# THE UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND BOARD OF TRUSTEES



Green Hall, 35 Campus Avenue, Kingston, RI 02881 USA

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Barbara Cottam, Chair R.I. Board of Education

Mayrai Gindy Faculty Representative

Christopher Bove '23 Student Representative The University of Rhode Island
Board of Trustees Meeting
Saturday, August 22, 2020 • 10:00 a.m.
45 Upper College Rd. Kingston, RI 02881

PURSUANT TO GOVERNOR RAIMONDO'S EXECUTIVE ORDER 20-63, THIS MEETING WAS HELD VIRTUALLY USING THE WEBEX PLATFORM (BOARD ONLY) AND FACEBOOK LIVESTREAM (PUBLIC VIEWING).

## **MINUTES**

Chair Cook welcomed the members of The University of Rhode Island (URI) Board of Trustees to this meeting and asked the General Counsel for URI, Mr. Saccoccio, to determine if a quorum was present.

Mr. Saccoccio took formal roll call attendance and acknowledged that a quorum was not present. Since there were no action items for this meeting, Chair Cook called this meeting to order at 10:11 a.m.

Attendees present for this virtual meeting:

The University of Rhode Island Board of Trustees voting members:

- Ms. Margo Cook, Chair (remote)
- Honorable Charles J. Fogarty (remote-arrived @ 10:30 a.m.)
- Ms. Christine M. Heenan (remote)
- Mr. Matthew D. Lenz (remote)
- Mr. Roby Luna (remote)
- Mr. David J. Martirano (remote)
- Ms. Cortney Nicolato (remote)
- Mrs. Susan Petrovas (remote)
- Ms. Jay Placencia (remote)
- Ms. Cecilia Rouse (remote)
- Mr. Thomas M. Ryan (remote)
- Mr. Armand E. Sabitoni (remote)

# **Absent Voting Members**

- Dr. Karina Montilla Edmonds
- Mr. Michael Fascitelli
- Mr. Richard Humphrey
- Mr. Michael McNally
- Mr. Vahid Ownjazayeri

The University of Rhode Island Board of Trustees ex officio members:

- Mr. Tim DelGiudice—Chair, Council on Postsecondary Education (remote)
- Ms. Barbara Cottam—Chair, Board of Education (remote)
- Mr. Christopher Bove—Student Representative (remote)

### Absent ex officio member:

• Dr. Mayrai Gindy—Faculty Representative

### 1. ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA

Since there was no quorum before the meeting was called to order, the Acceptance of the Agenda was deferred to the next scheduled URI Board of Trustees meeting.

### 2. EXECUTIVE SESSION

a. Discussion regarding pending litigation - Logan Thomson, individually and on behalf of others similarly situated, v. Board of Trustees of the University of Rhode Island, R.I. Superior Court (WC-2020-0209) pursuant to RIGL 42-46-5(a)(2) with the following:

Chair Cook called for a motion that the University of Rhode Island Board of Trustees convene into Executive Session to discuss the pending litigation – Logan Thomson, individually and on behalf of others similarly situated, v. Board of Trustees of the University of Rhode Island, R.I. Superior Court (WC-2020-0209) pursuant to RIGL 42-46-5(a)(2).

On a motion duly made and seconded, it was

VOTED: THAT The University of Rhode Island Board of Trustees convene into

Executive Session to discuss the pending litigation – Logan

Thomson, individually and on behalf of others similarly situated, v. Board of Trustees of the University of Rhode Island, R.I. Superior

Court (WC-2020-0209) pursuant to RIGL 42-46-5(a)(2).

VOTE: 11 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the

negative; 1 member was absent

YEAS: Margo Cook, Christine M. Heenan, Matthew D. Lenz, Roby Luna,

David J. Martirano, Cortney Nicolato, Susan Petrovas, Jay

Placencia, Cecilia Rouse, Thomas M. Ryan, Armand E. Sabitoni

NAYS: 0

**ABSTAINS: 0** 

ABSENT: Charles J. Fogarty

The URI Board of Trustees entered into Executive Session at 10:20 a.m. In addition to the members noted above, the following non-Board members in attendance were:

- President David M. Dooley
- Mr. Louis J. Saccoccio, General Counsel
- Ms. Anne Marie Coleman, Assistant Vice President for Human Resources
- Ms. Michelle Curreri, Chief of Staff and Board Liaison
- Ms. Mary Grace Almandrez, Associate Vice President and Chief Diversity Officer
- Mr. Thorr Bjorn, Director of Athletics
- Dr. Kathy Collins, Vice President for Student Affairs
- Mr. Donald DeHayes, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
- Mr. Karlis Kaugars, Chief Information Officer
- Ms. Kelly Mahoney, Executive Director, External Relations and Communications
- Ms. Elizabeth O'Rourke, President, URI Foundation & Alumni Engagement
- Ms. Abigail Rider, Vice President for Administration and Finance
- Dr. Peter Snyder, Vice President for Research and Economic Development
- Christopher S. Nasin, MD, Medical Director
- Ms. Ellen Reynolds, Assistant Vice President for Student Health and Wellness and Director of Health Services

Executive Session ended at 11:14 a.m. and Open Session was reconvened.

Chair Cook called for a motion to seal the minutes of the Executive Session held on August 22, 2020.

On a motion duly made by Ms. Nicolato and seconded by Ms. Placencia, it was

VOTED: THAT The University of Rhode Island Board of Trustees seal the minutes

of the Executive Session held on August 22, 2020.

VOTE: 10 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the

negative. 2 members were absent.

YEAS: Margo Cook, Christine M. Heenan, Matthew D. Lenz, Roby Luna,

David J. Martirano, Cortney Nicolato, Susan Petrovas, Jay

Placencia, Cecilia Rouse, Armand E. Sabitoni

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

# ABSENT: Charles Fogarty, Thomas M. Ryan

### 3. ADJOURN

Chair Cook called for a motion to adjourn the meeting of August 22, 2020.

On a motion duly made by Ms. Rouse and seconded by Ms. Heenan, it was

VOTED: THAT The University of Rhode Island Board of Trustees adjourn the

meeting of August 22, 2020.

VOTE: 10 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the

negative. 2 members were absent.

YEAS: Margo Cook, Christine M. Heenan, Matthew D. Lenz, Roby Luna,

David J. Martirano, Cortney Nicolato, Susan Petrovas, Jay

Placencia, Cecilia Rouse, Armand E. Sabitoni

NAYS: 0

**ABSTAINS: 0** 

ABSENT: Charles Fogarty, Thomas M. Ryan

The meeting adjourned at 11:16 a.m.

The next meeting of the URI Board of Trustees is scheduled for September 11, 2020.