

Minutes of the  
**Board of Trustees of Northern Illinois University**  
**Special Meeting**  
May 12, 2022

**CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

The meeting was called to order at 12:52 p.m. by Board Chair Eric Wasowicz in the Board of Trustees Room, 315 Altgeld Hall.

Recording Secretary Crystal Doyle conducted a roll call.

Vice Chair Rita Athas: Present

Trustee Dennis Barsema: Present

Trustee John Butler: Present

Trustee Montel Gayles: Present

Trustee Veronica Herrero: Absent

Trustee Bob Pritchard: Present

Trustee Jacob Sommer: Absent

Board Chair Eric Wasowicz: Present

Also present: President Lisa Freeman; Vice President and General Counsel and Board Parliamentarian Bryan Perry; Board Liaison and Chief of Staff Matt Streb; Executive Vice President and Provost Beth Ingram; Interim Vice President for Administration and Finance and Chief Financial Officer Jim Cofer; Vice President for Research and Innovation Partnerships Jerry Blazey; Associate Vice President and Chief Information Office Matt Parks; and University Advisory Council (UAC) Representatives Felicia Bohanon, Holly Nicholson and Karen Whedbee.

**VERIFICATION OF QUORUM AND APPROPRIATE NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING**

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

**MEETING AGENDA APPROVAL**

Chair Wasowicz asked for a motion to approve the meeting agenda. Vice Chair Rita Athas so moved, and Trustee Gayles seconded. The motion was approved.

Chair Wasowicz asked for a motion to amend that motion, in order to approve a consent agenda for action items 7.a. through 7.c. and 7.e. Trustees Gayles so moved, and Vice Chair Athas seconded. The motion was approved.

**REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MARCH 24, 2022 AND APRIL 7, 2022**

Chair Wasowicz asked for a motion to approve the minutes of March 24, 2022. Trustee Pritchard so moved, and Trustee Butler seconded. The motion was approved.

Chair Wasowicz asked for a motion to approve the minutes of April 7, 2022. Trustee Gayles so moved, and Trustee Barsema seconded. The motion was approved.

**CHAIR'S COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chair Wasowicz welcomed the members of the University Advisory Council who were present.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Chair Wasowicz introduced the public comment portion of the meeting. General Counsel Perry stated that there were no registered public comments.

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT NO. 160**

Chair Wasowicz asked President Freeman to present the President's Report No. 160.

President Freeman presented the items that were moved to the consent agenda including:

**Agenda Item 7.a. Appointment of Vice President for Student Affairs**

**Agenda Item 7.b. Appointment of Interim Dean of the College of Health and Human Sciences**

**Agenda Item 7.c. Renewal for Shimadzu Instrumentation**

**Agenda Item 7.e. Charter Bus Service**

Chair Wasowicz asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda. Trustee Barsema so moved, and Vice Chair Athas seconded. The motion was approved.

**Agenda Item 7.d. Fiscal Year 2022 Revised Student Health Insurance**

President Freeman presented agenda item 7.d. for approval.

Due to a conflict, Trustee Montel Gayles will not be voting on the item and will abstain on this item.

Chair Wasowicz asked for a motion to approve item 7.d. Vice Chair Athas so moved, and Trustee Pritchard seconded.

Chair Wasowicz asked Ms. Doyle to conduct a roll call vote.

Vice Chair Rita Athas: Yes

Trustee Dennis Barsema: Yes

Trustee John Butler: Yes

Trustee Montel Gayles: Abstain

Trustee Veronica Herrero: Absent

Trustee Bob Pritchard: Yes

Trustee Jacob Sommer: Absent

Board Chair Eric Wasowicz: Yes

The motion was approved.

## **OTHER MATTERS**

There were no other matters.

## **NEXT MEETING DATE**

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Trustees will be held June 16, 2022 at 9:00 a.m.

## **CLOSED SESSION**

Chair Wasowicz stated that the Board needed to go into closed session and would not take up new business following the closed session. He asked for a motion to close the public meeting to conduct closed session to discuss the following subjects as authorized by the Open Meetings Act: personnel matters as generally described under sections 2(c)(1)(2)(3) and (21) of the open meetings act; collective bargaining matters as generally described under section 2(c)(2) of the open meetings

act; real estate matters as generally described under section 2(c)(5) and (6) of the open meetings act; litigation and risk management matters as generally described under sections 2(c)(11) and (12) of the open meetings act; and closed session minutes matters as generally described under section 2(c)(21) of the open meetings act.

Trustee Gayles so moved, and Trustee Barsema seconded.

Chair Wasowicz asked Ms. Doyle to take a roll call vote to close the public meeting.

Vice Chair Rita Athas: Yes	Trustee Dennis Barsema: Yes
Trustee John Butler: Yes	Trustee Montel Gayles: Yes
Trustee Veronica Herrero: Absent	Trustee Bob Pritchard: Yes
Trustee Jacob Sommer: Absent	Board Chair Eric Wasowicz: Yes

The motion was approved.

The Board closed the public meeting at 1:01 p.m.

The meeting reconvened from closed session at 3:08 p.m.

Chair Wasowicz asked Ms. Doyle to conduct a roll call.

Vice Chair Rita Athas: Present	Trustee Dennis Barsema: Absent
Trustee John Butler: Present	Trustee Montel Gayles: Present
Trustee Veronica Herrero: Present	Trustee Bob Pritchard: Present
Trustee Jacob Sommer: Absent	Board Chair Eric Wasowicz: Present

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Wasowicz asked for a motion to adjourn. Trustee Barsema so moved, and Trustee Gayles seconded.

Chair Wasowicz asked Ms. Doyle to conduct a roll call.

Vice Chair Rita Athas: Yes	Trustee Dennis Barsema: Yes
Trustee John Butler: Yes	Trustee Montel Gayles: Yes
Trustee Veronica Herrero: Yes	Trustee Bob Pritchard: Yes
Trustee Jacob Sommer: Absent	Board Chair Eric Wasowicz: Yes

The motion was approved.

The meeting adjourned at 3:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Crystal Doyle  
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.*