

**Minutes of the VSCS Board of Trustees Ad Hoc Search Committee meeting held
Wednesday, July 19, 2023, at 2:00 p.m. via Zoom - UNAPPROVED**

Note: These are unapproved minutes, subject to amendment and/or approval at a subsequent meeting.

The Vermont State Colleges Board of Trustees Ad Hoc Search Committee met on Wednesday, July 19, 2023.

Committee members present: Janette Bombardier (2:07 p.m.), Lynn Dickinson, David Durfee, Karen Luneau, Shawn Tester

Other Trustees Present: Perry Ragouzis, Sue Zeller

Chancellor's Office staff: Jen Porrier, Administrative Director
Patty Turley, General Counsel

Shared Services: Meg Walz, Director, Project Management

1. Chair Dickinson called the meeting to order at 2:01 p.m.
2. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

3. Approval of July 6, 2023 Minutes

Trustee Zeller moved and Trustee Luneau seconded the motion to approve the minutes of July 6, 2023. The motion was approved unanimously.

4. Update on conversation with search firm

General Counsel Patty Turley provided an update on recent communications with two members of a search firm. The Chancellor and Director of Government & External Affairs spoke with two members of the search firm. The firm could provide 2-3 candidates to serve as an interim president should the Board decide to pursue this avenue. Turnaround can be expeditious, but allowing more time is better. Alternatively, if the Board identifies its own finalists, the firm can assist with due diligence, including reference checks, background checks, etc.

The search firm reiterated that conducting community engagement at the front end of this search would not be cost-effective or provide a good return on investment. The firm did suggest, however, that the committee review the position profile that was used for the previous presidential search to see what changes could be made now, given recent experiences. This process could be an opportunity to invite stakeholder input and create a working document for internal use. This additional input could be helpful to prospective candidates and for the search firm, should the committee decide to ask for other candidates.

Trustee Durfee agreed that the committee should reevaluate the current position profile, as it has been more than 12 months since it was created. Trustee Tester mentioned restructuring the profile to reflect the interim nature of the position. Chair Dickinson described the upcoming meeting schedule of the Board. The current position profile will be distributed to all board members and senior leaders at VTSU and the Chancellor's Office.

5. Other Business

There was no other business.

6. Executive Session

At 2:10 p.m. Trustee Dickinson moved that the Committee enter executive session pursuant to 1 V.S.A. § 313(a)(3) to discuss the employment of a public officer. Along with the members of the Board present at the meeting, the Committee invited the General Counsel to attend. Trustee Zeller seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

The committee exited executive session at 2:36 p.m.

Chair Dickinson shared that the committee will have additional conversations with the Chancellor and with the search firm in order to solidify options. The committee expects to make a final decision on extent of the engagement with the search firm at the August 3rd meeting.

Chair Dickinson adjourned the meeting at 2:38 p.m.