

# MINUTES BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Mitchell Hall | Crane Room Thursday, January 25, 2024 | 6:00 PM

# **BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEMBERS**

James Fowler, Chair
John Ammendola, Vice-Chair
Corrine M. Burger, Immediate-Past Chair
Traci L. Martinez, Esq.
Sandy Doyle-Ahern
Terri Meldrum, Esq.
Jerome Revish
Rick Ritzler
Lorina W. Wise, Esq.

# **CALL TO ORDER**

The Columbus State Community College Board of Trustees meeting was held on Thursday, January 25, 2024, in Mitchell Hall. The meeting was called to order by Chair Fowler at 6:00 p.m.

# **ROLL CALL**

#### Present:

- James Fowler
- John Ammendola
- Corrine M. Burger
- Sandy Doyle-Ahern
- Traci L. Martinez, Esq. (virtual)
- Terri Meldrum, Esq.
- Jerome Revish
- Rick Ritzler
- Lorina W. Wise, Esq.

# **CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE**

President Harrison advised that the record should show that notice of this meeting has been given in accordance with provisions of §121.22(F) of the Ohio Revised Code.

# **OATH OF OFFICE FOR NEW TRUSTEES**

Charles Noble, General Counsel, administered the Oath of Office to new trustees Traci L. Martinez and Lorina W. Wise, who were appointed by Gov. Mike DeWine for terms that started Dec. 22, 2023. The Jan. 25, 2024 meeting was their first as members of the Board.

### **SWEARING-IN OF OFFICERS**

Mr. Noble administered the Oath of Office to the Board officers for 2024, as approved by the Board of Trustees at the Sept. 15, 2023, meeting. The officers are:

- James Fowler, Chair
- John Ammendola, Vice Chair
- President Harrison, Secretary
- Aletha Shipley, Treasurer
- President Harrison and Jan Ellis, Deputy Treasurers
- Corrine Burger, Immediate Past-Chair

# **OPENING REMARKS FROM CHAIR FOWLER**

Chair Fowler shared that the December Commencement celebration and the first day of classes for Spring 2024 are a reminder of the "critical role that the institution plays" in the Central Ohio community. He expressed excitement for the new calendar year and what is ahead for Columbus State.

#### **OPENING REMARKS FROM PRESIDENT HARRISON**

President Harrison shared gratitude to Mr. Noble for his legal counsel as the college works with Columbus State Community Partners and others on real-estate development opportunities.

President Harrison asked Student Ex-Officio D'Tron Driessen to introduce the student speaker, Muktharatullah Kamal-Muili, who shared her story with the Board. Ms. Kamal-Muili said that she arrived in the United States eight years ago from her home country of Nigeria, and that Columbus State was helping her to achieve her dreams. Ms. Kamal-Muili is an honors student on track to graduate in spring 2024. She plans to transfer to The Ohio State University for a combined program in which she will earn a bachelor's degree in pharmaceutical sciences and Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD).

# **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Member Burger** moved, Member Doyle-Ahern seconded, that the minutes of the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees, held on Friday, Nov. 15, 2023, be approved as presented.

A vote was taken, which resulted in:

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AYES: Ammendola, Burger, Doyle-Ahern, Meldrum, Revish, Ritzler

NAYS: None

ABSTENTIONS: Chair Fowler, Lorena Wise, Traci Martinez

#### **CONSENT AGENDA**

Chair Fowler shared the consent agenda items, which were discussed at the Sept. 19, 2024, Committee of the Whole meeting:

- Report of Independent Auditors on the Financial Statements for the Year Ended June 30, 2023
- Alternative Tax Budget Information
- Revised Fiscal Year 2024 Operating Budget
- Construction Contract: Campus Switchgear Project

Member Ammendola moved, Member Meldrum seconded, that the consent agenda be approved as presented.

A vote was taken, which resulted in:

AYES: Fowler, Ammendola, Burger, Doyle-Ahern, Martinez, Meldrum,

Revish, Ritzler, Wise

NAYS: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

#### START-UP FUNDING FOR COLUMBUS STATE COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Chair Fowler presented the proposed action item, which was initially discussed at the Jan.19, 2024, Committee of the Whole meeting. The Board did not reopen discussion of the topic.

The proposed Board Action asks the Board to authorize the College to transfer \$500,000 from the Student Success and Innovation Fund to Columbus State Community Partners for start-up funding. The funding will enable CSCP to evaluate and plan for real estate opportunities that would enhance the area around the College's downtown campus, provide partnership opportunities to support students and support collaborative efforts throughout Central Ohio. This funding would be provided as a loan, with the potential to be repaid if CSCP completes projects that generate financial inflows.

**Member Ritzler moved**, Member Meldrum seconded, that the action item be approved as presented.

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A vote was taken, which resulted in:

AYES: Fowler, Ammendola, Burger, Doyle-Ahern, Meldrum, Revish, Ritzler,

Wise

NAYS: None

ABSTENTIONS: Martinez

# MASTER LEASE - SIX PARCELS ON CLEVELAND AVENUE OR N. GRANT AVENUE

President Harrison introduced the proposed action item, which seeks Board authorization for the College to enter into a Master Lease with Columbus State Community Partners for six parcels.

Pursuant to O.R.C. Section 3345.12, the College is authorized to lease real property under its possession. To enable CSCP to partner on redevelopment opportunities near the College's downtown campus, the College is seeking to lease six College-owned parcels on the block bordered by E. Spring Street, Cleveland Avenue, E. Long Street and N. Grant Avenues. The master lease between the College and CSCP will have a term of at least 35 years and annual lease payments will be set at \$1.

Member Ritzler moved, Member Meldrum seconded, that the action item be approved as presented.

A vote was taken, which resulted in:

AYES: Fowler, Ammendola, Burger, Doyle-Ahern, Meldrum, Revish, Ritzler,

Wise

NAYS: None

ABSTENTIONS: Martinez

# DESIGN SERVICES CONTRACT: HYDRAULICS LAB AND IT CLOSET UPGRADE

This item, which was approved through off-cycle delegated authority on Dec. 15, 2023, was presented to the Board for information only.

# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AS OF AND FOR THE FIVE MONTHS ENDED NOVEMBER 30, 2023

This item was presented to the Board for information only.

#### PERSONNEL INFORMATION ITEMS

This item was presented to the Board for information only.

# **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

President Harrison shared recent updates, with the help of members of the Columbus State leadership team:

- Recognitions: Trustee Corrine Burger was named CEO of the Year by Columbus CEO and a Woman of Achievement by YWCA Columbus. The YWCA also honored Trustee Sandy Doyle-Ahern as its Sue Doody YWCA Alumni of the Year.
- Celebrations: The College graduated 1,000 students from degree and certificate programs during its December 2023 commencement ceremony. Columbus State held its annual celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. the week of Jan. 22-26.
- Workforce: As anchor institution of the White House-designated Columbus Workforce Hub, Columbus State continues to work with the steering committee on a regional workforce strategy. Key goals include quadrupling the number of students in engineering technology, to 5,000 per year, and preparing 10,000 construction workers by 2030. In a related effort, President Harrison has represented the College in an advanced manufacturing spring led by the White House's Domestic Policy Council. On Jan. 24, President Harrison participated in a panel discussion with Domestic Policy Advisor Neera Tanden at the American Association of Community Colleges' Workforce Development Institute.
- Eastern Gateway Community College: The U.S. Department of Education, Auditor of State and the Higher Learning Commission are investigating Eastern Gateway related to its Free College Benefit Program. Significant enrollment growth at Eastern Gateway has affected funding for all other community colleges in Ohio, including Columbus State. The probes are ongoing.
- Capital Updates: The College has selected Jones Lang LaSalle (JLL) to provide program management services. The company is now being onboarded, and JLL is expected to begin accelerating project execution in the third quarter of 2024. The college has selected Hammes as owner's representative for the OhioHealth Center for Health Sciences. The College anticipates the section of an architect this spring, and the building to be ready for occupancy in 2027.
- Bachelor of Science in Nursing: Dr. Martin Maliwesky, senior vice president and chief academic officer, provided an update on the proposed Bachelor of Science in Nursing program. The BSN program is undergoing reviews by the Higher Learning Commission and the Ohio Department of Higher Education. These approvals are required before the College launches the program. The BSN would be the College's first bachelor's degree.
- Spring Commencement: Dr. Stephen Markovich, president and CEO of OhioHealth, has agreed to be the commencement speaker this spring. Commencement will take place May 10.
- Enrollment: Allen Kraus, vice president of enrollment management & marketing

communications, provided an update on spring 2024 enrollment and the strategies the College is employing to achieve 2023-2025 enrollment growth goals. Spring 2024 enrollment numbers are not final but overall headcount is trending to be more than 6% up compared with Spring 2023. Mr. Kraus shared a progress report about growth strategies related to Columbus Promise, College Credit Plus, BSN/healthcare, semiconductor/EV programs, IT programs and Basic English to credit enrollment.

# **OLD BUSINESS**

There were no items.

# **NEW BUSINESS**

There were no items.

# **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

No public participation.

# **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

There was no executive session.

# **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further items to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:17 pm.

David T. Harrison, Ph.D. Secretary, Board of Trustees

Office of the President/vmp 01.25.24