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Colorado Commission on
Higher Education

Department of Higher Education

Minutes of the Colorado Commission on Higher Education (CCHE) Meeting Virtual July 26, 2024

Business Meeting

Chair Walmer called the business meeting to order at 11:15 am.

I. Opening Business

A. Attendance

Commissioners attending: Chair Walmer, Vice Chair Gonzales, Commissioners Abramson, Barkin, Harber, Hughes, Kostenbauer, Tucker, Wilson, Executive Director Paccione

Advisors attending: Senator Zenzinger, Mark Cavanaugh, Danielle Ongart, Dr. Melinda Piket-May, Dr. Michael Lightner, Mark Superka

B. Approval of the Minutes for the June 6, 2024 Commission Meeting

Commissioner Kostenbauer moved to approve the June 6th minutes. Seconded by Commissioner Harber. The motion was approved.

C. Reports

1. Chair - Chair Walmer recapped the topics discussed during the retreat and shared her intentions to move some of these topics forward to the monthly business meeting. She mentioned to the commission that she would like to make sure that work on these initiatives keep moving forward through the committee meetings and the CCHE business meetings and collaboration with the Department over the next year. She is excited to hear a COSI report at the September meeting when Commissioner Temu-Otting is back with us. Chair Walmer also shared that she would like to work on a resolution of opposition to Prop 50/108. She asked if there are Commissioners that would like to work on that prior to the September meeting to please reach out via email.
2. Vice Chair - Vice Chair Gonzales shared that she is really excited about the work that the Commission is doing and she is looking forward to continuing that with this group. She also mentioned that she had the opportunity to participate in Retreat and they have been getting great support from the 3rd sector on that work. She is excited to hear a report out on that work at the September CCHE meeting.

3. Commission Standing Committee



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- a. Student Success & Workforce Alignment - Commissioner Abramson reported that this committee is excited to continue some of the work discussed during the retreat. He also asked the commissioners to consider serving on this committee and provided meeting times.
 - b. Finance, Performance & Accountability - Commissioner Tucker reported that this committee is also excited to continue the work discussed at the retreat and moving some of the initiatives forward. Commissioner Tucker also put in a bid for recruitment for this committee and added that the meeting times could change very soon due to his teaching schedule.
 - c. HB22-1349 Technical Workgroup Update - Reported during the retreat
 - d. Transfer Ad Hoc Subcommittee- Commissioner Abramson - They will reconvene after the retreat
4. Commissioners.
- a. **Commissioner Hughes** inaudible
5. Advisors
- a. **Advisor Zenzinger** informed the Commission of a Bill that was passed during legislation regarding technology. Due to the data breach that we experienced they will be looking at the vulnerabilities and JBC Technical capitol projects. Want to change how to evaluate the tech deck within the state government. She mentioned that the state has some challenges when it comes to our technology needs and there are some opportunities to make this better for the state. JBC and JTC Bill collaboration (Bill 224).
 - b. **Commissioner Harber** asked the Commission if there are any additional topics that we may have missed during the retreat that we might want to pursue over the next year. Let's get this listed and share so we can continue to the work.
 - c. **Advisor Marchman** asked for the committees to share reports out so everyone can get the information discussed. She also mentioned that the OEDIT and the education committee needs this information as it comes up. She shared that the education committee has heard nothing about the 1349, Opportunity Now and the OEDIT Bill. Just some legislative details that she would like to be shared with the education committee.
 - d. **Commissioner Wilson** recognized our New Commissioner Jill Barkin and thanked her for being part of the CCHE
 - e. **Advisor Cavanaugh** mentioned that as we interact with institutions be kind as it is a busy time of the year, financial pressures, FASFA fallout, and so many other issues that they are



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dealing with including protest on campuses. **Advisor Lightner** added that the institutions are also processing the Department of Ed's regulations around distant learning that are causing a lot of additional work as these regulations are to go into effect in August. Institutions are facing a lot a one time!

D. Executive Director Report

Executive Director Paccione - Executive Director Paccione began by welcoming Commissioner Barkin and added that we are excited to add her experience and expertise to the Commission. She also congratulated Carl on his new role with the department! Executive Director Paccione went on to remind everyone of the Higher Ed Equity Day of Action to be held on October 18th this year at CSU in Fort Collins. She welcomed commissioners to attend and even present if they are interested. Dr. Paccione gave Kudos to Dr. G for all her work to secure funding for this event. She went on to thank everyone for there part in the planning of the retreat as well as our gracious hosts at Western Colorado University! This has been a wonderful retreat!

E. Public Comment - No public comment

II. Consent Items

A. Degree Authorization - Approval of Authorization Renewal for Religious Training Institutions - *Heather DeLange, Director Office of Private Postsecondary Education*

Commissioner Abramson moved to approve the consent agenda items. Seconded by Commissioner Harber. The motion was approved

The meeting was adjourned at 11:35 am.