

Minutes of the
Board of Trustees of Northern Illinois University
Special Meeting
May 9, 2024

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 12:40 p.m. by Board Vice Chair John Butler in the Board of Trustees Room, 315 Altgeld Hall.

Recording Secretary Crystal Doyle conducted a roll call.

Trustee Rita Athas: Present

Trustee Dennis Barsema: Present

Vice Chair John Butler: Present

Trustee Veronica Herrero: Present

Trustee Tim Moore: Present

Trustee Leland Strom: Present

Trustee Eric Wasowicz: Present

Board Chair Montel Gayles: Absent

Also present: President Lisa Freeman; Vice President and General Counsel and Board Parliamentarian Bryan Perry; Executive Vice President and Provost Laurie Elish-Piper; Senior Associate Vice President and Chief Human Resource Office John Acardo; Vice President for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion and Chief Diversity Officer Carol Sumner; Vice President for Enrollment Management, Marketing and Communications Sol Jensen; and University Advisory Council (UAC) Representatives Felicia Bohanon, Benjamin Creed and Natasha Johnson.

MEETING AGENDA APPROVAL

Vice Chair Butler asked for a motion to approve the meeting agenda. Trustee Barsema so moved, and Trustee Strom seconded. The motion was approved.

Vice Chair Butler asked for a motion to amend that motion, in order to approve a consent agenda for action items 6.b. through 6.e. Trustee Wasowicz so moved, and Trustee Herrero seconded. The motion was approved.

CHAIR'S COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

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

PRESIDENT'S REPORT NO. 176

Vice Chair Butler asked President Freeman to present the President's Report No. 176.

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

Agenda Item 6.b. – Appointment of Dean of the College of Business

Agenda Item 6.c. – Appointment of Vice President for Research and Innovation Partnerships

Agenda Item 6.d. – Reappointment of Acting Dean of the College of Education

Agenda Item 6.e. – Division of Human Resource Services Purchase of Time Keeping and Absence Management Solution

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

Agenda Item 6.a. Recommendations for Faculty Tenure and/or Promotion Effective 2024-2025

President Freeman presented agenda item 6.a. for approval.

Vice Chair Butler reminded Trustee Moore he needs to abstain from voting on this agenda item.

Vice Chair Butler asked for a motion to approve item 6.a. Trustee Strom so moved, and Trustee Herrero seconded.

Vice Chair Butler asked Ms. Doyle to conduct a roll call vote.

Trustee Rita Athas: Yes

Trustee Dennis Barsema: Yes

Vice Chair John Butler: Yes

Trustee Veronica Herrero: Yes

Trustee Tim Moore: Abstain

Trustee Leland Strom: Yes

Trustee Eric Wasowicz: Yes

Board Chair Montel Gayles: Absent

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 20, 2024 at 9:00 a.m.

CLOSED SESSION

Vice Chair Butler 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; student disciplinary cases matters as generally described under sections 2(c)(11) and (12) of the open meetings act; and personnel matters as generally described under sections 2(c)(1)(2)(3) and (21) of the open meetings act.

Trustee Wasowicz so moved, and Trustee Herrero seconded.

Vice Chair Butler asked Ms. Doyle to conduct a roll call vote.

Trustee Rita Athas: Yes

Trustee Dennis Barsema: Yes

Vice Chair John Butler: Yes

Trustee Veronica Herrero: Yes

Trustee Tim Moore: Yes

Trustee Leland Strom: Yes

Trustee Eric Wasowicz: Yes

Board Chair Montel Gayles: Absent

The motion was approved.

The Board closed the public meeting at 12:48 p.m.

The meeting reconvened from closed session at 1:42 p.m.

Vice Chair Butler asked Ms. Doyle to conduct a roll call.

Trustee Rita Athas: Yes

Trustee Dennis Barsema: Yes

Vice Chair John Butler: Yes

Trustee Veronica Herrero: Yes

Trustee Tim Moore: Yes

Trustee Leland Strom: Yes

Trustee Eric Wasowicz: Yes

Board Chair Montel Gayles: Absent

ADJOURNMENT

Vice Chair Butler asked for a motion to adjourn. Trustee Wasowicz so moved, and Trustee Strom seconded.

Vice Chair Butler asked Ms. Doyle to conduct a roll call.

Trustee Rita Athas: Yes

Trustee Dennis Barsema: Yes

Vice Chair John Butler: Yes

Trustee Veronica Herrero: Yes

Trustee Tim Moore: Yes

Trustee Leland Strom: Yes

Trustee Eric Wasowicz: Yes

Board Chair Montel Gayles: Absent

The motion was approved.

The meeting adjourned at 1:43 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.