

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE COLORADO SCHOOL OF MINES
MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING
Friday, May 3, 2024
Starzer Welcome Center, Wagner Boardroom
1812 Illinois Street, Golden, CO 80401

I. Executive Session – 8:00 a.m.

To discuss legal advice pursuant to §24-6-402(3)(a)(II), C.R.S.; update on potential property transaction per §24-6-402(3)(a), C.R.S.; and matters required to be kept confidential by federal law or statute statutes, pursuant to §24-6-402(3)(a)(III), C.R.S.

8:01 a.m. Motion to move into executive session by Trustee Steinberg.

Trustees present: Chairman Salazar, Trustees Coors, Lawler, Steinberg, and Burgess. Trustees Grewcock and Sanders present virtually.

Mines executives and directors present: President Johnson, Provost Holz, EVP Volpi, VP Copan, VP Han, VP Pantel, VP Bradford, GC Markley, and CSM Foundation President Winkelbauer.

9:08 a.m. Motion to exit executive session by Trustee Steinberg.

II. Regular Meeting – 9:30 a.m.

9:30 a.m. Regular session called to order by Chairman Salazar.

Trustees present: Chairman Salazar, Trustees Coors, Lawler, Steinberg, and Burgess, Faculty Trustee Mehta, and Student Trustee Ary. Trustees Grewcock and Sanders present virtually.

Mines executives and directors present: President Johnson, Provost Holz, EVP Volpi, VP Copan, VP Han, VP Pantel, VP Bradford, GC Markley, and Mines Foundation President Winkelbauer.

a. Consent Agenda

1. April 5, 2024, Minutes

Motion by Trustee Lawler to approve the Minutes as presented. Seconded by Trustee Coors. Motion carried unanimously.

b. Reports and Updates

1. President's Welcome

President Johnson highlighted the upcoming graduation ceremonies and the reawakening of the senior hat tradition for 2024 graduates. Also highlighted were the senior design capstone showcase, which is already evidencing the impact of the Labriola Innovation Hub. President Johnson noted Dr. Miskimins' upcoming presidency for the Society of Petroleum Engineers, and thanked Student Trustee Ary as her service on the Board nears completion. Student Trustee Ary introduced the Board to the Student Trustee for the upcoming year, Kenny Hora.

2. Finance and Audit Committee Report

Trustee Grewcock noted that Ms. Volpi will present the Board Committee report in conjunction with the FY25 budget request, IT funding, and 5-year capital plan agenda items.

3. FY24 Third Quarter Operating Update

Ms. Volpi noted that she anticipates both revenue and expenses to be slightly higher than projected, with margin being essentially flat. For auxiliaries, revenue is on target, with expense increase attributable to the debt on Mines Park project.

c. Action Items

1. Graduation Lists Approval

Dr. Holz presented a brief overview of the graduation lists and reported the graduates, subject to completion of any remaining requirements, will meet all requirements for graduation and have been approved by their respective departments and the Faculty Senate. Dr. Holz recommended the Board approve the May 2024 list of graduates.

Trustee Burgess motioned for approval of the graduation lists, as presented, seconded by Trustee Lawler. Motion carried unanimously.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of the Colorado School of Mines approves the list of graduates presented by the faculty and registrar who affirm the candidates have completed all necessary academic requirements for degree conferral.

2. New Programs Approval

Dr. Holz requested the presentation be deferred to the end of the Agenda to allow for the participation of Prof. Peter Aaen. Chairman Salazar acknowledged the deferral.

3. FY25 Budget Request

Ms. Volpi reviewed the proposed FY25 budget, noting the focus on rebuilding reserves. She outlined the highlights. She noted that anticipated Fall 2024 enrollment is just over 6,000, including 1,550 incoming freshmen and non-thesis master's is tracking higher but that enrollment will not be solidified until Census Day in September. Ms. Volpi detailed next year's rate increases, noting specifically increases to tuition, housing and dining, and mandatory student fees resulting in the proposed cost of attendance. Expense increases were primarily due to mandatory costs, employee support and investment in faculty. Overall, a slight positive margin is expected, with a total of approximately \$280M in general fund revenue and \$277M expenses, with reserve contributions sitting at \$4.0M.

Pursuant to authority conferred by §23-41-104(1), C.R.S. (2012) and as required by §23-5-119.5(1), C.R.S. (2012), the Board of Trustees has the responsibility and authority for the financial management of the School including the setting of tuition and fees and approval of the budget.

Trustee Grewcock motioned to approve the FY25 budget request, as presented; seconded by Trustee Lawler. Motion passed unanimously.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Finance and Audit Committee has reviewed the proposed budget for the Fiscal Year 2025 and recommends to the Board of Trustees the Fiscal Year 2025 budget consisting of:

- Total GF operating revenue of \$280.84M;

- Total GF operating expenses of \$275.73M;
- Total Auxiliary operating revenue of \$41.48M;
- Total Auxiliary operating expenses of \$47.98M;
- 2.9% increase for undergraduate resident rate;
- 3.0% increase for undergraduate nonresident, graduate, faculty-led, and online tuition rates;
- Increases to room and board rates averaging 4.6%;
- Increases to mandatory fees averaging 6.7%; and
- Changes in other fees and charges

4. State Request for IT Funding

Ms. Volpi reviewed the status of the Network Modernization project that was previously approved by the Board. The approval consisted of a \$10M total project cost with a request for state funds of \$7.3M. The State did not approve the school's request in the FY25 cycle so Ms. Volpi noted that management would like to get approval to request state funds in their next cycle which would be considered in FY26. The remaining project cost is \$4.8M and upon approval, management plans to request State funding for \$3.6M.

It is recommended that the Board of Trustees approve the State funding request for the IT Modernization and Refresh of \$3.6M to fund the remainder of the project, beginning in FY26.

Trustee Steinberg motioned for approval, seconded by Trustee Burgess. Motion carried unanimously.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of the Colorado School of Mines approves the request for State funding for the IT Modernization and Refresh project of \$3.6M.

5. 5-Year Capital Plan

Ms. Volpi presented to the Board the 5-year capital plan that is requesting state funding, consisting of two utilities infrastructure projects. Project #1 replaces critical boiler infrastructure and bears a total project cost of \$9.3M, of which \$7.0M in funding will be requested from the State. Project #2, chilled water/electrical, will increase chilled water and electrical capacity needed to serve current and future campus buildings at a total project cost of \$26.5M, of which \$19.9M in funding will be requested from the State.

Trustee Lawler motioned for approval of the 5-Year Capital Plan, seconded by Trustee Burgess. Motion carried unanimously.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of the Colorado School of Mines approves the Capital Construction Five-Year Plan for the state projects requesting State funding (Utilities Infrastructure Projects #1 and #2) representing total project costs of \$35.8M.

6. NASA Challenge Indemnification

Ms. Volpi provided a high-level view of NASA's Break the Ice Lunar Challenge project and its related indemnification requirement. In connection with the earlier stages of the Challenge, the Board approved the indemnification of NASA and its contracted vendor in September 2022. The final stage of the Challenge now includes a requirement to indemnify the site host, Alabama A&M University. Ms. Volpi introduced Prof. George Sowers, who serves as the faculty advisor for the team. Dr. Sowers provided his background to the Board and a history of the Mines team's success in the Challenge. Ms. Volpi detailed the safety measures and other requirements for participating teams in the Challenge. Ms. Volpi further noted that the industry partner collaborating with Mines in the Challenge will be providing liability insurance to cover the team,

which will be backstopped by the university's insurance coverage. The Mines team's status as a finalist and the potential financial benefit from the Challenge were also highlighted.

Pursuant to §23-5-106(4), C.R.S, and the Board of Trustees Contractual Indemnification Policy, the Board of Trustees is asked to consider and approve that the Team Member Agreement serves a valid public purpose, and that the risks of agreeing to indemnify Alabama A&M University (along with the U.S. Government and its contracted vendor, Ensemble) are sufficiently limited and outweighed by the benefits of the Agreement, such that the university is authorized to include Alabama A&M University as an indemnified party and to sign the Team Member Agreement.

Trustee Coors motioned to approve the NASA Challenge indemnification as requested, seconded by Trustee Lawler. Motion carried unanimously.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of the Colorado School of Mines authorizes the university to contract to indemnify Alabama A&M University (along with the U.S. Government, its contracted vendor, Ensemble) in the Team Member Agreement for Phase 2, Level 3 of NASA's Break the Ice Lunar Challenge, and authorizes the President or his appropriate delegee to execute this Agreement.

7. Sodexo Contract Amendment

Ms. Volpi reviewed the request to increase the maximum cap for the Sodexo contract. In January 2022, the Board approved the option to extend the contract until June 30, 2027, for a total contract value of \$79.6M. An increase in the maximum cap of \$3.4M, for a total contract value of \$83.0M, is being requested due to growth in student participation in meal plans and increased food costs. Student Trustee Ary provided student input regarding Sodexo. Dr. Pantel reviewed for the Board how rates are negotiated and food options determined.

The Board is asked to consider and approve the execution of an amendment to the Sodexo Agreement authorizing a \$3.4M increase in the maximum amount payable to Sodexo over the remainder of the contract term, for an eleven-year (from FY2016-Fy2027) total in the amount of \$83M.

Trustee Steinberg motioned to approve the recommendation, seconded by Trustee Burgess. Motion carried unanimously.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of the Colorado School of Mines approves the execution of an amendment to the Sodexo agreement, authorizing an increase in the maximum amount payable to Sodexo of \$3.4M for a total contract value of \$83M.

10:35 a.m. Recess called by Chairman Salazar. Trustee Grewcock exited the meeting.

10:42 a.m. Chairman Salazar called the meeting back to order and noted the presence of a quorum.

2. New Programs Approval

After deferring earlier in the meeting, Dr. Holz introduced the request for approval of a new graduate degree program in Electrical Engineering and introduced Prof. Peter Aaen, Department Head for the Electrical Engineering Department, to present on the program.

Dr. Aaen provided his background to the Board and a history of how the Professional Online Master's in Electrical Engineering program came to fruition. Dr. Aaen reviewed the pathway of the program, which

includes three stackable certificates obtainable as standalone certificates or paired with a required graduate-level mathematics course for the Online Master's degree. Pending Board approval, the plan is to launch the program in Fall 2024.

Trustee Burgess motioned for approval, seconded by Trustee Coors. Motion carried unanimously.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of the Colorado School of Mines approves the creation of the following new graduate degree program:

Professional Online Master's in Electrical Engineering, composed of 3 stackable certificates plus a required graduate-level mathematics course (MEGN502).

d. Presentation and Discussion

1. Proposed Faculty Handbook Revisions

Dr. Herring reviewed the Faculty Handbook review process and proposed changes. Dr. Herring outlined the next steps in preparation of formal presentation of the recommended changes to the Board. Faculty Trustee Mehta noted the soliciting of stakeholder input during the comment period process.

2. Undergraduate Admissions Report

Ms. Kester provided the Fall 2024 admissions update, noting a slight increase in out-of-state admissions and a slight decrease in women and students of color. As a result of the FAFSA delay, the freshman deposit deadline was extended to May 15, 2024. Ms. Kester reviewed state and national trends resulting from the delayed FAFSA. Ms. Kester highlighted Mines' active recruiting campaign and visitor visits, as well as new initiatives for Fall 2024.

3. Faculty Senate Report

Dr. Dugan presented the Faculty Senate report, reviewing the Senate Subcommittee student signature experiences and a budget presentation by Ms. Volpi and President Johnson to faculty. Dr. Dugan recognized the Senators for their work, with thanks to the six Senators who will be rolling off the committee.

III. Meeting adjournment.

11:39 a.m. There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.



Molly Markley, Secretary