

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the
Ferris State University Board of Trustees
Held on Friday, October 6, 2023
Grand Rapids, Michigan

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

A Regular Meeting of the Ferris State University Board of Trustees was held on Friday, October 6, 2023 in the Pantlind Ballroom of the Amway Grand Plaza Hotel, 187 Monroe Ave NW, Grand Rapids, Michigan. Chair LaShanda R. Thomas called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. In addition to Chair Thomas, the following individuals were present: Trustees Michael B. Fisher, George K. Heartwell, Michael D. Ryan, Anna P. Seibold; Ronald E. Snead, and Vivian TerMaat; University President Bill Pink; Provost and Vice President Bobby Fleischman; University Vice Presidents James D. Bachmeier, Daniel Eichinger, Amanda M. Matheson, Kathy K. Mullins, David Pilgrim and Jeanine Ward-Roof; Vice President and General Counsel Miles J. Postema; President of Kendall College of Art and Design Tara E. McCrackin; Board Counsel Mark E. Nettleton; Secretary to the Board of Trustees Karen K. Huisman; and members of the University and area communities. Trustee Kurt A. Hofman was absent with prior notification.

2. Hearing of the Public

No one responded to Chair Thomas' request to address the Board.

3. External Auditors' Report

Brian Greko, Audit Partner from Plante Moran, provided a brief overview of the audit process.

4. Administrative Reports

The following Administrative Reports were presented. Copies of written reports are in the official file for this meeting:

- a. Student Government – No report.
- b. Academic Senate – Emmanuel Jadhav, Academic Senate President, provided a brief overview of his report.
- c. Finance – Vice President Bachmeier provided a brief overview of the finances at the close of FY2023.
- d. Vice President Eichinger provided information in addition to his written report.

5a. Consent Calendar

It was moved by Trustee Snead, supported by Trustee Heartwell, and unanimously carried that the Ferris State University Board of Trustees hereby approves the following Resolution, as submitted on this date:

RESOLUTION

“RESOLVED, that the Ferris State University Board of Trustees hereby approves the items contained in the Consent Calendar as presented in the appended documentation:

- a. Consent Calendar*
 - 1. Minutes of May 5, June 21, and August 30, 2023*
 - 2. Personnel Items*
 - 3. Appointments to the Boards of Directors of FSU-Authorized Charter School Academies*
 - 4. Acceptance of FY23 University Audited Financial Statements”*

5b. Charter School Contract Amendment – Lighthouse Academy

It was moved by Trustee Snead, supported by Trustee Seibold, and unanimously carried that the Ferris State University Board of Trustees hereby approves the following Resolution, as submitted on this date:

RESOLUTION

“WHEREAS, the Ferris State University Board of Trustees (the “University Board”) granted conditional approval to a Resolution (the “Initial Resolution”) dated March 21, 2008 for Lighthouse Academy (the “Academy”), which conditionally authorized the execution of a contract with the Academy to charter an academy (“Original Charter Contract”) and conditionally authorized the Chairperson of the University Board to execute the Original Charter Contract between the Academy and the University Board; and,

WHEREAS, on February 22, 2013 the University Board reauthorized the Academy for five years through June 30, 2018; and,

WHEREAS, on February 16, 2018 the University Board reauthorized the Academy for seven years through June 30, 2025; and,

WHEREAS, the Academy serves as a Strict Discipline Academy that provides educational services for incarcerated, adjudicated or suspended at-risk teens; and,

WHEREAS, the Academy currently has 3,140 students in grades 5-12 at seven campuses located in West Michigan which are Eagle Village, Juvenile Justice Institute, Lighthouse Academy South, Muskegon County Juvenile Transition Center, Ottawa County Juvenile Detention Center, The Pier, and Waalkes School; and,

WHEREAS, the Academy Board of Directors requested the University Board to consider and approve a contract amendment to add a Lighthouse Academy campus at 12330 James Street, Holland, Michigan; and,

WHEREAS, on December 16, 2022 the University Board approved a contract amendment to add a Lighthouse Academy campus at 12330 James Street, Holland, Michigan; and,

WHEREAS, on March 28, 2023 the Academy Board of Directors requested the University Board to consider and approve a contract amendment to change the address of a Lighthouse Academy campus from 12330 James Street, Holland, Michigan to 1161 W. Southern Avenue, Muskegon, Michigan; and,

WHEREAS, on June 27, 2023 the Academy Board of Directors requested the University Board to consider and approve a contract amendment to change the name of this campus from Lighthouse Academy Muskegon County Juvenile Transition Center to Lighthouse Academy The Port.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the University Board hereby approves a contract amendment to change the address of a Lighthouse Academy campus from 12330 James Street, Holland, Michigan to 1161 W. Southern Avenue, Muskegon, Michigan 49441 and change the name of this campus from Lighthouse Academy Muskegon County Juvenile Transition Center to Lighthouse Academy The Port.”

5c. FY2023-24 Final General Fund Operating Budget

It was moved by Trustee Heartwell, supported by Trustee TerMaat, and unanimously carried that the Ferris State University Board of Trustees hereby approves the following Resolution, as submitted on this date:

RESOLUTION

“BE IT RESOLVED, that the Ferris State University Board of Trustees hereby approves the FY2023-24 Final General Fund Budget, as presented in the supporting materials.”

5d. FY2025 State Capital Outlay Request and FY2025-29 Five-Year Capital Outlay Plan

It was moved by Trustee Heartwell, supported by Trustee Seibold, and unanimously carried that the Ferris State University Board of Trustees hereby approves the following Resolution, as submitted on this date:

RESOLUTION

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees hereby approves submission to the State of Michigan of a Capital Outlay request specifying the top priority as the Allied Health Sciences Building renovation, as submitted on this date.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees hereby approves submission to the State of Michigan of the State Five-Year Capital Outlay Plan, FY2025-FY2029, as submitted on this date.”

5e. FY2023-24 Final Housing and Dining Services Budget

It was moved by Trustee Heartwell, supported by Trustee TerMaat, and unanimously carried that the Ferris State University Board of Trustees hereby approves the following Resolution, as submitted on this date:

RESOLUTION

“BE IT RESOLVED that the Ferris State University Board of Trustees hereby approves the FY2023-24 Final Housing and Dining Services Budget, as presented in the supporting materials.”

5f. FY2024-25 Housing and Dining Room and Board Rates

It was moved by Trustee Heartwell, supported by Trustee Seibold, and unanimously carried that the Ferris State University Board of Trustees hereby approves the following Resolution, as submitted on this date:

RESOLUTION

“BE IT RESOLVED, that the Ferris State University Board of Trustees hereby approves the FY2024-25 Housing and Dining Room and Board Rates, as presented in the supporting materials.”

5g. Jim Crow Museum Project

It was moved by Trustee Heartwell, supported by Trustee Snead, and unanimously carried that the Ferris State University Board of Trustees hereby approves the following Resolution, as submitted on this date:

RESOLUTION

“WHEREAS, Ferris State University’s Jim Crow Museum serves as a key resource in establishing the University’s commitment to diversity and to educating students to be critical thinkers, was conceived as a learning laboratory to discuss local and national problems relating to racism and stereotyping, supports the University’s direction to be a learning centered institution, and pursues strategies for working together in the support of the University’s work to enhance cooperation and tolerance; and,

WHEREAS, the project strongly supports the Ferris State University mission to prepare students for responsible citizenship in a changing global economy and society as well as our stated core values of Collaboration, Diversity, Ethical Community, Excellence, Learning and Opportunity; and,

WHEREAS, in order for the project to further the goals of the University in developing the Jim Crow Museum as a world class classroom in which to educate students on the topic of diversity and tolerance by facilitating discussion and promote scholarly activities related to addressing racism, the project should proceed to complete all design, preconstruction and construction phase services; and,

WHEREAS, Board of Trustees approval to move forward with this project is required pursuant to Board-approved Purchasing policy, Section 4-205, Matters Reserved to the Board, as it relates to capital construction and professional services contracts.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Vice President for Administration and Finance, or her designee, is hereby authorized to proceed with the procurement of necessary professional design and other pre-construction, construction phase services and procurement of goods related to the design and construction of the Jim Crow Museum, including the negotiation of and entering into contracts, upon legal review and in accordance with Board-approved policies, at a total estimated cost not to exceed \$22 million, inclusive of monies already expended.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that funding for this project will be provided from current funds and additional fund raising designated for this project.”

5h. Razing of Bishop Hall

It was moved by Trustee Heartwell, supported by Trustee TerMaat, and unanimously carried that the Ferris State University Board of Trustees hereby approves the following Resolution, as submitted on this date:

RESOLUTION

“WHEREAS, the University administration has determined Bishop Hall is beyond its service life, has significant capital renewal and deferred maintenance needs, and no longer meets the programmatic and functional expectations of students; and,

WHEREAS, Bishop Hall is one of the oldest buildings on the Big Rapids campus, originally constructed in 1968 as a residence hall, and;

WHEREAS, the building was converted into academic and office use in 1987 and is in very poor condition, which prompted the Board of Trustees to approve construction of the Center for Virtual Learning (CVL) and the Early Learning Center (ELC) buildings; and,

WHEREAS, all the occupants of Bishop Hall have now been relocated into the CVL and ELC, and it is now time to raze Bishop Hall and restore the site to green space; and,

WHEREAS, Board of Trustees approval to move forward with this project is required pursuant to Board-approved Purchasing policy, Section 4-205, Matters Reserved to the Board, as it relates to capital construction services and professional services contracts.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Vice President for Administration and Finance or her designee, is hereby authorized to proceed with the retention of necessary professional, construction and other services required for the razing of Bishop Hall, including: necessary site restoration, utility infrastructure and associated systems modifications as required, including the negotiation of, and entering into contracts, upon legal review in accordance with Board-approved policies, at a total estimated project cost not to exceed \$1.6 million.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that funding for this project will be provided from Central University Funds.”

5i. Professional Services Agreement, Statewide Hubs Buildout

It was moved by Trustee Heartwell, supported by Trustee Seibold, and unanimously carried that the Ferris State University Board of Trustees hereby approves the following Resolution, as submitted on this date:

RESOLUTION

“WHEREAS, there is a need for comprehensive student support in key cities across Michigan, and Ferris State University is developing Student Success Hubs in Grand Rapids, Detroit, Flint, Traverse City, and Kalamazoo.; and,

WHEREAS, the hubs will serve as centralized resource centers, offering tailored support services to off-campus and online students, nurturing their academic success, engagement, and overall well-being, and;

WHEREAS, the KCAD building in Grand Rapids is available for renovation to house one of these hubs, while a suitable location in Detroit is yet to be determined, with both spaces requiring renovation, and;

WHEREAS, a higher education student success hub encompasses various elements designed to support and promote the success and well-being of students; and,

WHEREAS, to ensure the successful execution of these projects, Scott Martin, an experienced professional with 22 years of higher education facilities management, is being engaged for project management services, including oversight of space utilization and design, construction, furnishing, and equipment, regulatory compliance, and project closeout; and,

WHEREAS, the total budget for these services, including travel-related expenses, is for an amount not to exceed \$190,000 for FY24 and FY25; and,

WHEREAS, Board of Trustees approval to move forward with this project is required pursuant to Board-approved Purchasing policy, Section 4-205, Matters Reserved to the Board, as it relates to capital construction services and professional services contracts.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Vice President for Administration and Finance or his designee, is hereby authorized to finalize negotiations and execute the contract between Ferris State University and Scott Martin for project management services for the Grand Rapids and Detroit Statewide Student Success hubs, in an amount not to exceed \$190,000 for FY24 and FY25.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that funding for this project will be provided from the Extended and International Operations maintenance and renovation fund.”

5j. Amended Professional Services Agreement for Scholarship Universe by Ellucian

It was moved by Trustee Heartwell, supported by Trustee Snead, and unanimously carried that the Ferris State University Board of Trustees hereby approves the following Resolution, as submitted on this date:

RESOLUTION

“WHEREAS, the Division of Student Affairs currently has a contract with Blackbaud to provide a scholarship management platform through the 2023 financial aid awarding year; and,

WHEREAS, the University has identified a potential new scholarship portal that positions the University for continued enhancement of services in this critical area of need; and,

WHEREAS, a request for proposal #23-034 was issued and Scholarship Universe by Ellucian was chosen via the process on August 7, 2023; and,

WHEREAS, contracting for these services requires full Board approval, in accordance with the Board-approved Purchasing Policy, Section 4-205, Matters Reserved to the Board, as it relates to Professional Services Contracts, and Board-approved Contracting Policy, Section 4-103.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees hereby authorizes the Vice President for Administration and Finance, or her designee, to amend the agreement with Ellucian to include three years of the Scholarship Universe by Ellucian, upon legal review and in accordance with Board-approved policies, in an amount not to exceed \$180,000 plus related expenses, for the period November 1, 2023 through October 31, 2026.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that funding for the agreement will be provided from the Division of Student Affairs budget accounts.”

5k. MEDC Michigan Enhancement Grant #2 for the Jim Crow Museum, Archive, and Research Facility” (JCM Grant) Project

It was moved by Trustee Heartwell, supported by Trustee Seibold, and unanimously carried that the Ferris State University Board of Trustees hereby approves the following Resolution, as submitted on this date:

RESOLUTION

“WHEREAS, on July 31, 2023, Governor Gretchen Whitmer signed into law House Bill No. 4437 that includes funding in the amount of \$5 million, for the “Jim Crow Museum, Archive, and Research Facility” (JCM Grant) project; and,

WHEREAS, the University plans to realize a grant with the Michigan Economic Development Council (MEDC) Michigan Enhancement Grant program in accordance with House Bill No. 4437 further detailing how funds to Ferris State University will support the cost of architecture design, site planning, construction, and design, fabrication and installation of exhibits for the Jim Crow Museum Archive, and Research Center; and,

WHEREAS, the term of the grant award will be determined in coordination with the MEDC; and,

WHEREAS, Board of Trustees approval is required to accept the MEDC Michigan Enhancement Grant for the “Jim Crow Museum, Archive, and Research Facility” project in the amount of \$5 million, pursuant to Board-approved Contracting Policy, section 4-102, as it relates to grant awards.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees hereby authorizes the Vice President for Administration and Finance, or her designee, upon final award notification, to accept the MEDC Michigan Enhancement Grant for the “Jim Crow Museum, Archive, and Research Facility” project in the amount of up to \$5 million, and authorizes President Bill Pink, or his designee, to administer the grant award in accordance with the provisions of the grant and any applicable Board policies, as presented on this day.”

51. Michigan Department of Health and Human Services SEWER Network Grant

It was moved by Trustee Heartwell, supported by Trustee Snead, and unanimously carried that the Ferris State University Board of Trustees hereby approves the following Resolution, as submitted on this date:

RESOLUTION

“WHEREAS, on September 28, 2023 Ferris State University was notified by Dr. Susan Peters from the Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases Section of the Michigan Department of Health & Human Services (MDHHS), that it was awarded funding in FY24 in the amount of \$612,282 to continue work on the “SARS-CoV-2 Epidemiology – Wastewater Evaluation and Reporting (SEWER) Network” project; and,

WHEREAS, funding for this project is provided by the Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity (ELC) Enhancing Detection Expansion grant supported through the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2021 (P.L. 116-260); and,

WHEREAS, the SEWER Program provides financial assistance to support costs associated with COVID-19 wastewater surveillance and local public health response; and,

WHEREAS, the SARS-CoV-2 Epidemiology – Wastewater Evaluation and Reporting (SEWER) Network program project cost is \$612,282 for FY24 (October 1, 2023 – July 30, 2024) and does not require any University matching funds; and,

WHEREAS, Board of Trustees' approval to accept this grant is required pursuant to Board-approved Contracting policy, section 4-103, Delegation of Authority by the Board, as it relates to approval of grant awards.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees hereby accepts the MDHHS SEWER Program FY24 Grant Award in the amount of \$612,282 and authorizes President Bill Pink, or his designee, to administer the grant award, in accordance with the provisions of the grant and any applicable Board policies, as presented on this day."

6. Hearing of the Public

No one responded to Chair Thomas' second request to address the Board.

7. President's Report

President Pink's report included the following:

- Thank you to everyone who traveled to Grand Rapids for the meetings today.
- The Hispanic Chamber of West Michigan is holding their Summit at the WN Ferris building today.
- Homecoming was a great success with exceptional attendance.
- He recognized our Social Work Students in attendance today.
- He acknowledged Vice President Jim Bachmeier on his last Board meeting and introduced the new Vice President for Administration and Finance, Mandy Matheson.

8. Comments from the Board of Trustees

Trustee Snead provided comments on behalf of the Board. His comments included the following:

- Thank you to Chair Thomas for her leadership.
- He reminded everyone of their collective goal to give our students an opportunity to grow, and to come back and support our university.
- Thank you to everyone who made the trip to Grand Rapids.
- GO DAWGS!!

9. Reconfirmation of Next Meeting Date

The next regularly scheduled full Board meeting will be held on Thursday, December 14, 2023, at 4:00 p.m. in Big Rapids.

10. Adjournment

At 11:46 a.m., Chair Thomas adjourned the meeting.

Submitted by: Karen K. Huisman, RP
Secretary to the Board of Trustees