



**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
CLEVELAND STATE UNIVERSITY**

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

BOARD OF TRUSTEES SPECIAL MEETING

DATE: Tuesday, April 26, 2022, 8:00 a.m.

PLACE: Weinberg Board Room, Wolstein Center and Remotely by Zoom.

PRESENT: Chair David M. Reynolds, Trustees Thomas W. Adler, Timothy J. Cosgrove, Patricia M. DePompei, Paul J. Dolan, Stephen F. Kirk, Lisa K. Kunkle, Alan G. Starkoff, and Vanessa L. Whiting; Community Trustee Thomas E. Hopkins; Faculty Representatives Robert A. Krebs and Adam Sonstegard; General Counsel and Secretary to the Board of Trustees Sonali B. Wilson; and Assistant Board Secretary Heather A. Link.

Others in attendance: Provost and Chief Academic Officer, Dr. Laura Bloomberg; Associate Provost Dr. Tachelle Banks; Vice President, Dr. Phillip Cockrell; Vice President Scott Garrett; Vice President Jeanelle N. Hughes; Vice President Dr. Julie Rehm; Vice President Jonathan Wehner; and outside counsel Sarah Squillante and Fred Pressley.

Chair Reynolds called the special meeting to order at 8:22 a.m. and confirmed the presence of a quorum.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairman Reynolds moved for the Board to recess into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters regarding the employment and contracts of public employees. Trustee Whiting seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was taken by the Secretary of the Board; voting in the affirmative were Mr. Adler, Mr. Cosgrove, Ms. DePompei, Mr. Dolan, Mr. Kirk, Ms. Kunkle, Mr. Starkoff, Ms. Whiting, and Chair Reynolds. The motion carried.

Chair Reynolds excused everyone except the voting trustees, Community Trustee Hopkins, consultant Fred Pressley, outside counsel Sarah K. Squillante, Assistant Board Secretary Link, and General Counsel and Board Secretary Wilson. The executive session began at 8:24 a.m.

At 8:48 a.m., Chair Reynolds announced that the Board had finished its business in Executive Session and was returning to its regular meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Approval of Separation Agreement and General Release

Chair Reynolds stated that there were two items being brought forth, and that each item would be considered individually.

The first resolution brought forth was to approve a separation agreement and general release with Mr. Harlan Sands. Chair Reynolds noted that Mr. Sands and the University have agreed to amicably end his employment as president of the University; the resolution would approve the agreement that outlines the terms of his departure from the presidency.

Chair Reynolds asked if any Trustees had questions or comments; there was no discussion.

Trustee Cosgrove moved the resolution; and Trustee Kunkle seconded it. A roll call was taken by Board Secretary Wilson.

Voting in the affirmative were Mr. Adler, Mr. Cosgrove, Ms. DePompei, Mr. Dolan, Mr. Kirk, Ms. Kunkle, Mr. Starkoff, Ms. Whiting, and Chair Reynolds. The motion carried and the following resolution was approved.

RESOLUTION 2022-21

APPROVAL OF SEPARATION AGREEMENT AND GENERAL RELEASE

WHEREAS, Mr. Sands has been employed by the University as President since June 2018; and

WHEREAS, the University has made significant advances during Mr. Sands' tenure and is on solid footing; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Sands and the University have agreed to amicably end Mr. Sands' employment as President of the University; and

WHEREAS, both the University and Mr. Sands wish to enter into an Agreement to outline certain rights and responsibilities of the Parties thereto, in addition to the rights and responsibilities contained within Mr. Sands' employment agreement and the amendments thereto:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Cleveland State University Board of Trustees hereby approves the Separation Agreement and General Release between the University and Harlan M. Sands.

Appointment of Dr. Laura Bloomberg as the Eighth President of Cleveland State University

Chair Reynolds announced that given the separation of Mr. Sands from the university and the immediate vacancy in the position of president, the next item of business to come before the board is the appointment of Dr. Laura Bloomberg as the eighth President of Cleveland State University.

Chair Reynolds noted that the Board of Trustees, after thoughtful and careful deliberation, has concluded that Dr. Laura Bloomberg is an energetic, dynamic and highly qualified academic leader, already within our ranks, who is exceedingly prepared to lead this university as it emerges from a very challenging period. He further noted appreciation to Dr. Bloomberg for her leadership at CSU, and that during her relatively brief tenure, she has quickly demonstrated her ability to work well with faculty, staff and students, as well as the ability to build external relations in the region and beyond.

Trustee Whiting moved the approval of the appointment of Dr. Laura Bloomberg as the eighth president of Cleveland State University; Trustee Cosgrove seconded the motion.

Chair Reynolds asked for any questions or discussion from the Trustees; hearing none, he asked Board Secretary Wilson to call the roll.

Voting in the affirmative were Mr. Adler, Mr. Cosgrove, Ms. DePompei, Mr. Dolan, Mr. Kirk, Ms. Kunkle, Mr. Starkoff, Ms. Whiting, and Chair Reynolds. The motion carried and the following resolution was approved.

Chair Reynolds congratulated Dr. Bloomberg, who was participating in the meeting remotely, and he noted that the Trustees are looking forward to partnering and working together with her to move the institution forward.

RESOLUTION 2022-22

**APPOINTMENT OF DR. LAURA BLOOMBERG AS THE EIGHTH PRESIDENT OF
CLEVELAND STATE UNIVERSITY**

WHEREAS, the position of president of Cleveland State University has been vacated effective April 26, 2022 and the Board of Trustees seeks to fill the open position immediately; and

WHEREAS, the unique requirements for the position of President call for highly specialized and rarely found qualities, characteristics, and experiences; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees, after thoughtful and careful deliberation, has concluded that Dr. Laura Bloomberg is an energetic, dynamic and highly qualified academic leader, already within our ranks, who is exceedingly prepared to lead this university as it emerges from a very challenging period; and

WHEREAS, during her relatively brief tenure at Cleveland State, Dr. Bloomberg has quickly demonstrated her ability to work well with faculty, staff and students, as well as the ability to build external relations in the region and beyond; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Bloomberg, a nationally recognized leader in public and global policy education, became Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs on September 1, 2021, following an extensive national search; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Bloomberg has been unanimously nominated by the Board of Trustees to serve as the University's next President:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Dr. Laura J. Bloomberg is hereby appointed to serve as President of Cleveland State University, with the title of President and University Professor with tenure, and that the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees is authorized to negotiate and approve the terms of her employment contract for a term beginning April 26, 2022 through April 25, 2025, consistent with the key terms as agreed by the parties.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Reynolds asked if there was any other new or unfinished business to come before the Board, and hearing none, he thanked everyone for joining the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:56 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

APPROVED ON MAY 19, 2022

Sonali B. Wilson
General Counsel and
Secretary to the Board of Trustees

APPROVED ON MAY 19, 2022

David M. Reynolds
Chair, Board of Trustees