

**YOUNGSTOWN STATE UNIVERSITY
EMERGENCY MEETING
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Board of Trustees Meeting Room, Tod Hall
NOVEMBER 16, 2023**

Call to Order

Chair Peterson called the meeting to order and requested Secretary Hackstedde to indicate that this meeting was properly noticed.

Attendance

Secretary Hackstedde called the roll and attendance was as follows:

Attended:

In Person: Peterson, George, Kerola, Erzurum

Virtual: Hackstedde (Salem, OH), Ryan (Warren, OH), Seals (Orlando, FL), Fryda (Jackson Beach, FL), Lyden (Big Pine, FL), Spiegel (Sarasota, FL)

Proof of Notice of Meeting

Secretary Hackstedde reported that appropriate notice of the meeting was provided pursuant to article ii, section 10 of the Bylaws.

Executive Session

Chair Peterson moved that the Board move to Executive Session for matters related to the presidential search, and in "consideration of the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of one or more public employees or officials (O.R.C. 121.22(G) (1)). Trustee George seconded the motion after which a roll-call vote was conducted to enter Executive Session.

The result of the vote was unanimous to enter Executive Session

The Board entered Executive Session at 2:36 p.m. and returned to public session at 2:54 p.m.

New Business

Action item – Presidential Search

Chair Peterson made the following comments and offered a motion.

We are excited about the one item that the Board has today considered. Actually, I am going to change that, we are pumped.

We were fortunate to have had nine-years of leadership from President Emeritus Jim Tressel and more recently Dr. Helen Lafferty.

As we all know, we initiated a presidential search in the Spring that started with soliciting feedback from the campus community to inform the development of the position prospectus.

Thereafter, the position prospectus was finalized, and Witt Kieffer, a leader in higher education searches, was engaged to support the search.

A thorough and comprehensive search was conducted.

Then Chair Peterson moved that Congressman Bill Johnson be offered the position of President of Youngstown State University, and that the appropriate steps are taken to negotiate on behalf of the university an agreement of employment with Congressman Johnson in conformance with the terms, conditions, and parameters reviewed by university legal counsel, subject to approval of the Board of Trustees.

Trustee George seconded the motion.

Secretary Hackstedde conducted a roll-call vote the results of which were 8 "yes" and 1 "no" (Trustee Seals).

Chair Peterson declared the motion passed.

CHAIRPERSON COMMENTS

All of us are former YSU students and have been involved in this community forever. We take the love of this university, the students at this university, the faculty, their family, and we take how our family is treated seriously. This was not an easy, simple task. There was a lot of work and a lot of hours and a lot of meetings. For us to get to the level that we have and to see the level of applicants for this position and to see where we are at in the process, I'm excited.

I'm excited about it for Youngstown State University. I'm excited about it for the community of Youngstown. I'm excited about it for the students at Youngstown, having been one knowing the impact that Youngstown State had on my life at 57 just like it did when I was 17/18. I'm excited about this. I will contact Congressman Johnson after we adjourn.

He's a big picture thinker. He's demonstrated himself as a collaborative and lover of his community. He's invested and that's what we need. We wanted someone who loved Youngstown State. We wanted somebody who was passionate about this university, and could be passionate about the students and that's what we have. He's successful in his business. He's led as a congressman.

But more importantly, and this is most important, he's been a servant. And what nine years showed us with our last president, is they have to be a servant leader. Now I'm really excited.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Peterson adjourned the meeting.