

MINUTES
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
APPALACHIAN STATE UNIVERSITY

Friday, February 21, 2025
4:45 pm

Virtual Meeting via Zoom and Conference Call

CALL TO ORDER: The Board of Trustees of Appalachian State University met at the call of the Chair on Friday, February 21, 2025, at 4:45 p.m. Chair Mark E. Ricks presided and called the meeting to order.

MEMBERS PRESENT VIA ZOOM:

- J. Jeffries Chesson
- Fairley Bell Cook
- Anita B. Greene
- James E. Harris
- Scott K. Lampe
- Kathryn R. Long
- James K. Reaves
- Mark E. Ricks
- Bonnie Schaefer
- Kimberly M. Shepherd
- R. Thomas Sofield
- Steven D. Wyatt

MEMBER ABSENT: Tamela W. Everett

OTHERS PRESENT:

- Dawn Antonucci
- Deanna Ballard
- Brad Trahan, Interim General Counsel

CONFLICT OF INTEREST NOTICE: Chair Ricks read the following statement:

"Under the State Government Ethics Act, all voting members of the Board of Trustees have a duty to avoid conflicts of interest and appearances of conflicts. Looking at the agenda for today's meeting, does anyone know that you have a conflict of interest or an interest that would give rise to the appearance of a conflict of interest? If so, please let me know now."

None Reported.

ROLL CALL: Chair Ricks asked Dawn Antonucci to call roll to verify all participants at the meeting.

Chancellor Search Update

Chair Ricks recognized Senator Deanna Ballard, Chair of the Chancellor Search Advisory Committee for this item.

Senator Ballard reported the Committee came together on August 15. During that meeting President Hans delivered the charge to the Committee to identify candidates for the Board of Trustees and his consideration.

Senator Ballard reported that the Search Committee immediately went to work to hear from all voices in our community. Several steps were taken to get constituent feedback:

- We held listening forums to hear from our faculty, staff, community, alumni and students. These listening sessions were hosted by search committee members and were highly informative.
- We also created an online survey and received over 2000 constituent responses.

The Committee also approved the leadership statement. The development of the leadership statement was a collaborative effort. It incorporated feedback from our Appalachian State University faculty, staff, students and community.

After the President reviewed and approved the leadership statement, the UNC System Office staff began sourcing candidates on our behalf. The position was advertised in a wide variety of journals and diverse job boards nationally. There was tremendous interest in the Chancellor position, and we received over 88 applicants from across the country with tremendous variety of leadership experience and backgrounds.

The Committee then decided to pause the search due to the impacts of Hurricane Helene to give the High-Country community a chance to recover.

The Search Advisory Committee conducted in-person interviews and invited candidates for campus visits. During campus visits we had wide participation from our stakeholders. The candidates met with university leadership, trustees, faculty, staff, students, community leaders, donors and other friends of the University.

The Search Advisory Committee convened and is prepared to recommend candidates to the Appalachian State University Board of Trustees.

CLOSED SESSION: Chair Ricks made a motion for the Board to convene in closed session. Chair Ricks asked that everyone be excused with the exception of the Trustees and staff necessary to support the meeting.

Chair Ricks stated the livestream would be closed as the Board convenes in closed session and once the Board returns to open session, the livestream will resume.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Board convened in closed session to:

prevent the disclosure of privileged or confidential information pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 126-22(b)(3) and N.C.G.S. § 132-1.1(a), in accordance with N.C.G.S § 143-318.11(a)(1);

consult with an attorney employed by the public body in order to preserve the attorney client privilege between the attorney and the public body in accordance with N.C.G.S § 143-318.11(a)(3), and

consider the qualifications, competence, performance, character, fitness, conditions of appointment, or conditions of initial employment of an individual public officer or employee or prospective public officer or employee in accordance with N.C.G.S § 143-318.11(a)(6).

PUBLIC SESSION RECONVENED: Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Board reconvened in open session at 5:12 p.m.

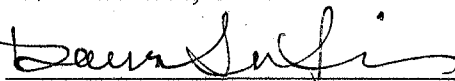
Chancellor Search

Chair Ricks thanked the Board for it's work and shared the Board was prepared to fulfill their obligations under UNC Policy to move forward no less than three (3) unranked candidates to President Hans.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:12 p.m.

Mark E. Ricks, Chair

By:



Dawn Antonucci
Assistant Secretary