come out here for a consulting engagement. There was no purchase order that was issued prior to the work being done. Again it was reported to the partner in charge of external audit in March on the same copy that I sent to the board. It's just another example of abuse and I think it warrants as I said last Thursday, either President Baker be put on administration leave or fired. Thank you. Any questions?

Chair Strauss responded, thank you.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT NO. 102

President Baker continued with President's Report No. 102. They are two collective bargaining issues. Both of these have recently, the negotiations have been concluded and we bring to you today the request for approval for both of these.

Agenda Item 6.a. Collective Bargaining Agreement – Teamsters Local 330

President Baker presented the collective bargaining agreement for Teamsters Local 330 representing approximately seven employees in the classification of automotive technician and motor vehicle operation mechanic. The tentative agreement for Board action is a 5-year successor agreement in effect July 1 through June 30, 2020. The recommendation is for the terms and conditions of this agreement are consistent with the university policies and guidelines, the University recommends approval of this collective bargaining agreement.

Chair Strauss called for a motion. Trustee Struthers so moved and Trustee Marshall seconded. The motion was approved.

Agenda Item 6.b. Collective Bargaining Agreement - Metropolitan Alliance of Police, Chapter 414

President Baker presented the next item which is a similar collective bargaining agreement. The Metropolitan Alliance of Police, Chapter 414 representing approximately 8 employees in the classification of security guards. The scope of the negotiation was a full agreement, again 5-year successor agreement effective July 1 through June 30, 2020. Terms and conditions of this agreement are consistent with University policies and guidelines. The University again recommends approval of this collection bargaining agreement.

Chair Strauss called for a motion. Trustee Struthers so moved and Trustee Butler seconded. The motion was approved.

OTHER MATTERS

There were no other matters before the committee.

NEXT MEETING

The next BOT Committee Meetings are scheduled for Thursday, February 18, 2016

ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Butler made a motion to adjourn and Trustee Struthers seconded. The motion was approved. Motion.

Meeting adjourned at 12:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Carey
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.