# **ROWAN UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES WEBEX MEETING**

July 13, 2022

**BOARD MEMBERS IN** ATTENDANCE

Chad Bruner, Chair Anthony Calabrese Michael Carbone Barbara Chamberlain Jean Edelman, Secretary

Thomas Gallia

Barbara Armand Kushner

George Loesch

Sunitha Menon-Rudolph

Nick Petroni

Larry Salva, Vice Chair

Virginia Smith

Ali Houshmand, ex officio

**BOARD MEMBERS NOT IN** ATTENDANCE

Brenda Bacon Frank Giordano Kris Kolluri Michael Harrington

**UNIVERSITY CABINET** REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT Joseph Campbell, V.P. Facilities & Operations Joe Cardona, V.P. University Relations

Tabbetha Dobbins, V.P. Research/Dean, School of Graduate Studies

Terri Drye, V.P. Human Resources Jeff Hand Sr. V.P. Student Affairs

Sean Kennedy, V.P. Government Affairs & External Partnerships

(virtual)

Mira Lalovic-Hand, Sr. V.P. Information Resources & Chief

Information Officer

Tony Lowman, Provost & Sr. V.P. Academic Affairs

Joseph Scully, Sr. V.P. Finance & CFO Jesse Shafer, V.P. University Advancement

Monika Williams Shealey, Sr. V.P. Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

Horacio Sosa, V.P. Strategic Ventures & Initiatives

RJ Tallarida, Chief of Staff

Melissa Wheatcroft, General Counsel/ Board Liaison

Lee Ann Barbin, Recording Secretary for the Board of Trustees

**OTHERS** 

Members of the Rowan faculty, staff, students, and members of the

general public.

CALL TO ORDER

A special meeting of the Rowan University Board of Trustees was held on July 13, 2022 via WebEx. Chair Bruner welcomed everyone to the meeting, called the Public Session of the meeting to order at

3:01 p.m.

# OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT STATEMENT

Ms. Wheatcroft read the Open Public Meetings Act Statement.

### PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Houshmand thanked everyone for being able to attend this special meeting of the Board and stated the purpose of the meeting was to focus on certain, limited issues: the consideration of the full budget for fiscal year 2023; the second reading of the bylaws; and the consideration of a lease agreement. President Houshmand explained that during the Board of Trustees meeting on June 15, 2022, the University was awaiting the finalized state budget from the Governor's Office. The final budget was approved by the Governor and legislators and included an approximately \$12M designation for the annual operations of Rowan University School of Veterinary Medicine. President Houshmand declared the University was thrilled that the budget for the veterinary school was approved as Rowan is anxious to continue working to help fill the gap in veterinary education in New Jersey. He stated that today's resolution includes the full budget for the veterinary school, which was not part of the budget that had been previously submitted. In addition to this resolution, the University is seeking the Board's final approval of the proposed bylaws revision, which were considered in the first reading by the Board in June. Lastly, there must be consideration for a simple lease agreement to ensure adequate parking at the Rowan University School of Osteopathic Medicine (RowanSOM). Houshmand again expressed his appreciation to the Board members for making themselves available for this special meeting and for their consideration on these important issues.

## PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING PENDING RESOLUTIONS

There were none.

# ACTION ITEMS FOR INDIVIDUAL CONSIDERATION

Chair Bruner stated that items #2022.07.01, #2022.07.02 and #2022.07.03 are being considered individually. He stated that if any Board members need to recuse themselves for any of the individually considered resolutions that they do so when asked before each vote

Resolution #2022.07.01: 12-0 in favor Resolution #2022.07.02: 12-0 in favor

Resolution #2022.07.03: 11-0 in favor (Dr. Gallia

recused himself)

#### **RESOLUTION #2022.07.01**

# APPROVAL OF OPERATING BUDGET 2022-2023

- WHEREAS, pursuant to the New Jersey Medical and Health Sciences Education Restructuring Act, the Board of Trustees has been empowered to direct and control expenditures and transfers of funds appropriated to the University as well as tuition received by the University, N.J.S.A. 18A:64M-9(e), provided such activities are conducted in accordance with the provisions of the State budget and appropriation acts of the Legislature, reporting changes and additions thereto and transfers thereof to the Director of the Division of Budget and Accounting in the State Department of the Treasury, and
- WHEREAS, the Board is also empowered with respect to funds received from other sources, to direct and control expenditures and transfers in accordance with the terms of any applicable trusts, gifts, bequests or other special provisions, and
- WHEREAS, all accounts of the University are subject to audit by the State at any time, and
- WHEREAS, the University has proposed the attached operating budget for FY23 in the amount of \$636,479,608 including regular operating, auxiliary operations, Division of Global Learning & Partnerships, Cooper Medical School of Rowan University, Rowan University School of Osteopathic Medicine, and Rowan University School of Veterinary Medicine, and
- WHEREAS, sufficient funding has been identified in the attached proposed operating budget to support the recommended expenditures, and
- WHEREAS, the Board previously approve resolution #2022.06.05 at its June meeting which did not include funding for the Rowan University School of Veterinary Medicine and final State of New Jersey appropriations language, and
- WHEREAS, this revised budget presented is reflective of the Rowan University School of Veterinary Medicine and revised appropriation language included in the approved FY23 State Budget, and
- **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Trustees of Rowan University approves the attached operating budget of \$636,479,608 for FY23.

#### SUMMARY STATEMENT/RATIONALE

This resolution approves the attached budget for FY23 which includes expected funding from the State of New Jersey of \$243,382,000 including \$124,875,000 in state paid fringe benefits.

Chair Bruner entertained a motion that was seconded to approve Resolution #2022.07.01. Chair Bruner opened the floor to questions and recusals from the

Board. There being none, a vote was taken 12-0 in favor and Resolution #2022.07.01 was approved.

#### **RESOLUTION #2022.07.02**

#### APPROVAL OF AMENDED BYLAWS

- WHEREAS, pursuant to the New Jersey Medical and Health Sciences Education Restructuring Act ("Restructuring Act"), by operation of law, effective July 1, 2013, Rowan University was designated as a Public Research University, N.J.S.A. 18A:64M-3(a), and
- WHEREAS, pursuant to the Restructuring Act, the Board of Trustees was empowered with various rights and Rowan University was given certain rights attributable to a Public Research University, and
- WHEREAS, those rights include the power to adopt bylaws necessary and proper for the administration and operation of Rowan University, N.J.S.A. 18A:64M-9(m), and
- **WHEREAS**, the Board of Trustees of Rowan University, upon its regular review of the Bylaws, has concluded that certain revisions are necessary to ensure best practices in governance, and
- WHEREAS, such Bylaws may be amended through an affirmative 2/3 roll call vote of the Board of Trustees members present at two consecutive public meetings of the Board,
- WHEREAS, the required first reading of the Bylaws was accomplished on June 15, 2022 and documented in Resolution 2022.06.44.
- **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Trustees that the Rowan University Bylaws be considered for public vote and approval in accordance with the process outlined in the Bylaws for their amendment by the Board of Trustees of Rowan University, and
- **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Bylaws as amended in the attached document are hereby approved.

### **SUMMARY STATEMENT/RATIONALE**

This resolution approves the revised Bylaws in accordance with the process for amendment of the Bylaws.

Chair Bruner entertained a motion that was seconded to approve Resolution #2022.07.02 and Ms. Wheatcroft took a vote by roll call, asking the Board members to indicate their vote in the affirmative or negative when called upon:

Chad Bruner:	Yes
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Anthony Calabrese:	Yes
Michael Carbone:	Yes
Barbara Chamberlain:	Yes
Jean Edelman:	Yes
Thomas Gallia:	Yes
Barbara Armand Kushner	Yes
George Loesch:	Yes
Sunitha Menon-Rudolph:	Yes
Nick Petroni:	Yes

Larry Salva: Yes Virginia Smith Yes

#### **RESOLUTION #2022.07.03**

# APPROVAL OF LEASE FOR PARKING FOR ROWAN UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE

- WHEREAS, pursuant to the New Jersey Medical and Health Sciences Education Restructuring Act ("Restructuring Act"), Rowan University has been designated as a public research university as of July 1, 2013, and
- WHEREAS, pursuant to the Restructuring Act, Rowan is permitted to own, lease, dispose of, use and operate real property as is necessary or desirable for university purposes, and
- WHEREAS, due to increases in student enrollment, the Rowan School of Osteopathic Medicine ("Rowan SOM") is experiencing parking shortages that are projected to be sustained or increase, and
- WHEREAS, Rowan SOM is working on short term solutions to this parking shortage, and
- WHEREAS, one short term solution includes renting parking spaces from Laurel Medical, LLC, or an affiliated corporation, who owns a vacant building with a parking lot at 109 E. Laurel Road, across the street from the Rowan SOM campus, and
- WHEREAS, the price for this rental is \$3,500 per month for 30 parking spaces, and
- **WHEREAS,** Rowan SOM desires to enter into a month to month Lease Agreement beginning July 18, 2022 for use of these spaces, and
- **WHEREAS,** the Senior Vice President for Finance and Chief Financial Officer has certified that there are sufficient budgeted funds available to pay the expense authorized herein
- **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Trustees authorizes the negotiation and execution of a Lease Agreement for parking spaces at 109 E. Laurel Road to accommodate student growth at Rowan SOM, pursuant to acceptable terms within the financial parameters set forth above.

### **SUMMARY STATEMENT/RATIONALE**

This resolution authorizes a lease for the use of parking spaces to support the Rowan University School of Osteopathic Medicine

Chair Bruner entertained a motion that was seconded to approve Resolution #2022.07.03. Chair Bruner opened the floor to questions and recusals from the Board. Dr. Gallia recused himself. A vote was taken 11-0 in favor and Resolution #2022.07.03 was approved.

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There were none.

**NEW BUSINESS** 

There was no new business.

**COMMENTS BY TRUSTEES** 

There were no comments from the Trustees.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chair Bruner entertained a motion that was seconded to adjourn the meeting. The vote was unanimous in favor, and the meeting was adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

Lee Ann Barbin, Recording Secretary for the Board of Trustees

Chair, Board of Trustees

Secretary, Board of Trustees

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were none.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

COMMENTS BY TRUSTEES

There were no comments from the Trustees.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chair Bruner entertained a motion that was seconded to adjourn the meeting. The vote was unanimous in favor, and the meeting was adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

Lee Ann Barbin, Recording Secretary for the Board of Trustees

Chair, Board of Trustees

Wean H. Edelson