



Utah System of Technical Colleges
Board of Trustees Meeting
October 3, 2019 – 7:30 am – 8:30 am
Via Conference Call
310 South Main #1250, Salt Lake City, UT 84101
801-341-6000

MINUTES

Board of Trustees Members Present:

Steve Moore, Chair – Ogden-Weber Technical College
Aaron Osmond – Vice-Chair, Information Technology
Mike Angus – Uintah Basin Technical College
Jera L. Bailey – Healthcare
Brett Barton – Life Sciences
Stacey K. Bettridge – Transportation
Charles Hansen – Tooele Technical College
Susan Johnson – Manufacturing
Chuck Taylor – Southwest Technical College
Scott Theurer – Bridgerland Technical College
Stephen Wade – Dixie Technical College

Trustees Absent/Excused:

Michael Jensen – Davis Technical College
Russell Lamoreaux – Union Trade
Arthur E. Newell – Mountainland Technical College
Brad Tanner – Non-Union Trade

UTech Administration:

Jared Haines – Interim Commissioner of
Technical Education
Kim Ziebarth – Associate Commissioner for
Academic and Student Affairs
Zachary Barrus - Assistant Commissioner for
Data and Institutional Research
Tyler Brinkerhoff – Assistant Commissioner for
Planning, Finance and Facilities
Eric Petersen – Legal Counsel

College Presidents Present:

Chad Campbell, Bridgerland Technical College
Darin Brush, Davis Technical College
Kelle Stephens, Dixie Technical College
Clay Christensen, Mountainland Technical
College
Jim Taggart, Ogden-Weber Technical College
Brennan Wood, Southwest Technical College
Paul Hacking, Tooele Technical College
Aaron Weight, Uintah Basin Technical College

MINUTES OF MEETING

UTAH SYSTEM OF TECHNICAL COLLEGES

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

October 3, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 7:32 am by Chair Steve Moore

1. Welcome and Roll Call by Chair Steve Moore

Steve Moore, Chair – yes
Aaron Osmond – yes
Mike Angus – yes
Jera L. Bailey – yes
Brett Barton – yes
Stacey K. Bettridge – yes
Charles Hansen – yes
Susan Johnson – yes
Chuck Taylor – yes
Scott Theurer – yes
Stephen Wade – yes

ACTION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS:

2. **Board of Trustees' feedback to the Higher Education Strategic Commission regarding NCHEMS report:** Chair Moore stated that the purpose of today's meeting is to review the National Center for Higher Education Management System (NCHEMS) report. The UTech Board Leadership will send a compiled Board feedback to Speaker Brad Wilson and Senator Ann Millner. On Monday, September 30th, USHE, and UTech Leadership, and UTech College Presidents met with Speaker Brad Wilson and Senator Ann Millner. At this meeting UTech College Presidents shared their feedback. On Tuesday, October 1st, a similar meeting was held with USHE Presidents.

Chair Moore indicated that in general, everyone agrees that it is time for a change and that he feels good about the entire process. He appreciates the NCHEMS recommendations. He emphasized that it is excellent for the students and Utah employers.

Chair Moore also informed that the Board Leadership had a great discussion with Benjamin Hart and Kimberlee Carlile from the Governor's Office of Economic Development (GOED).

Comments and feedback from Board Members regarding the NCHEMS Report:

Slide 2: Principles – Chair Moore commented that it is true that the institutions are the means, not the ends.

Slides 4/5: Observations – Trustee Wade asked for data to understand the NCHEMS study a little better. Chair Moore indicated that the data was included in the NCHEMS initial presentation to the Higher Education Strategic Planning Commission in June 2019. NCHEMS interviewed the institutions: USHE, UTech, USBE, Legislators, GOED, etc. Please see the links below:

[NCHEMS Interim Report Slides](#)

[NCHEMS Interim Report](#)

[NCHEMS Utah Environmental Scan](#)

[Utah Legislative Audit 2018 – Board of Regents Governance](#)

[April 3, 2019 NCHEMS Interim Progress Report](#)

[April 3, 2019 Utah Student Flow Model](#)

<https://le.utah.gov/interim/2019/pdf/00004187.pdf>

Slide 6: Major Priorities – Trustee Osmond noted that the slide captured the priorities and workforce gaps. The order of the items in the slide needs some work, but in general, the items presented by NCHEMS are consistent with the UTech Leadership vision.

Slide 8: - 1. Establish goals in statute

- As we aligned the NCHEMS recommendations with our mission and vision, there will be some statutes and Utah Code that will need to change.
- It will be necessary for UTech to work closely with GOED.
- UTech's nimbleness of what UTech offers to employers has been brought up in recent meetings.
- Changing stackable credentials (mainly established goals in statute).
- As we move forward and before the Legislative Session, there will be changes that will have an effect in USHE, UTech, and K-12.
- There is a need for statutory language to *protect* what we have with the flexibility to change. (Protection needs to be included or is not going to work).
- Guardrails in place.

Slides 9-20: 2. Reform Statewide Postsecondary Governance. Three Options were presented by NCHEMS, but another option could also work. Option 2 and 3 combine the governing boards (USHE/UTech) with equal representation.

- The combination of the systems seemed a complex situation given the history between the two systems, but it has some pockets of diversity that need to be preserved.
- We need to elevate opportunities for technical education.
- Some of the thinking, logic and reaction to this report from Legislators is that they are concerned that if we don't make a substantive of change in the way that

we are governing the higher education system, have clarity in the education structure, and reinforce the importance of career and technical education for the future economic development of the state, we will have challenges in filling jobs and attracting industry to Utah.

It was clear that Legislators recognize the sensitive nature of preserving the importance of research institutions while balancing out and adequately funding and equally representing the importance of the growth and development of the technical education infrastructure.

We'll have to clarify the missions and roles of the institutions.

We will need to balance financially and politically, the weight, and the focus of career and technical education in the state.

We have different options presented by NCHEMS, and it's clear that the legislature's primary focus is to build up and strengthen the power and influence of the outcome of career and technical education in Utah.

There is real momentum right now, an earnest focus by Senator Millner and Speaker Wilson.

- There is a need for nursing classes and the workforce shortage, as well as an effort to reduce duplication.
- The System went through a restructure four years ago. What is the benefit of combining the systems into one governance?

The Board Leadership and some college presidents share the same concern. This concern has been discussed with Speaker Wilson and Senator Millner as well as with the Regents. It is something that needs to be addressed correctly, accurately, and by statute for the short and long-term.

There is a recognition that the higher education system in the prior structure was the dominating governing force and that's why it didn't work because the higher education board decided UTech's infrastructure. What they are now proposing is that there are significant portions of the USHE system that need to be integrated into what we are doing in UTech. The proposal is to eliminate both boards and create a new board with clear missions and equal representation for both sides. UTech's has the infrastructure and everything related to technical education and certificates and the higher education the academic outcomes, etc. If we cannot be structured correctly with clear missions, we will go back to the old model, and it won't work.

- Chair Moore referred to the UTech Board Leadership Vision, Goals, and Objectives presented at the September 19th Board meeting – Item 3 “Establish new CTE Program Advisory Committee.” This committee would define, audit, and approve all CTE throughout the State for UTech and USHE. By combining the boards, there will be some economic gain regarding human resources, IT and finance, so institutions don't have to have those functions.
- Salt Lake Community College awards technical certificates at a much higher cost to the students. Is the State willing to step up and subsidize? It has been discussed – another issue is why we have dual missions.

Chair Moore asked Trustees to send their suggestions in writing by Monday, October 7th.

Slide 21: Develop a Strategic Finance Plan – no comments.

Slide 22: 4. Focus attention on workforce and career readiness:

- CTE direct input and K-12 system coordination is essential and avoid duplication.

Slide 24: - Coordinate distance delivery – no comments.

Slides 25, 26 - Address affordability challenges to achieve state goals. – no comments.

Slide 27: - Address Capacity Challenges in Utah County –

- We do not want to lose Mountainland Technical College

Slides 29-30 – Utah County Option 1 -

- We'll discuss this a little more as we move forward.

Slide 32: 33 - Address capacity challenges in rural Utah.

- We'll continue having more discussions with the Department of Workforce Services (DWS).

Slide 34: - Conduct a policy review to identify barriers to the achievement of state goals. – no comments.

Chair Moore expressed that we all share similar concerns, but he thinks that this is the right time to do it. He thanked Trustees and all attendees for their time.

3. **Audit Recommendations:** will be discussed at the November 21st Board meeting.

Adjournment:

Motion: Trustee Stephen Wade moved to adjourn the meeting.

Seconded: Trustee Susan Johnson

Meeting adjourned at 8:31 am.