

Minutes of the
Board of Trustees of Northern Illinois University
Special Meeting
November 9, 2023

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 12:32 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: Present

Trustee Tim Moore: Present

Trustee Leland Strom: Present

Board Chair Eric Wasowicz: Present

Also present: President Lisa Freeman; Vice President and General Counsel and Board Parliamentarian Bryan Perry; Interim Executive Vice President and Provost Laurie Elish-Piper; Vice President for Administration and Finance and Chief Financial Officer George Middlemist; NIU Police Chief Darren Mitchell; Senior Associate Vice President and Chief Human Resource Office John Arcado; Vice President for Enrollment Management, Marketing and Communications Sol Jensen; and University Advisory Council (UAC) Representative Felicia Bohanon and Benjamin Creed.

MEETING AGENDA APPROVAL

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

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 21, 2023

Chair Wasowicz asked for a motion to approve the minutes of September 21, 2023. Trustee Gayles so moved, and Trustee Barsema seconded. Trustee Strom abstained since he was not at the meeting on September 21, 2023. The motion was approved.

CHAIR'S COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Wasowicz welcomed the members of the University Advisory Council who were present. UAC Representative Creed welcomed Trustee Strom.

Chair Wasowicz welcomed Trustee Strom to the Board of Trustees and looks forward to working with him.

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. 172

Chair Wasowicz asked President Freeman to present the President's Report No. 172.

Agenda Item 7.a. Fiscal Year 2025 Appropriations Request

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

Chair Wasowicz asked for a motion to approve item 7.a. Trustee Barsema so moved, and Trustee Strom seconded. The motion was approved.

Agenda Item 7.b. Fiscal Year 2025 IBHE Capital Budget Request

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

Chair Wasowicz asked for a motion to approve item 7.b. Trustee Herrero so moved, and Trustee Butler seconded. The motion was approved.

Agenda Item 7.c. Intercollegiate Athletics Air Charter Services for Basketball Teams

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

Chair Wasowicz asked for a motion to approve item 7.c. Trustee Strom so moved, and Trustee Barsema seconded. The motion was approved.

Agenda Item 7.d. Collective Bargaining Agreement for the Metropolitan Alliance of Police, Chapter 291

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

Chair Wasowicz asked for a motion to approve item 7.d. Trustee Athas so moved, and Trustee Moore seconded. The motion was approved.

Agenda Item 7.e. Collective Bargaining Agreement for the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, Council 31, Local 1890

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

Chair Wasowicz asked for a motion to approve item 7.e. Vice Chair Gayles so moved, and Trustee Athas seconded. The motion was approved.

CHAIR’S REPORT NO. 108

Chair Wasowicz presented the Chair’s Report No. 108.

Agenda Item 8.a. 2023 Annual Performance Review of President Freeman

Chair Wasowicz presented agenda item 8.a.

Agenda Item 8.b. 2023 Presidential Evaluation Performance Incentive Pay

Chair Wasowicz presented agenda item 8.b. for approval.

Chair Wasowicz asked for a motion to approve item 8.b. Trustee Athas so moved, and Trustee Herrero seconded. 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 December 7, 2023 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: closed session minutes matters as generally described under section 2(c)(21) of the open meetings act; collective bargaining matters as generally described under section 2(c)(2) 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; real estate matters as generally described under section 2(c)(5) and (6) of the open meetings act; personnel matters as generally described under sections 2(c)(1)(2)(3) and (21) of the open meetings act and student disciplinary cases matters as generally described under sections 2(c)(11) and (12) of the open meetings act.

Trustee Moore so moved, and Trustee Barsema seconded.

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

Trustee Rita Athas: Yes

Trustee Dennis Barsema: Yes

Trustee John Butler: Yes

Trustee Montel Gayles: Yes

Trustee Veronica Herrero: Yes

Trustee Tim Moore: Yes

Trustee Leland Strom: Yes

Board Chair Eric Wasowicz: Yes

The motion was approved.

The Board closed the public meeting at 12:57 p.m.

The meeting reconvened from closed session at 4:11 p.m.

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

Trustee Rita Athas: Absent

Trustee Dennis Barsema: Yes

Trustee John Butler: Yes

Trustee Montel Gayles: Yes

Trustee Veronica Herrero: Absent

Trustee Tim Moore: Yes

Trustee Leland Strom: Yes

Board Chair Eric Wasowicz: Yes

ADJOURNMENT

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

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

Trustee Rita Athas: Absent

Trustee Dennis Barsema: Yes

Trustee John Butler: Yes

Trustee Montel Gayles: Yes

Trustee Veronica Herrero: Absent

Trustee Tim Moore: Yes

Trustee Leland Strom: Yes

Board Chair Eric Wasowicz: Yes

The motion was approved.

The meeting adjourned at 4:13 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.