

SPECIAL MEETING
BOARD OF REGENTS
NEVADA SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION
System Administration, Reno
2601 Enterprise Road, Conference Room
Monday, May 2, 2016

Video Conference Connection from the Meeting Site to:
System Administration, Las Vegas
4300 S. Maryland Parkway, Board Room
and
Great Basin College, Elko
1500 College Parkway, Berg Hall Conference Room

Members Present: Mr. Rick Trachok, Chairman
Mr. Michael B. Wixom, Vice Chairman
Dr. Andrea Anderson
Mr. Cedric Crear
Mr. Robert Davidson – *via telephone*
Dr. Mark W. Doubrava – *via telephone*
Dr. Jason Geddes
Mr. Trevor Hayes
Mr. Sam Lieberman
Mr. Kevin C. Melcher
Mr. Kevin J. Page – *via telephone*
Ms. Allison Stephens

Members Absent: Mr. James Dean Leavitt

Others Present: Mr. Daniel J. Klaich, Chancellor
Ms. Brooke A. Nielsen, Vice Chancellor, Legal Affairs
Mr. Dean J. Gould, Chief of Staff and Special Counsel to the Board of Regents
Dr. Stephen G. Wells, President, DRI
Dr. Mark A. Curtis, President, GBC
Mr. Bart J. Patterson, President, NSC
Dr. J. Kyle Dalpe, President, TMCC
Mr. Chet Burton, President, WNC

Also present was Ms. Dana Trimble, Faculty Senate Chair, DRI.

Chairman Trachok called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. with all members present except Regents Hayes and Leavitt. Regent Geddes led the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Information Only – Public Comment – Ms. Dana Trimble, Faculty Senate Chair, Desert Research Institute (DRI), said the DRI Faculty Senate supports a national/international search and an external candidate for DRI's acting president. She stated the Faculty Senate strongly supports the recommendation of Dr. Robert B. Gagosian as the acting president of DRI.

Dr. J. Kyle Dalpe, President, Truckee Meadows Community College (TMCC), thanked the Board for the opportunity to serve as acting president and welcomed Dr. Karin Hilgersom to TMCC on behalf of the college.

2. Approved – Appointment, President, TMCC – The Board approved the appointment of the ad hoc TMCC President Search Committee's recommendation of Dr. Karin Hilgersom as President of Truckee Meadows Community College (TMCC) and the salary and contract terms as amended with a start date of June 15, 2016, contingent upon a review of Dr. Hilgersom's background check by the Chancellor and the Vice Chancellor for Legal Affairs (*Refs. BOR-2a through BOR-2e on file in the Board office*).

Regent Melcher moved approval of the appointment of Dr. Karin Hilgersom as the President of Truckee Meadows Community College and approval of the salary and contract terms as presented. Regent Geddes seconded.

Regent Melcher thanked President Dalpe for his leadership as the acting president at TMCC and for his assistance with the search process; Ms. Marti J. Cizek, President, Cizek Associates, Inc., for a pleasant and comprehensive search process with 46 initial candidates and four strong, final candidates; and Mr. Dean J. Gould, Chief of Staff and Special Counsel to the Board of Regents, Ms. Brooke A. Nielsen, Vice Chancellor, Legal Affairs, Mr. Daniel J. Klaich, Chancellor, and the ad hoc TMCC President Search Committee members for their support and participation in the search process. He reviewed the Chancellor's role in the search process and stated the process went very well. Regent Melcher said he asked Chief of Staff Gould to document the process and determine if any policy changes need to be made. He thanked all of the applicants and welcomed Dr. Hilgersom.

Regent Hayes entered the meeting.

Regent Geddes agreed with Regent Melcher's comments and said the candidates were all very qualified and it was a very difficult decision. The Committee felt Dr. Hilgersom is the best fit for TMCC at this time.

Chairman Trachok thanked the Committee for its work and Regent Crear for sitting on the Committee for Regent Anderson while she recovers from surgery.

2. Approved – Appointment, President, TMCC – (*Continued*)

Chancellor Klaich thanked Committee Chair Melcher. He reviewed the contract terms

and recommended a change to the July 1, 2016, start date to June 15, 2016. The three-year contract terms include a \$200,000 annual base salary and automobile, housing and host allowances. Chancellor Klaich said he will be approving certain moving and relocation expenses as provided for in Board Policy. He said he also approved one trip for Dr. Hilgersom and her spouse to visit Reno prior to her start date. He noted that Ms. Cizek said the civil and criminal background check came back clean; however, he is requesting that the motion be contingent upon his review of the background check with Vice Chancellor Nielsen.

Regents Melcher and Geddes amended the motion to include a revised start date of June 15, 2016, and contingent upon a review of the background check by the Chancellor and the Vice Chancellor for Legal Affairs.

Regent Stephens thanked Chancellor Klaich for his presentation of the contract terms.

Motion carried. Regent Leavitt was absent.

Dr. Hilgersom thanked the Board and expressed her excitement about TMCC. She is looking forward to working with the Regents and the Nevada System of Higher Education (NSHE) to advance the transformative and important work of community college higher education.

Chairman Trachok reopened public comment (*Agenda item #1*).

1. Information Only – Public Comment – (*Continued*)

Mr. Mike Benjamin, DRI Foundation Trustee, and Ms. Stephanie Tyler, DRI Foundation Vice Chair, thanked the Board for the opportunity to be involved in the search process and spoke in support of Dr. Robert B. Gagosian.

3. Approved – Acting President and Presidential Transition, DRI – The Board approved the appointment of Dr. Robert B. Gagosian as the acting president of the Desert Research Institute (DRI) and approved the contract and terms as presented (*Refs. BOR-3a through BOR-3d on file in the Board office*).

Chancellor Klaich, after consultation with Chairman Trachok, recommended approval of Dr. Gagosian as the acting president of DRI. Chancellor Klaich reviewed the information regarding campus visits included in his April 25, 2016, memorandum submitted to the Board. It is clear the campus wanted a national/international search and an outside president for acting president. Two very strong candidates emerged in the process and

3. Approved – Acting President and Presidential Transition, DRI – (Continued)

Chancellor Klaich said he is very excited about the recommendation of Dr. Robert B. Gagosian as the acting president of DRI. Dr. Gagosian is a scientist of international renown and respect. The contract terms include a salary recommendation of \$275,000 and automobile, housing and host allowances and no merit or cost of living adjustments. The contract term is one year or upon the hiring of a permanent president.

Regent Lieberman moved approval of the appointment of Dr. Robert B. Gagosian as the acting president of the Desert Research Institute and approved the contract and terms as presented. Regent Geddes seconded. Motion carried. Regent Leavitt was absent.

Dr. Gagosian thanked the Board for the opportunity and said he has great respect for DRI. He will be focusing on strategic directions for DRI for the next five to 10 years; helping to transition and prepare the way for a permanent president; furthering DRI's presence; strengthening the state both nationally and internationally; and working with the presidents at the University of Nevada, Reno and University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

Chancellor Klaich said Dr. Gagosian is committed to preexisting travel obligations and the Chancellor will be working with Dr. Gagosian and Chairman Trachok for the approval of certain trips.

4. Information Only – New Business – None.

5. Information Only – Public Comment – Dr. Stephen G. Wells, President, DRI, thanked the Board for selecting Dr. Gagosian and said it was an honor to see Dr. Gagosian stepping into the role of acting president at DRI.

The meeting adjourned at 1:25 p.m.

Prepared by: Patricia Rogers
Special Assistant and Coordinator to the Board of Regents

Submitted for approval by: Dean J. Gould
Chief of Staff and Special Counsel to the Board of Regents

Approved by the Board of Regents at the June 9-10, 2016, meeting