

MEETING OF THE AUDIT, BUDGET, FINANCE, AND FACILITIES COMMITTEE  
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

JANUARY 11, 2021

This meeting of the Audit, Budget, Finance, and Facilities Committee of the Board of Trustees of the University of Illinois was held via teleconference<sup>1</sup> on Monday, January 11, 2021, at 3:02 p.m.

Trustee Ramón Cepeda, chair of the committee, convened the meeting and asked the secretary to call the roll. The following committee members were present: Mr. Ramón Cepeda; Mr. Donald J. Edwards; Dr. Stuart C. King; Mr. Lester H. McKeever Jr., treasurer; Ms. Jocelyn Bravo, voting student trustee, Chicago. Mr. Kareem Dale; Ms. Naomi D. Jakobsson; Ms. Jill B. Smart; Mr. Ali Mirza, student trustee, Urbana; and Mr. Austin Verthein, student trustee, Springfield, attended as guests.

Also present were President Timothy L. Killeen; Dr. Barbara J. Wilson, executive vice president and vice president for academic affairs; Dr. Robert J. Jones, chancellor, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, and vice president, University of Illinois System; Dr. Michael D. Amiridis, chancellor, University of Illinois Chicago, and vice president, University of Illinois System; Dr. Karen M. Whitney, interim chancellor, University of Illinois Springfield, and vice president, University of Illinois System; Dr. Avijit Ghosh, comptroller (and vice president/chief financial officer); Mr. Thomas R.

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<sup>1</sup> Per Governor J. B. Pritzker's Executive Order 2021-01.

Bearrows, University counsel; Mr. Thomas P. Hardy, executive director for University relations; Dr. Joseph T. Walsh Jr., interim vice president for economic development and innovation; and Mr. Gregory J. Knott, secretary of the Board of Trustees and of the University. Mr. Knott introduced Dr. Mitra Dutta, professor of electrical and computer engineering in the College of Engineering, Chicago, and member of the Finance, Budget and Benefits Committee of the University Senates Conference. Attached is a listing of other staff members and some members of the media in attendance at this meeting.

Mr. Cepeda asked if there were any comments or corrections to the minutes from the meeting held November 2, 2020. On motion of Mr. Edwards, seconded by Mr. McKeever, the minutes were approved by the following roll call vote:<sup>2</sup> Aye, Ms. Bravo, Mr. Cepeda, Mr. Edwards, Dr. King, Mr. McKeever; No, none.

## PRESENTATIONS AND BOARD ITEMS

Mr. Cepeda asked certain individuals in attendance to provide presentations and report on the items that will appear on the Board's agenda at its meeting on January 21, 2021. All proposed agenda items discussed at the meeting are on file with the secretary.

### Capital and Real Estate Items

Mr. Cepeda asked Dr. Ghosh to report on recommended capital and real estate items. Dr. Ghosh first reported on the recommendation to award construction contracts for the

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<sup>2</sup> Per 5 ILCS 120/7(e), all votes are conducted by roll call.

Susan and Clint Atkins Baseball Training Center and the Rex and Alice A. Martin Softball Training Center in the Division of Intercollegiate Athletics at Urbana. He gave a history of the project and said that approval is now requested to award contracts to Williams Brothers Construction. Dr. Ghosh said competitive bidding procedures in accordance with the Illinois Procurement Code were followed and that funds for the project are available from the institutional funds operating budget of the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign and gift funds. He reported that the Minority and Female Business Enterprise (MAFBE) participation rate is 21 percent.

Next, Dr. Ghosh discussed the recommendation to rename the Civil Engineering Hydrosystems Laboratory Building at Urbana as the Civil and Environmental Engineering Building. He told the committee that the building was renovated and has broadened its use to support civil and environmental engineering. Dr. Ghosh said the proposed name change reflects the scope, depth, and use of the building.

Dr. Ghosh provided information on the recommendation to employ Jacobs Consulting, Inc., with OMA\*AMO Architecture for the Discovery Partners Institute (DPI) and noted that this is a Capital Development Board project. He described the role of DPI in the state as a driver of economic development and innovation infrastructure. Dr. Ghosh said the Capital Development Board commenced a professional services consultant selection process and chose Jacobs Consulting, Inc., with OMA\*AMO Architecture from three finalists. Dr. Ghosh said this firm has a focus on sustainability and that the fees will be negotiated by the Capital Development Board. President Killeen

commented on the presentations made by the finalists and said he is delighted to see the project moving forward.

Next, Dr. Ghosh discussed the recommendation to delegate authority to the comptroller to approve the lease of space at 1817 South Neil Street in Champaign. He reported on the proposed cost and rationale for the lease.

Dr. Ghosh then provided information on the recommendation to delegate authority to the comptroller to approve the lease of space for the Mile Square Health Center at 839-845 West 79<sup>th</sup> Street in Chicago. He described the location of the building in the Auburn Gresham area and asked Dr. Robert A. Barish, vice chancellor for health affairs, Chicago, to comment. Dr. Barish said he is excited to work with this community and introduced Dr. Henry Taylor, executive director of the Mile Square Health Center. Dr. Taylor described the role of Mile Square in the community and said this practice is scheduled to open in spring 2022. Dr. Ghosh provided information on aspects of the proposed lease. President Killeen remarked on the significance of the new location for Mile Square and its impact on the community. Dr. Barish indicated he would share a pro forma with Mr. Edwards after the meeting.

#### Purchase Recommendations

Dr. Ghosh then reported on purchase recommendations, beginning with the proposed purchase of 340B prescription drugs from McKesson Pharmaceutical for the College of Medicine at Chicago. He said the College of Medicine operates five UI Health Community Clinic Network (UCCN) HIV/AIDS clinics in underserved communities that

are eligible for the 304B discounted drug program and that UCCN is partnering with Walgreens as their contract pharmacy and is using McKesson as their wholesaler to acquire needed medications. Dr. Ghosh said this purchase is exempt from competitive selection procedures in accordance with the Illinois Procurement Code and that Business Enterprise Program (BEP) goals are not established for such contracts.

Next, Dr. Ghosh reported on the recommended purchase of COVID-19 testing reagents and supplies for UI Hospital and Clinics from January 22, 2021, through January 21, 2023, from Abbott Laboratories. He said the hospital has performed nearly 30,000 polymerase chain reaction methodology (PCR) tests for inpatients, community clinics, drive-through locations, and employees, and that it is expected that the need for COVID-19 testing will continue even with the implementation of a vaccine. Dr. Ghosh said this purchase is exempt to competitive selection procedures in accordance with the Illinois Procurement Code and as such does not have established BEP goals.

Dr. Ghosh then discussed the recommended purchase of temporary clinical and non-clinical staffing services to support the operations of the UI Hospital and Clinics for January 21, 2021, through June 30, 2022, from Cross Country Staffing, Inc./Medical Staffing Network. He described the types of positions included and said these are needed because of demand due to increased intensive care patients, patients hospitalized with COVID-19, implications of contact tracing, and staff diagnosed with COVID-19. Dr. Ghosh said this is a reliable source for temporary staffing needs.

Lastly, Dr. Ghosh reported on the purchase of a print and electronic document management rental system for the University of Illinois Chicago for a six-year

period with options to renew from Gordan Flesch Company, Inc. He said competitive sealed proposal procedures were followed in accordance with the Illinois Procurement Code and that there is a 12 percent participation goal for this solicitation. Dr. Ghosh told the committee that Gordon Flesch Company requested a good faith effort waiver of 6 percent due to the unstable COVID-19 environment after demonstrating they had contacted 11 vendors for BEP participation.

Brief discussion followed regarding BEP goals for purchases that are exempt from competitive selection procedures in accordance with the Illinois Procurement Code, and Dr. Ghosh stated that the use of Minority and Female Business Enterprise (MAFBE) vendors is encouraged.

#### OLD BUSINESS

There was no business presented under this aegis.

#### NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Cepeda asked if committee members had any new business to report. Dr. Ghosh highlighted the potential impact of the recent stimulus bill that provides \$20.2 billion for higher education institutions and said that while the higher education community advocated for more funding, the bill provides more support for higher education than was available through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act. He described the distribution of funds and said the University of Illinois System expects to receive an estimated \$93.0 million. Dr. Ghosh said some must be used for student

financial aid, and he told the committee that the University of Illinois Chicago will likely also receive additional funds as a minority-serving institution. He said funds should be distributed within a month, and discussion is underway regarding the best use of these funds. Dr. Ghosh referred to some restrictions on their use and described some provisions included in the bill that impact higher education. Brief discussion followed, and Dr. Ghosh described the allocation of funds to each university. He also explained that these funds must be used in relation to costs incurred or revenue lost due to COVID-19.

Mr. Cepeda announced that the next meeting of this committee is scheduled for Monday, March 1, 2021, at 3:00 p.m.

#### MEETING ADJOURNED

On motion of Dr. King, seconded by Mr. Edwards, the meeting adjourned at 3:40 p.m. by the following roll call vote: Aye, Ms. Bravo, Mr. Cepeda, Mr. Edwards, Dr. King, Mr. McKeever; No, none.

Respectfully submitted,

GREGORY J. KNOTT  
*Secretary*

RAMÓN CEPEDA  
*Chair*

EILEEN B. CABLE  
*Special Assistant to the Secretary*