

MEETING OF THE GOVERNANCE, PERSONNEL, AND ETHICS COMMITTEE  
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

MAY 18, 2022

This meeting of the Governance, Personnel, and Ethics Committee of the Board of Trustees of the University of Illinois was held via teleconference<sup>1</sup> on Wednesday, May 18, 2022, beginning at 2:00 p.m.

Trustee Stuart C. King, vice chair of the committee, convened the meeting, as Mr. Ricardo Estrada, who serves as chair of the committee, was unable to attend. Dr. King stated that the chair of the Board of Trustees determined that an in-person meeting would not be practical or prudent due to COVID-19 and that under Section 7(e)(2) of the Open Meetings Act, this meeting would be held virtually. He asked the secretary to call the roll. The following members of the committee were present: Mr. Donald J. Edwards; Ms. Naomi D. Jakobsson; Dr. Stuart C. King; and Ms. Mariama Mwilambwe, student trustee, Urbana. Mr. Ricardo Estrada and Ms. Patricia Brown Holmes were absent. Ms. Tami Craig Schilling; Ms. Sarah C. Phalen; and Mr. Austin Verthein, student trustee, Springfield, attended as guests.

Also present were Mr. Lester H. McKeever Jr., treasurer; President Timothy L. Killeen; Dr. Avijit Ghosh, interim executive vice president and vice president for academic affairs; Dr. Robert J. Jones, chancellor, University of Illinois Urbana-

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<sup>1</sup> Per Governor J. B. Pritzker's April 29, 2022, Gubernatorial Disaster Proclamation and 5 ILCS 120/7(e).

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. Paul N. Ellinger, interim comptroller (and vice president/chief financial officer); Dr. Joseph T. Walsh Jr., vice president for economic development and innovation; Mr. Thomas R. Bearrows, University counsel; Ms. Adrienne Nazon, vice president of external relations and communications; and Mr. Gregory J. Knott, secretary of the Board of Trustees and of the University. Attached is a listing of other staff members and some members of the media in attendance at this meeting.

Dr. King welcomed everyone to the meeting. He then asked if there were any comments or questions regarding the minutes from the meeting that was held on March 16, 2022, and there were none. On motion of Ms. Jakobsson, seconded by Dr. King, the minutes were approved by the following roll call vote:<sup>2</sup> Aye, Mr. Edwards, Ms. Jakobsson, Dr. King, Ms. Mwilambwe; No, none; Absent, Mr. Estrada, Ms. Holmes.

REVIEW OF RECOMMENDED BOARD ITEMS  
FOR THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS ON MAY 19, 2022

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

Dr. King introduced the recommended items within the purview of this committee on the Board's agenda at its meeting on May 19, 2022. All recommended items discussed at the meeting are on file with the secretary.

Appointments to the Faculty, Administrative/Professional Staff,  
and Intercollegiate Athletic Staff

Dr. King asked Mr. Knott to comment on the recommended appointments to the faculty, administrative/professional staff, and intercollegiate athletic staff. Mr. Knott explained that the appointments recommended in this item are thoroughly reviewed at the appropriate levels within the college, department, and unit, and he asked that members of the committee contact him with any questions.

Amend Multiyear Contract with Head Varsity Coach, Men's Basketball, Urbana

Dr. King then asked Dr. Jones to discuss the recommendation to amend the multiyear contract with Mr. Bradley Underwood, head varsity coach, men's basketball, Division of Intercollegiate Athletics, Urbana. Dr. Jones referred to the terms of Mr. Underwood's initial appointment that began on March 18, 2017, and outlined the amendments that were approved by the Board in March 2020 and September 2021. He mentioned the success of the men's basketball team and said that this recommendation would extend Mr. Underwood's contract by one year, through April 30, 2028. He noted that additional terms of the contract are also listed in the item.

Dr. King referred to the recent success in athletics and asked Dr. Jones to verify the source of funds used to pay the salaries of coaches and athletic directors. Dr. Jones indicated the funding is derived from athletics and not from tuition dollars or the State appropriation.

#### Appoint Head Varsity Coach, Women's Basketball, Urbana

Dr. Jones then reported on the recommendation to appoint Ms. Shauna Lee Green, formerly head coach for women's basketball, University of Dayton, Ohio, as head varsity coach, women's basketball, Division of Intercollegiate Athletics, Urbana. He described Ms. Green's background and experience and reviewed aspects of her contract, noting that the source of funds for her salary is derived from athletics.

#### Amend Multiyear Contract with Director, Division of Intercollegiate Athletics, Urbana

Next, Dr. Jones provided information regarding the recommendation to amend the multiyear contract with Mr. Joshua H. Whitman, director, Division of Intercollegiate Athletics, Urbana. He gave some background on the original contract that was effective March 5, 2016, and the amendment that extended his contract through June 30, 2024. He said this recommendation would extend Mr. Whitman's contract through June 30, 2028, and he referred to the proposed terms of the contract. Dr. Jones added that Mr. Whitman is a senior leader in the field, the Big Ten, and the NCAA.

Dr. King remarked on Mr. Whitman's leadership and reiterated that his salary is paid from athletic funds. President Killeen commented on Mr. Whitman's

commitment to academics and highlighted the academic success of the university's student-athletes.

Appoint Head Coach, Women's Basketball, Chicago

Dr. King then asked Dr. Amiridis to report on the recommendation to appoint Ms. Ashleen Bracey, previously assistant coach of women's basketball at the University of Missouri, as the head coach of women's basketball, Department of Intercollegiate Athletics, Chicago. Dr. Amiridis described Ms. Bracey's background and experience and aspects of the proposed contract. He said the proposed appointment follows a national search and opined that Ms. Bracey is the right person for the team at this time.

Reappoint Members to the Advisory Board,  
Division of Specialized Care for Children (DSCC) in Springfield, Chicago

Next, Dr. Amiridis reported on the recommendation to reappoint members to the advisory board for the Division of Specialized Care for Children (DSCC) in Springfield, Chicago. He provided information about the DSCC and its role, and he said this recommendation would reappoint Dr. Eric T. Elwood and Dr. Kathy D. Swafford as members of the advisory board.

Appoint Member to Board of Managers of Illinois Ventures, LLC

Dr. King asked Dr. Walsh to provide information regarding an appointment to the board of managers of Illinois Ventures, LLC. Dr. Walsh reported on the history of Illinois

Ventures, LLC and described the structure of the board of managers. He said that this recommendation would appoint Dr. Jeffrey Brown, dean of the Gies College of Business, as a voting member of the board. He noted that this appointment is not intended to create a recurring, *ex officio* appointment related to the dean of the Gies College of Business, and is instead specific to Dr. Brown, recognizing his unique contributions and expertise.

Approve Minutes of the Board of Trustees  
as the Sole Member of Prairieland Energy, Inc., Meeting;  
Appoint Director and Officer, Prairieland Energy, Inc.

Next, Dr. King asked Mr. Mike Wilson, assistant vice president, Capital Programs and Utilities Services, to review the recommendations to approve the minutes of the Board of Trustees as the sole member of Prairieland Energy, Inc., meeting and to appoint a director and officer of Prairieland Energy, Inc. Mr. Wilson referred to the minutes from the from the September 23, 2021, meeting, which are recommended for approval.

Mr. Wilson then reported on the recommendation to appoint Dr. Ellinger as vice chair of Prairieland Energy, Inc., and Ms. Joda Morton, director of enterprise risk management for the University of Illinois System, as Prairieland director. Mr. Wilson explained that Mr. Michael B. Bass served as both vice chair and director of Prairieland and is retiring from the University. He thanked Mr. Bass for his more than 20 years of service.

There were no objections to these items being forwarded to the full Board for approval.

## PRESENTATIONS

### Legislative Update

Next, Dr. King asked Ms. Jennifer M. Creasey, assistant vice president external and state relations, and Mr. Paul Weinberger, assistant vice president federal relations, to give a legislative update. Ms. Creasey reported on the end of the State legislative session and described effective advocacy efforts that prioritized the State appropriation. She referred to an increase in the State appropriation for Fiscal Years 2022 and 2023 and an increase in Monetary Award Program (MAP) funding and reported on funding for other projects. Ms. Creasey listed bills impacting the University that were supported by the Office of Governmental Relations and have passed, and she said that they plan to advocate for a large procurement package next year. She said it was a successful legislative session and that they were able to demonstrate the value of University to the State of Illinois. Mr. Weinberger reported on visits from the director of the National Science Foundation and from the U.S. Department of Education. He discussed legislation that aims to boost the U.S. competitiveness that would have a primarily positive impact on research universities.

### OLD BUSINESS

There was no business presented under this aegis.

### NEW BUSINESS

Dr. King asked if there was any new business to discuss, and there was none. He announced that the next meeting of the Governance, Personnel, and Ethics Committee is scheduled for July 20, 2022, at 2:00 p.m., at Urbana.

#### MOTION FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

Dr. King stated: “A motion is now in order to hold an executive session to consider discussion of minutes of meetings lawfully closed under the Open Meetings Act.” Mr. Knott stated that each public body subject to the Open Meetings Act shall, at least every six months or soon after thereafter as is practicable, meet to review the minutes of all closed meetings, and we will be discussing this review during the executive session today. On motion of Ms. Jakobsson, seconded by Mr. Edwards, this motion was approved by the following roll call vote: Aye, Mr. Edwards, Ms. Jakobsson, Dr. King, Ms. Mwilambwe; No, none; Absent, Mr. Estrada, Ms. Holmes.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

**Material redacted pursuant to the Illinois Open Meetings Act (5 ILCS 120/2.06d)**

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION ADJOURNED

The executive session adjourned at 2:35 p.m.

## AGENDA

At 2:36 p.m., the open session resumed. Dr. King stated that there was one agenda item requiring action by the committee, and Mr. Knott read aloud the title of the item, “Disclose Certain Minutes of Executive Sessions Pursuant to the Open Meetings Act.” The committee agreed that one vote would be taken and considered the vote on the agenda item as listed below.

## Disclose Certain Minutes of Executive Sessions Pursuant to Open Meetings Act

(1) Under the Open Meetings Act passed by the General Assembly, public bodies subject to the Act that conduct business under exceptions specified in the Act must, at least every six months, determine whether the need for confidentiality still exists with respect to each item considered under such exception. Pursuant to the Act, “[m]inutes of meetings closed to the public shall be available only after the public body determines that it is no longer necessary to protect the public interest or the privacy of an individual by keeping them confidential...” [5 ILCS 120/2.06(f)].

An item from September 2010 through November 2021 that has been heretofore unreleased is recommended for release at this time.

The University counsel and the secretary of the Board, having consulted with appropriate University officers, recommends that the following matter considered in executive session for the time period above be made available to the public at this time.

The committee action recommended in this item complies in all material respects with applicable State and federal laws, University of Illinois *Statutes*, *The General Rules Concerning University Organization and Procedure*, and Board of Trustees policies and directives.

The president of the University concurs.

## **Executive Session Minutes Released to Public**

### **November 17, 2021, Governance, Personnel, and Ethics Committee**

Mr. Estrada convened this executive session at 2:26 p.m. All committee members except Ms. Holmes were present. The following were also in attendance: President Timothy L. Killeen; Mr. Thomas R. Bearrows, University counsel; and Mr. Gregory J. Knott, secretary of the Board of Trustees and of the University.

### **Discussion of Minutes of Meetings Lawfully Closed Under the Open Meetings Act**

Mr. Estrada asked Mr. Knott and Mr. Bearrows to discuss the minutes that had been sequestered under the Open Meetings Act. Mr. Knott outlined the requirement within the Open Meetings Act for public bodies to review minutes, at least twice annually, for purposes of the public interest and in the interest of individual privacy, and to consider whether a need for these materials to be held from release still exists. Mr. Bearrows stated that he and Mr. Knott reviewed the minutes that are sequestered under the Open

Meetings Act, and he referred to guidelines used to determine whether the need for confidentiality continues. He described the topics discussed in the sequestered minutes from this committee and stated that the only sequestered minutes recommended for release at this time relate to the discussion of sequestered minutes from May 19, 2021. No members of the committee disagreed with this recommendation.

On motion of Mr. Edwards, seconded by Ms. Jakobsson, this motion was approved by the following roll call vote: Aye, Mr. Edwards, Ms. Jakobsson, Dr. King, Ms. Mwilambwe; No, none; Absent, Mr. Estrada, Ms. Holmes.

#### MEETING ADJOURNED

On motion of Mr. Edwards, the meeting adjourned at 2:37 p.m. There were no “nay” votes.

Respectfully submitted,

GREGORY J. KNOTT  
*Secretary*

STUART C. KING, MD, MBA  
*Vice Chair*

EILEEN B. CABLE  
*Special Assistant to the Secretary*