



**Minutes of the Colorado Commission on Higher Education (CCHE) Meeting
Via ZOOM Teleconference
April 1, 2022**

BUSINESS MEETING

Chair Vanecia Kerr called the business meeting to order at 1:00pm

I. Opening Business

A. Attendance

Commissioners attending: Chair Kerr, Vice Chair Hughes, Commissioners Abramson, Harber, Kostenbauer, Temu Otting, Tucker, Wilson.

Advisors attending: Brad Baca, Mark Cavanaugh, Colleen O'Neil, Dr. Melinda Piket-May, Dr. Landon Pirius

B. Minutes

Commissioner Harber moved to approve the March 4, 2022, meeting minutes. Seconded by Commissioner Abramson, the motion passed by consent.

C. Chair, Vice-Chair, Commissioners and Advisors Reports

Chair Report – Chair Kerr congratulated Advisor Baca on his appointment as President of Western Colorado University. She announced that nominations for Chair and Vice Chair of the Commission are being accepted until April 25th. Voting will take place during the May 6th meeting. The May 6th meeting will be a hybrid meeting and more details will be forthcoming. Chair Kerr's last meeting will be June 3rd. At the end of the meeting, the newly elected Chair will take the gavel. She thanked everyone for a wonderful experience serving on the commission and as Chair.

Vice Chair Report – Vice Chair Hughes thanked legislators for the initial drafts of bills related to HB 1330. She also thanked staff who have been pivotal in helping move this legislation along.

Commissioner Reports – Commissioner Harber thanked Vice Chair Hughes and Commissioner Abramson for their work on HB1330 and acknowledged that it will have a huge impact. He also stated that he was honored to be confirmed by the Senate as a commissioner alongside Commissioner Wilson last week.



Fiscal Affairs & Audit Committee – Commissioner Tucker reported that the committee had a productive discussion on policy versus statute in terms of capital adjustments and they are looking for more details on that topic as they go forward.

Student Success & Workforce Alignment Committee – Commissioner Abramson reported that the committee discussed several teacher prep and teacher pipeline related issues at its last meeting. There also was discussion about some programs that have come for authorization with questions about who is served and what is the effect on the broader higher ed ecosystem. These topics will be discussed more as the strategic plan comes together and the commission does its work going forward.

Ad Hoc Strategic Planning Revision – Vice Chair Hughes reported that the committee has met for several weeks, and this report will be on the agenda moving forward. The focus is on ensuring that the objectives are broad enough with latitude for what they are intending to get done in different ways by different IHEs.

Advisor Reports – Advisor Picket-May congratulated Advisor Baca on his appointment as President of Western Colorado University on behalf of the Colorado Faculty Advisor Committee. She also thanked the commission for including faculty advisors in the 1330 process.

Advisor Baca thanked the commission for their work and being included as an advisor for the past 2 years. The CFO group will name his replacement later this month. He also thanked the JBC for their work so far for higher education funding of operational capital and IT. He expressed concern for the pending collective bargaining bill currently under consideration. Implementing and administering this legislation is going to be a severe challenge for most of our institutions and in particular the rural institutions.

Advisor Cavanaugh thanked Chair Kerr for her service on the commission. He reported that President Biden’s FY23 budget includes a pathway to double Pell by 2029. An item of concern is federal negotiated rule making that will take some of the influence away from NC-SARA. He encouraged all to spread the word about this and a call to action to keep NC-SARA in place as is.

D. Executive Director Report – Dr. Boggs presented Director Paccione’s report in her absence. He extended congratulations to Advisor Baca on his appointment and praised his work as part of the CFO group. He thanked Dr. Montoya and Lauren Gilliland for their work with the Policy Fellows and thanked them for their presentations during the today’s work session. COSI has approved \$4.9 million in matching student funds which will total \$9.9 million with the 1:1 match, and this will serve more than 2,900 Coloradoans statewide. The Division of Private Occupational Schools led by Lorna Candler serves an important consumer protection role for Coloradoans and since 2014 they have closed seven private occupational schools associated with human trafficking. We celebrated Women’s History Month with a lunch conversation with Minister Glenda Robinson. More than 40 staff participated which was coordinated by Beverly Jones.



E. Legislative Update – Chloe Figg reported that the current legislative report was updated via email sent this week. Two items of note in higher ed are operating supports for institutions from JBC and instruction of the Long Bill which passed the House this week and will be taken up in the Senate next week. Chloe thanked the commission for their support in getting the first test bills moving forward.

F. Public Comment- There was no public comment.

II. Consent Items

A. Recommendation of Approval of Supplemental for Community College of Aurora-
Ashlee Pate

B. Degree Authorization: Recommendation of Provisional Authorization for Galen College of Nursing – *Heather DeLange*

C. Degree Authorization: Recommendation of Field Placement Authorization for Reach University – *Heather DeLange*

Commissioner Harber moved to approve Consent Items A through C. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Tucker and passed by consent.

III. Discussion Items

A. Ad Hoc Strategic Plan Revision – *Dr. Ben Boggs, Inta Morris*

As the meeting moved towards conclusion, the commission returned to the strategic plan revision discussion as noted in the strategic plan revision report in I.C. above.

Commission members and advisors were invited to comment on the current principles and objectives under consideration. These included overarching objectives of educational equity and data-informed decision making; and core objectives of lifelong learning, return on investment, and the public good. The commission appreciated the opportunity to discuss these further and agreed that time for this discussion should be factored in all upcoming meetings.

Meeting adjourned at 2:00pm.

