



## **Board of Trustees**

COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM OF NH  
Meeting of February 24, 2021

**Present (teleconference):** Trustee Kathy Bogle Shields (Acting Chair), Trustee Paul Holloway (Past Chair), Trustee Alison Stebbins (Treasurer), Trustee Edwin Smith (Secretary), Trustee Steve Rothenberg, Trustee Robert Baines, Trustee Jack Calhoun, Trustee Sharon Harris, Trustee Tricia Lucas, Trustee Steven Slovenski, Trustee Richard Heath, Trustee Jeff Cozzens, Trustee Alexander Johnson, Trustee Stephen Ellis, Hollie Noveletsky, Interim Chancellor Susan Huard, Marie-Helene Bailinson (NH Department of Employment Security), President Brian Bicknell (MCC), President Lucille Jordan (NCC), President Larissa Baia (LRCC), President Gretchen Mullin-Sawicki (NHTI), President Charles Lloyd (WMCC), President Alfred Williams (RVCC), Interim President Cathryn Addy (GBCC), Jonathan Melanson (Governor's Office)

**Regrets:** Trustee Jeremy Hitchcock, Trustee Darrin Daniels, Trustee Todd Emmons, Trustee Tiler Eaton, Trustee John Stevens, Trustee Megan Elwell, Trustee Bryant Abbott, Commissioner Taylor Caswell (NH Department of Business and Economic Affairs), Commissioner Frank Edelblut (Department of Education)

**Others Presenting to the Board (teleconference):** Shannon Reid (CCSNH), Monica Bradley (CCSNH), Tim Allison (CCSNH), Scott Fields (CCSNH), Mark Broth (Drummond Woodsum)

Acting Chair Shields called the meeting to order at 5:01 pm and called the roll. Regarding the conduct of a telephonic meeting and counting all members toward the quorum requirement whether or not physically present in the meeting location, the Acting Chair declared an emergency meeting in order to follow social distancing guidelines related to the current public health crisis, pursuant to RSA 91-A: 2 (III)(b). No conflicts of interest were expressed.

### Draft Statement from the Board

Trustees Stebbins and Noveletsky worked with Ms. Reid and Chancellor Huard to produce a draft board statement on the Governor's proposal to combine the USNH and CCSNH boards. Discussion followed regarding the excessive time and expense involved in merging the systems, based on the experiences of other states who have taken similar actions. The board discussed the difference between the two systems regarding mission and service to the state and residents of NH, and the need for the system to lead and be an active participant in these conversations.

Mr. Cozzens left the meeting at 5:30 pm.

**VOTE:** The Board, on motion of Mr. Calhoun and seconded by Mr. Baines, voted unanimously by roll call to approve the board statement as revised.

Mr. Johnson left the meeting at 6:06 pm.



#### Leadership Transition

Mr. Hitchcock resigned from the board, and Ms. Shields will serve as Acting Chair. The Governor's Office has been notified. The announcement of Mr. Hitchcock's resignation will be included in the press release for the board statement.

**VOTE:** The Board, on motion of Mr. Holloway and seconded by Mr. Slovenski, voted unanimously by roll call to approve a declaration of appreciation for Mr. Hitchcock's profound contributions to CCSNH throughout his years of leadership and dedicated service as a member of the board of trustees.

#### Other Business

The Governance Committee will determine the process for nominating five board members for the proposed combined higher education board.

An update on strategic planning will be provided to the Assets & Resources Committee for the next committee meeting.

#### Non-Public Session

**VOTE:** The Board, on motion of Mr. Holloway and seconded by Mr. Baines, voted unanimously by roll call to conduct a non-public session according to the provisions in RSA 91-A: 3, II (a), in order to discuss a personnel matter.

The Board entered non-public session at 6:17 pm and returned to public session at 6:38 pm. No votes were taken in the non-public session.

**VOTE:** The Board, on motion of Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. Holloway, voted unanimously by roll call to seal the minutes based upon RSA 91- A:3, III, in that divulgence of the information may affect adversely the reputation of persons other than CCSNH voting trustees.

No further business was brought forward. The meeting adjourned at 6:40 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Meghan Eckner  
Executive Assistant to the Chancellor and Board of Trustees