Montana Board of Regents
Conference Call Meeting
December 14, 2015
3:00 PM

Monday, December 14, 2015

The meeting convened at 3:00 PM.

Roll Call indicated a quorum present.

Regents Present: Paul Tuss, Chair; Franc Albrecht, Vice Chair; Martha Sheehy; Bob Nystuen; and Asa Hohman. Ex officio members present include Commissioner of Higher Education, Clayton Christian and Ex officio Governor Bullock was represented by Ms. Siri Smilie. Regent Bill Johnstone and Ex officio Superintendent Juneau were excused.

3:05 PM

ACTION

a. Request for Authority to Construct Parking Facility; MSU-Bozeman ITEM 169-2007-S1215

President Cruzado spoke in support of this request. Associate Vice President of University Services Bob Lashway noted request is to correct an error in citation. The original submission cited policy section c, rather than section b. He noted that there are no other changes related to this item and that correcting this citation will allow them to proceed.

Motion for approval of item 169-2007-S1215 was made by Regent Nystuen. Motion passed (5-0) Regent Johnstone excused.

INFORMATION

a. Meeting Schedule Discussion

Chair Tuss addressed the topic of Osteopathic Medical Education and private sector feasibility study for MSU-Bozeman. As mentioned at the November Board meeting there is the potential for future decisions to be made regarding MSU’s affiliation with a private school. Commissioner Christian noted that this is of great interest to many across the state and reminded all that the process will play itself out. As stated in November there could be a time when some questions may come to the Board in the future. Commissioner Christian advocated for a public meeting to allow for feedback related to issues, concerns, and to clarify what is being asked of the system. This consolation will enable the Board to decide what level of involvement they and MSU should have; this meeting will allow for the process, as discussed, to better unfold. Commissioner clarified that there would be no formal decisions or items being acted on at the meeting. The Commissioner’s staff will find a date and arrange for this public forum in January of 2016 at MSU-Bozeman. Chair Tuss noted the considerable amount of public interest and comment that Board members have received to date. Discussion followed. Regent
Nystuen, Regent Sheehy and Regent Albrecht all spoke in support of a public forum meeting. They collectively requested that additional information related to WWAMI would be helpful.

Public Comment
None.

Meeting adjourned at 3:23pm

Approved by the Board of Regents on

Date

Clayton T. Christian
Commissioner of Higher Education
and Secretary to the Board of Regents

Date

Paul Tuss
Chair, Board of Regents