

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING
UTAH STATE BOARD OF REGENTS
DIXIE STATE COLLEGE, ST. GEORGE, UTAH
July 12, 2005

Regents Present

Nolan E. Karras, Chair
Jerry C. Atkin
Bonnie Jean Beesley
Janet A. Cannon
Katharine B. Garff
David J. Grant
Meghan Holbrook
Trent Kemp
John C. Pingree
Jed H. Pitcher
Marlon O. Snow
Maria Sweeten

Regents Excused

E. George Mantes, Vice Chair
Daryl C. Barrett
Michael R. Jensen
David J. Jordan
Sara V. Sinclair

Office of the Commissioner

Richard E. Kendell, Commissioner
Joyce Cottrell, Executive Secretary
Amanda Covington, Director of Communications
David S. Doty, Assistant Commissioner and Director of Policy Studies
Kevin Walthers, Assistant Commissioner for Finance and Facilities

Representatives of the Media

Mark Havnes, *Salt Lake Tribune*
Stephen Speckman, *Deseret Morning News*
Rachel Tueller, *The Spectrum*

A complete listing of meeting attendees is on file in the Commissioner's Office.

Chair Karras called the meeting to order at 4:38 p.m. and welcomed the large crowd assembled in the Dolores Doré Eccles Fine Arts Center. He acknowledged the presence of Senator Bill Hickman and Representatives Brad Last and Steve Urquhart.

Regent Jerry Atkin, chair of the Presidential Search Committee, moved that Dr. Lee Caldwell be appointed president of Dixie State College. Regent David Grant, also a member of the Presidential Search Committee, seconded the motion. The ensuing vote carried unanimously.

Dr. Caldwell and his wife, Bonnie, entered the room to applause as the local community cheered the Regents' decision.

Regent Atkin said the committee had been delighted to have a great slate of candidates from which to choose the next president of Dixie State College. He recognized and thanked the following members of the

search committee who were present: Regent Garff, Regent Grant, Trustees Stephen Wade, Jeannine Holt, Bill Ronnow and Vicki Wilson, David Borris, Sheila Cannon, Steve Caplin, Donna Dillingham-Evans, Addison Everett, Jackie Freman, Jake Hunt, Curtis Larsen, Stan Plewe, Randy Wilkinson and Diane Winger. Tim Eicher, Lena Judee, Kassie Christensen, Bob Lichfield, Bob Prince, Max Rose and Ron Wade also served on the committee but were not able to be present.

Stephen Wade, Chair of the DSC Board of Trustees, said he had great respect for the presidential selection process. He thanked Commissioner Kendell and Assistant Commissioner Doty for their work on the college's behalf. Chair Wade presented the Caldwells with DSC apparel and extended the Trustees' warm welcome.

Regent Karras commended President Huddleston and said the Regents had a great deal of respect for him. Dixie State College has been a great place because of his contributions. Chair Karras expressed the Regents' appreciation to the other members of President Huddleston's administrative staff. He also thanked Commissioner Kendell for his contributions and leadership of the Utah System of Higher Education.

Regent Karras congratulated President Caldwell and said choosing from the four outstanding candidates had not been an easy decision for the Regents. Each would have made an excellent president for Dixie State College.

President Caldwell credited his wife, Bonnie, for the decision to come to St. George a year ago. He acknowledged that it was the first time in his professional life that he had asked her where she wanted to go, and her immediate response had been "St. George, Utah." He thanked the hard-working faculty and staff of the college and thanked the Regents for the opportunity to serve the community as the Dixie's next president. He also thanked President Huddleston for leaving the college on a sound financial basis and noted that over half of the faculty now have terminal degrees. Dr. Caldwell said it would be exciting to work to provide greater educational opportunities for the residents of southern Utah and to try to build the state's economy. He thanked the Regents and the community for their support.

Commissioner Kendell congratulated Dr. and Mrs. Caldwell and praised Dixie State College as an institution with enormous possibilities and a wonderful future. He thanked the Regents and search committee for their hard work with this presidential search. Former Regent Fred Stringham once commented that he would still be a bank teller if he'd had to go through the rigorous selection process by which USHE presidents are chosen. Commissioner Kendell assured Dr. Caldwell of his personal support and said he looked forward to many years of collaboration.

Chair Karras announced that the State Board of Education and State Board of Regents would be launching a campaign, reaching deep into the grade schools and junior high schools, to emphasize education. He requested everyone's support in once again making higher education a top priority in Utah and in helping the state's decision makers understand how critical it is for students to complete their education.

The meeting adjourned at 4:57 p.m.

Joyce Cottrell CPS, Executive Secretary

Date Approved