

May 22, 2004

Lincoln, Nebraska
May 22, 2004

SPECIAL EMERGENCY MEETING OF THE UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA BOARD OF REGENTS

Notice was given in accordance with subsection (5) of Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-1411 that the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska held a special emergency meeting beginning at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, May 22, 2004. Most Regents attended in person, while one Regent participated by telephone. Said telephone conference originated from the Board Room, Varner Hall, 3835 Holdrege Street, Lincoln, Nebraska.

The nature of the emergency for the business of this emergency meeting was to allow the Board of Regents to appoint in a timely manner the next President of the University of Nebraska.

In compliance with the provisions of Neb. Rev. Stat. Section 84-1411, printed notice of this meeting was sent to each member of the Board and was posted in the first floor lobby of Varner Hall. In addition, copies of such notice were sent to the Lincoln Journal Star, Daily Nebraskan, The Gateway, The Antelope, Kearney Hub, Omaha World-Herald, and the Lincoln office of the Associated Press on May 20, 2004.

Regents present:

Don S. Blank, Chairman
Brett Chloupek
Jonathan Croskey
Randolph M. Ferlic
Chuck Hassebrook
Jim McClurg
Drew Miller
Kent Schroeder
Katie Weichman
Charles S. Wilson

Regents participating by telephone:

Ryan Arnold

University officials present:

Harvey S. Perlman, Chancellor, UNL
John Owens, Vice President and Vice Chancellor for Agriculture and Natural Resources
Donal J. Burns, Acting Corporation Secretary
Richard R. Wood, Vice President and General Counsel
David Lechner, Vice President for Business and Finance

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL

The Board convened at 9:04 a.m. in the Board Room, Varner Hall, 3835 Holdrege Street, Lincoln, Nebraska, Saturday, May 22, 2004. Attendance is indicated above. Regent Hawks was absent.

CHAIRMAN BLANK MADE THE FOLLOWING OPENING STATEMENT:

Under the Standing Rules of the Board of Regents I called this meeting of the Board as an emergency meeting with less than five days advance public notice. Notice of this meeting was given to the public and the news media on May 20, 2004. The Nebraska open meetings law requires the Minutes of an emergency meeting of the Board of Regents to state the nature of the emergency for the meeting.

The Minutes of this meeting will state that the nature of the emergency for this meeting is to enable the Board of Regents to expeditiously proceed with consideration of action to appoint the next President of the university before there is withdrawal of any more final candidates for the position, and to take immediate action on the appointment of the next President so that the Office of President will be filled as soon as possible after July 1, which is the date that President Smith has announced that he will leave office.

III. **APPROVAL OF SPECIAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES AND RATIFICATION OF ACTIONS**

Motion Moved by Miller and seconded by Hassebrook to approve the minutes and ratify the actions of the Special Board of Regents meeting of May 18, 2004.

Action Student Opinion: Aye: Chloupek, Croskey, Weichman, Regent, and Arnold. Voting Aye: Ferlic, Hassebrook, McClurg, Miller, Schroeder, Wilson, and Blank. Voting Nay: None. Absent: Hawks. Motion carried.

IV. **CONSIDERATION OF ACTION TO APPOINT THE NEXT PRESIDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA**

Central Administration

Motion Moved by Wilson and seconded by Schroeder to approve item IV-A-1a.

IV-A-1a Adjustment

L. Dennis Smith, President (Special), University of Nebraska, effective 07/01/04 through 07/31/04, President Emeritus, University of Nebraska; and Professor (Continuous), School of Biological Sciences, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, effective 08/01/04, salary \$259,259, 1.0 FTE. Extended appointment as President for one month, add title President Emeritus and increase salary from \$254,800.

Action Student Opinion: Aye: Croskey, Weichman, Arnold, and Chloupek. Voting Aye: Hassebrook, McClurg, Miller, Schroeder, Wilson, Blank, and Ferlic. Voting Nay: None. Absent: Hawks. Motion carried.

Motion Moved by Wilson and seconded by Hassebrook to approve item IV-A-1b.

IV-A-1b New Appointment

James B. Milliken, President (Special), University of Nebraska, effective 08/01/04 through 07/31/07, \$270,000 FY, 1.0 FTE.

Action Student Opinion: Aye: Weichman, Arnold, Chloupek, and Croskey. Voting Aye: McClurg, Miller, Schroeder, Wilson, Blank, Ferlic, and Hassebrook. Voting Nay: None. Absent: Hawks. Motion carried.

May 22, 2004

CHAIRMAN BLANK MADE THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT AFTER THE VOTE:

I want to make a comment on the significance of the vote that we have just taken. There are those who have said that our desire for a unanimous vote was a hindrance or detriment to our selection of the next president. We had four very talented candidates forwarded to us by the search committee and it's not surprising that individuals regents would differ as to which would make the best president. But we have a board this morning who have selected an outstanding individual to be our next president and our unanimous vote says very loud and very clear that the search is behind us, the interviews are behind us, the discussions are behind us, and we are a board now standing unanimous and united behind our newly elected president. We are going to work hand in hand with him to make the University of Nebraska the finest teaching university, the finest research university, and the finest outreach and service institution that it can possibly be. That is the significance of our unanimous vote this morning.

CHAIRMAN BLANK READ THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT FROM REGENT HOWARD HAWKS:

I am sorry and disappointed that the meeting was rescheduled to a time when it was not possible for me to participate.

I want to congratulate J. B. Milliken on being named president of the University of Nebraska, and I am committed to supporting him completely. I look forward to working with him over the coming years.

CHAIRMAN BLANK INTRODUCED THE NEXT PRESIDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA, MR. J. B. MILLIKEN.

James B. Milliken introduced his family: Nana, his wife, and his children, Bennett, Caleb, and Anna. Milliken thanked his friends who were present.

JAMES B. MILLIKEN MADE THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT TO THE BOARD:

I want to thank the university community – the students, faculty and staff on each of the campuses – as well as, interested Nebraskans who participated last week in the on-campus interviews. It was a daunting schedule and I wouldn't be candid if I didn't admit to some hesitation about going through it. Nana and I had a great time in Kearney, Omaha, and Lincoln. I suspect that each of the candidates was energized by the sense of purpose and the interest level of hundreds of Nebraskans who participated in those events. So to all of them, in each of those cities on each of the four campuses, I thank them for the graciousness and their interest.

There's been much written about this search, and there will no doubt be more. Anyone who has followed this search knows that there were eight very impressive semifinalists, and there were four very well-qualified finalists. I was honored and humbled to be in group that included Admiral James Ellis, President Peter Hoff, and my friend and colleague, Kim Robak. This group of candidates offered a richly diverse set of experiences and talents to the Board of Regents and to the university and to the state. We should all be proud that each one was interested in this challenging opportunity.

I have had significant involvement in at least 15 presidential searches over the last 16 years. I want to make clear that was on the other side of the table – on the hiring side – and the point both in North Carolina and Nebraska is that this search is not unique. This search happened to be more public than most, so the public was witness to much of the give and take and the deliberation that often takes place in private. I hope that the

May 22, 2004

university won't suffer in the days ahead because the Regents did this business in public. The public saw the seriousness of purpose, the sense of commitment by members of the Board, and the difficulty of making a decision of this magnitude. I hope after today that we all move on to the very serious business at hand.

The University of Nebraska has a rich and wonderful history. By the end of the 19th century, it was the home to leaders in the sciences, literature, art, and the law. Names like Bessey, Cather, Pound. It was one of the four great western universities with Michigan, Wisconsin, and Berkeley. Pretty good company. Today on four campuses, each with its own excellent programs, and its own very important role to play in the state of Nebraska, the university is no less important to the state. As I said many times last week, the importance of the University of Nebraska to the state can not be overestimated. Their fates are intertwined. One does not succeed without the other.

Great public universities are special places. They represent the best that the state has to offer. They exist to serve the state and the nation. They serve cities and rural areas. They provide educational and economic opportunity. They benefit agriculture, business, the arts, and the health of our citizens. But as times change, universities adapt and the University of Nebraska is no exception. As Robert Knoll said at the very end of his marvelous book, Prairie University, "In a competitive world where intellectual skills were in both practical and ideal demand, the future shape of higher education would be wonderful to observe. Opportunities in Nebraska had not yet been exhausted." I couldn't agree more.

I thank the Board of Regents for the opportunity to help lead this great university. I am honored and humbled, but I'm also excited and energized by the challenge. I look forward to working with the Board, the Chancellors, my colleagues throughout the University of Nebraska, but even more I look forward to sharing our excitement, our purpose, our aspirations, with the people of Nebraska, so that all of us can share a vision of a four campus University of Nebraska – a home of excellent teaching, research and scholarship, outreach, engagement, and health care that serves the people of this great state.

Chairman Blank announced that a press conference was to be held at 9:30 a.m.

VI.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon completion of the business stated in the notice for the emergency meeting, the meeting was adjourned at 9:17 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donal J. Burns
Acting Corporation Secretary

Don S. Blank
Chairman of the Board