

**Minutes of the VSC Board of Trustees Special Meeting held Monday, April 3, 2017 at the Office of the Chancellor, Montpelier, VT, and via conference call—APPROVED June 20, 2017**

The Vermont State Colleges Board of Trustees held a special meeting on Monday, April 3, 2017 for the purpose of discussing and approving a process for selecting a new president for Castleton University.

Trustees present on the phone: Jerry Diamond, Lynn Dickinson, Morgan Easton, Church Hindes, Tim Jerman (Vice Chair), Chris Macfarlane, Jim Masland, Linda Milne, Martha O'Connor (Chair), Aly Richards

Absent: Janette Bombardier, Bill Lippert, Karen Luneau, Mike Pieciak

From the Office of the Chancellor: Elaine Sopchak, Administrative Director (by phone)  
Jeb Spaulding, Chancellor (by phone)  
Sophie Zdatny (in person at Chancellor's Office)

From the Colleges: Amy Bremel, Castleton University (by phone)  
Martha Coulter, Castleton University (by phone)  
Gayle Malinowski, Castleton University (by phone)  
Louis Palmer, Castleton University (in person at Chancellor's Office)  
Jennifer Turchi, Castleton University (in person at Chancellor's Office)  
Beth Walsh, Castleton University (by phone)  
Emily Wiezalis, Castleton University (by phone)  
Denise Williams, Castleton University (by phone)

Chair O'Connor called the meeting to order at 2:04 p.m. She took attendance of Board members present on the phone, and absent.

The trustees expressed appreciation for the video recording of the March 28th community forum held at Castleton University, which they watched prior to this meeting.

Trustee Jerman moved to authorize the Chair of the VSC Board, with the Chancellor, to appoint a committee to conduct a national search for the next president of Castleton University. The search committee will deliberate with input from all members of the Castleton community and recommend candidates to the Board of Trustees for final consideration and decision.

Trustee Hinder seconded the motion and opened it for discussion. Chair O'Connor stated that she and Chancellor Spaulding will appoint members to the search committee within the next three weeks.

The expected timeline is to have final candidates come to the Castleton campus for visits after the start of the fall 2017 semester. Chair O'Connor said she expects the Board to make its final decision in late September or early October. Members of the Castleton community will be on the search committee.

Trustee Milne inquired whether the timeline would adversely impact the number of candidates to apply. Chancellor Spaulding responded it is not at all unusual to have a mid-year appointment and he expects a robust pool of applicants.

Chair O'Connor called for public comment. There was no public comment at this time.

Chancellor Spaulding stated he has received several letters from the Castleton community regarding the search process and he will forward them to the Board. He stated that a minority of letters did not support a national search, though a national search reflects the will of the vast majority of the Castleton community.

Chair O'Connor clarified that a national search does not preclude participation by internal candidates.

Chair O'Connor called for a vote at this time. The motion to hold a national search for the next Castleton University president was approved unanimously.

Beth Walsh asked Chancellor Spaulding to let her know if he needs copies of various letters sent to him by faculty.

Chancellor Spaulding stated that he will send an email to the entire Castleton community within the next day with an update and soliciting nominations for committee membership.

Trustee Milne moved and Trustee Diamond seconded the motion to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 2:14 p.m.