

MISSOURI SOUTHERN STATE UNIVERSITY

Board of Governors

Minutes

January 24, 2018

Billingsly Student Center, Room 310

The January 24, 2018 meeting of the Missouri Southern State University Board of Governors was called to order at 1 o'clock by Mitch McCumber, Chair. Governors in attendance were Tracy Flanigan, Mike Franks, Carlos Haley, Alison Hershewe, Mitch McCumber, Anita Oplotnik, and Dr. Benjamin Rosenberg. Bill Gipson was absent. Others in attendance were Dr. Alan Marble, Dr. Paula Carson, Derek Skaggs (representing Dr. Brad Hodson), Darren Fullerton, Rob Yust, Jared Bruggeman, Jon Dermott, Nick Nicoletti, Angela Bennett (representing Sharon Fraser), Joe Blank, Linda Eis, and Laura Boyd.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair McCumber called the meeting to order at 1 o'clock and welcomed everyone including newly appointed and confirmed Board member, Dr. Benjamin Rosenberg. Mr. McCumber also congratulated Bill Gipson for being reappointed to the Board. Mr. McCumber thanked Mr. Jim Fleischaker for his years of service to the Board. Mr. Fleischaker served from October 31, 2011 to January 2, 2018 and was Board chair 2014-2015 and 2015-2016.

MINUTES

Chair McCumber asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the November 17, 2017 Board meeting; none were noted.

A motion was made by Carlos Haley and seconded by Alison Hershewe to approve minutes of the November 17, 2017 Board meeting as submitted. Motion passed unanimously. (Minutes are archived in the permanent record book).

REPORTS

Treasurer (Ms. Linda Eis)

Linda noted financial statements for both November and December were included in the Board packet. The December statements are the most current and would be reviewed.

Cash Graph:

Linda noted in reviewing the statements for the period ending December 31, 2017, the Cash Graph reflects cash at \$10.4M an Increase of \$240k.

Statement of Net Position:

Total Assets of \$162M, Total Liabilities of \$93M, making Total Net Assets \$69M.

Comparative Statement of Revenues Expenses and Changes in Net Position: Looking at the "difference" column:

- **Total Operating Revenue** increased over the prior year by \$376k.
- **Total Operating Expenses** increased by \$1.1M. Linda noted that a large portion of other benefits is due to the increased percentage of MOSERS contribution.
- **Non-Operating Revenue (Expense)** decreased (\$1.5M).
- **Income (Loss) Before Other Revenues** reflects the current year at decrease of (\$552k), with an increase in the prior year at \$1.7M reflecting a decrease of (\$2.2M).
- **Other Revenues – Decrease (\$4.2M)**

Treasurer (continued)

Capital appropriations-state (\$4.2M) This is the difference in state reimbursement for Reynolds/Nixon Hall for both years. FY18 \$798k FY17 \$4.978M

A motion was made by Mike Franks and seconded by Tracy Flanigan to approve the December 31, 2017 financial statements as presented. Motion passed unanimously. (A copy of the financial statements for November 30, 2017 and December 31, 2017 are attached to the minutes in the permanent record book).

Vice President for Business Affairs (Mr. Rob Yust):

Note: Highlights of Rob's report are as follows:

- Demolition of a stair tower has begun at the southeast corner of Reynold's Hall, which will connect the walkway to **Nixon Hall**. Earthwork has also begun in the area to the south of Reynolds, where Nixon Hall will be constructed. Nixon Hall will mainly house Math classrooms and offices. This project is scheduled to be completed by the fall of 2018 with classes beginning the spring of 2019.
- Work continues on the **Trail Project** with the city of Joplin. The process of acquiring the final right of way from the Northpark Mall owners is still in progress. The City anticipates a decision soon regarding signing an easement or "right of way". Mr. Yust anticipates construction to begin approximately May with completion in late summer or early fall of 2018.
- Mr. Yust noted as anticipated, Missouri Southern would be looking at another tight budget year with the release of the **State budget**. Regarding the budget, Southern could see another significant reduction in appropriations next year. For the Fiscal years, 2017, 2018, and 2019, the net cash from appropriations will be \$4.4 million less due to State budget cuts.

Director of Athletics (Mr. Jared Bruggeman):

Highlights of Jared's report are as follows. Additional information can be found in a handout distributed to the Board that is attached to the minutes in the permanent record book.

Updates

Sport Program

- ✓ The **Missouri Southern men's basketball team** is 12-7 and 7-3 in the MIAA. Currently the Lions are in third place in the MIAA standings. The top four teams will earn a bye to Kansas City to the 2018 MIAA Tournament. **CJ Carr** was named the MIAA Men's Basketball Player of the Week for the third time this year.
- ✓ The **Missouri Southern women's basketball team** is 10-8 and 7-3 in the MIAA. Currently the Lions are tied for fourth place in the MIAA standings. **Desirea Buerge** is second in the MIAA in scoring and **Chelsey Henry** is fourth in scoring as well. Buerge also ranks fifth in the league in rebounding.
- ✓ The **Missouri Southern men's and women's track and field teams** were recently picked third each in the MIAA Preseason Indoor Coaches Poll. The men are currently ranked ninth nationally and the women are ranked 11th nationally. The men currently have seven NCAA provisional marks and one automatic mark (**Bryan Burns** in the shot put), while the women have five NCAA provisional marks and one automatic (**Emily Presley** in the pole-vault).

Director of Athletics (continued):

- ✓ The **Missouri Southern baseball team** begins the 2018 season by playing against Southern Nazarene University on February 6. Missouri Southern will play its first home game on February 16 against Maryville University.
- ✓ The **Missouri Southern softball team** will begin the 2018 season at the Southeastern Oklahoma Regional Tournament on February 2nd and 3rd.

MIAA:

- ✓ A Taskforce has been in full swing for the last month and a half regarding the **MIAA Webcasting Network**. Currently in place are fall and Winter sports including webcasting of football, men's and women's basketball and volleyball for all universities. MSSU is in the process of creating a "Minimum Standards Guide" which is near completion.
- ✓ Jared noted he has been working with the **MIAA Commissioner** and other AD's in the conference, reviewing the current football schedule regarding other options such as divisions, end of season conference championship games, non-conference games, and protecting rivalry games.

NCAA Reporting:

- ✓ Jared noted new directives from the NCAA Board of Governors regarding Title IX Training and Sexual Violence. While this passed by the NCAA Board of Governors, it is not entirely clear on what this means regarding documentation, expectations of the training and what should be covered in the training. Jared noted that with the help and expertise of Julie Wengert, general expectations would be met by the end of Spring 2018.

Lionbackers & Annual Campaign(s):

- ✓ Currently the membership is 277, an increase of 26 members from last year.

Executive Vice President (Derek Skaggs gave the report on behalf of Dr. Brad Hodson):

Additional information can be found in a handout distributed to the Board that is attached to the minutes in the permanent record book.

Fundraising

- A comprehensive and aggressive email and direct mail campaign began in October 2017. Comparing the second quarter results of this year with last year, there is an increase in the number of gifts received (up 224 gifts) and in total dollars raised (up \$292,493).

Major Giving

- The staff in University Development closed fifteen gifts of \$10,000 or above in the second quarter of FY 2018:
 - \$262,000 from five donors in support of student scholarships;
 - \$70,000 to purchase simulation lab mannequins;
 - \$50,000 for an endowed professorship in marketing;
 - \$25,000 to support a healthcare leadership initiative;
 - \$20,000 to support intercollegiate athletics; and
 - \$10,000 unsolicited gift for the downtown campus project.

Phonathan

- The annual phonathon continues through the end of February. The phonathon employs approximately 25 MSSU students who call prospective annual giving donors, current donors in the last six years, lapsed donors (those who haven't given in six or more years), and those graduates who have never made a gift.

Executive Vice President (continued):**University Relations and Marketing**

- The University's magazine Crossroads was mailed out to over 38,000 alumni and friends in November. The cover featured MSSU alumnus Brig. General William Ward.
- The Office of University Relations and Marketing is conducting a brand awareness and perception survey on the university in a ten county region encompassing the four state area. The results will help to inform upcoming marketing strategies.
- University Relations and Marketing is producing a series of videos featuring some of MSSU's top researchers. The videos will focus on why these professors are fascinated by their topics and how they share that passion with students.
- Cassie Mathes and Kevin Greim will be presenting at the upcoming Council for the Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) conference in St. Louis, MO. The topic is "Sophomore Day," the university's highly successful event hosting 2,500 high school sophomores on a campus exploration visit. The 2018 Sophomore Day will occur on Tuesday, April 3.

Alumni Relations

- The MSSU Alumni Association will recognize three outstanding Lions at the first Pride and Purpose Day, which will be held February 10, 2018. Dr. Richard Massa, longtime professor of communication will be awarded the Lion-Hearted Award. This award recognizes contributions of time, talent, and treasure to MSSU. The Spirit of Service Award recognizes graduates who have rendered outstanding service to their communities. This year's recipients for the Spirit of Service Award are John Cochran, '78, of Moberly, MO. and Lorraine Whittington, '82, of Joplin, MO.

Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs (Dr. Paula Carson):

Note: Highlights of Dr. Carson's report are as follows. Additional information can be found in handouts distributed to the Board that are attached to the minutes in the permanent record book.

Missouri Higher Education Core Curriculum Transfer Act

- Dr. Carson explained the Missouri Higher Education Core Transfer Curriculum is a recommended lower-division core curriculum of forty-two semester credit hours intended to facilitate student transfer among Missouri's public institutions of higher education. All public colleges and universities have adopted the Core Transfer Curriculum, which is commonly known as CORE 42. CORE 42 is a statewide general education course of study intended to ensure that all graduates possess a common core of college-level skills and knowledge. CORE 42 specifies the basic competencies and knowledge areas that all students completing degrees at a Missouri public institution of higher education must complete. CORE 42 is comprised of dozens of courses distributed across five knowledge areas. These courses are designated with a Missouri Transfer (MOTR) course number, which guarantees the one-to-one transfer of these courses among all Missouri public institutions of higher education.

Core 42 Course Inventory include:

- Social & Behavioral Sciences and Civics
- Written Communications and Oral Communications
- Natural Sciences
- Mathematical Sciences
- Humanities and Fine Arts

Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs (continued):

Update MDHE Academic Program Review Status

Dr. Carson gave a handout regarding an update from MDHE and the disposition of where Missouri Southern stands at this time.

- Approval has been given for French and Spanish – (one overall Modern Language degree).
- Approval for Poly Sci/Geography/International Studies - Global and Political Affairs.
- Waiting for approval - Chemistry and Biochemistry (waiting for MDHE) the intent is to combine these two degrees.
- Approval for Music Industry and Music, which have been combined.
- Defended and Approved - Middle School Education, Mathematics, Chemistry, Curriculum & Instruction Masters, Paramedic/EMS, Radiologic Technology, and History.
- Still being deliberated – Physics, Theatre, Art, Music, & Medical Technology.

Higher Learning Commission (HLC) Update

Dr. Carson noted eight preliminary teams and a steering committee have been formed and the entire group will meet before the end of the calendar year in preparation of the Higher Learning Commission's accreditation visit scheduled for February 2019.

Faculty Changes:

Dr. Carson also noted a few faculty changes including new hires, Farida Mehrhoff, Visiting Assistant Professor, Biology & Environmental Health Department, and Joe Ellen Branstetter-Hall, Assistant Professor, Nursing Department; phased retirement, Marty Conklin, Kinesiology, Richard Rawlins, Economics, and Trina Scott, Criminal Justice; retiring, Hartford Tunnel, CIS; and Anna Rinner is the new department head of Biology & Environmental Health Department.

Accreditation Updates:

- Social work completed third year of preliminary accreditation.
- National Accreditation of Schools and Music (NASM) (consultant visit in October).

Vice President for Student Affairs (Mr. Darren Fullerton):

Note: Highlights of Darren's report are as follows. Additional information can be found in a handout distributed to the Board that is attached to the minutes in the permanent record book.

Missouri Governors Student Leadership Forum

- Haley Henry represented MSSU at the Missouri Governors Student Leadership Forum in Jefferson City, MO. January 3rd-5th, 2018. Haley is a junior Health Promotion and Wellness major from Monett, MO.

Director of ACTS Office

- Faustina Abrahams was promoted from At-Risk Academic Advisor to Director of the Advising, Counseling and Testing Department in December 2017. Mrs. Abrahams had served as interim Director since August 2017.

Tentative Funding Levels for 2018-19 Campus-Based Aid

MSSU received tentative funding levels for campus-based aid for 2018-19 from the U.S. Department of Education:

- **Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (SEOG):**
Tentative funding for 2018-2019 - \$179,881
Final funding for 2017-2018 - \$168,049

Vice President for Student Affairs (continued):

➤ **Federal Work-Study (FWS):**

Tentative funding for 2018-2019 - \$184,244

Final funding for 2017-2018 - \$178,446

➤ **Federal Perkins Loan**

No authorization due to expiration of federal program in September 2017.

Dress to Impress Professional Clothing Drive

- MSSU Career Services, Young Professionals Network and Leadership Joplin 2018 are joining for the Annual Dress to Impress event. This event is designed to prepare Students for their careers by helping them build a professional wardrobe. The event will take place March 14, 2018 at the Joplin Area Chamber of Commerce.

Faculty Senate President (Dr. Nick Nicoletti)

Note: Highlights of Dr. Nicoletti's report are as follows. Additional information can be found in a handout distributed to the Board that is attached to the minutes in the permanent record book.

Dr. Nicoletti noted the Faculty Senate met on Monday, December 4, 2017 at 3:00pm. The primary item for discussion for new business, other than curricular changes, was the Office Hours Policy compared with other universities similar to MSSU in the Missouri System and decide how changes in teaching technology affects the policy. With the integration of email, Blackboard, and other classroom technologies, many faculty members wanted to revisit the Office Hours policy. The recommendation presented to the Faculty Senate would alter this policy slightly, bringing the number of required office hours from 10 to 6, which is commensurate with similar universities in the Missouri system. After much deliberation on this issue, the Senate voted on the recommendation, it passed with a large majority. The policy will be given to the Faculty Handbook committee, which will codify the language and send back to the Senate for an additional vote during the Spring Semester.

The other item of new business was a discussion regarding requests to petition non-MSSU courses to count for MSSU courses under specific circumstances where there is no pre-determined transfer credit. Several faculty members reported that, even though there is a current process outlined, it has not been followed properly in all situations. In many cases, the documentation received by the professor asked to review the petition was peculiar and lacked the necessary criteria to make an informed decision. The choice made to keep the process relatively the same, but add a faculty signature line and "proper documentation" to the form, which is to be defined as the discretion of the faculty member. In addition, Senate wanted to have information about the faculty member's credentials that taught the course at an independent academic institution submitted with the form. This will give faculty the flexibility to allow for a wide-variety of documentation types, while also maintaining the rigor desired by MSSU professors. This recommendation passed as well.

Staff Senate President (Mrs. Angela Bennett gave the report on behalf of Mrs. Sharon Fraser)

The committee has worked diligently to update the Staff Senate Bylaws. The Bylaws have been approved by the President's Cabinet, and posted on the Staff Senate webpage.

On behalf of the Staff Senate, Mrs. Angela Bennett thanked Dr. Hodson and Mr. Yust for joining the Staff Senate on December 13, 2017 and sharing information and updating the staff on issues such as Higher Learning Commission (HLC) and the new performance funding measures.

Student Senate President (Joe Blank)

Mr. Blank noted the Student Senate is working on updates of the banners on campus. Mr. Blank added this is a chance to allow all registered student organizations to get their logo on banners and displayed in the Lion's Den. The Student Senate is waiting patiently for the budget to pass so they can move forward with this project.

The Student Senate is also working on a trophy case expansion with Mr. Bob Harrington. This would allow all organizations on campus to display their trophies in the Lion's Den.

Mr. Blank also noted Student Senate is looking to fill two seats in the Senate due to one committee member graduating and another member going into the police academy this semester.

Mr. McCumber asked how students become registered for organizations and the process to become registered.

Mr. Fullerton explained the student activities office has various sample packets and samples of constitutions, which require a faculty staff advisor and roster of interested students of that organization. If students have questions pertaining to an organization, that organization can walk them through the process or the student can call Student Affairs with any questions. Mr. Fullerton added, every year fluctuates but on average there are between 65 – 85 different organizations on campus.

Board Committees:

No Board committees have met since the last Board meeting. No reports were given.

***Sabbatical was added into the agenda during the meeting in this order:**

Consideration of Academic Policies Proposals (Dr. Paula Carson):

Dr. Carson, noted as a point of information, one faculty member, Dr. Nii Adote Abrahams has been awarded sabbatical leave next year. During his sabbatical, Dr. Abrahams would like to pursue research in the area of Natural Resource and Environmental Economics. Dr. Abraham's plans on working with colleagues at the University of Ghana with a goal of having at least one peer reviewed article within a year of the sabbatical. Dr. Abrahams believes this opportunity would allow him to be on the cutting edge of current research and would enhance his teaching on his return to Missouri Southern. Dr. Abrahams will continue to receive his salary and full benefits while researching in Ghana.

A motion was made by Mike Franks and seconded by Alison Hershewe to approve the 2018-19 sabbatical for Dr. Nii Abrahams. Motion passed unanimously. (A copy of the application and memo sabbatical for 2018-19 is attached to the minutes in the permanent record book).

President (Dr. Alan Marble)

Note: Highlights of Dr. Marble's report are as follows. Additional information can be found in a handout distributed to the Board that is attached to the minutes in the permanent record book.

Spring "Welcome Back" meeting

- All faculty and staff were invited to the Spring Welcome Back meeting, which was held on January 12, 2018. Each member of the President's Cabinet presented updates with regard to their particular areas of expertise and responsibility. Maryann Mitts, selected from the GGOE Culture Committee presented in making the critical points that will help MSSU conquer the challenges that arise. The overall theme of the day revolved around student retention and how to make greater strides by using the Great Game of Education.

President (continued):**Strategic Plan**

- A number of Stakeholder Engagement Sessions have been held during the fall semester for faculty and staff, including a brief session with the Foundation Board with representatives from the Lionbackers and Alumni Association. In addition, participation was available electronically via Survey Monkey. The same approach including PowerPoint was at the Planning Session for the Board of Governors last June. Dr. Marble gave hand outs in the packets for the board indicating the most frequently mentioned words by the participants and another sheet identifying most frequently words from the Board planning session. Dr. Marble encouraged the board to take these documents home and think of a “powerful and memorable” Mission Statement, an aspirational Vision declaration, and a fundamental list of Values for Missouri Southern. Dr. Marble hopes to schedule another planning session next month to develop a draft for each of these critical areas.

Budget

- Dr. Marble noted he and Mr. Yust have analyzed the Governor’s recommended budget for next year and understand that the very best Missouri Southern can hope for is a 10% cut in state appropriations, with the knowledge that another 10% will be withheld and only released based upon Southern’s performance funding results. Dr. Marble anticipates Southern will successfully meet all 6 measures, but will not know for sure until the Department of Higher Education double checks the report and approves or rejects the submission. It is also unclear when and how the states performance funding dollars will be distributed. For planning purposes, Southern can only know for sure that absent any mid-year withholdings, the university will receive slightly over \$18.5 million, with the opportunity to earn back \$20.5 million. These numbers are smaller than those published in the Governor’s recommended budget due to the annual 3% withholding that has been in place for a couple of decades. However, that 3% accounts for roughly a \$630,000 difference between “appropriated funds” and the “net amount” the university actually receives. For comparison purposes, this year the university’s base funding was \$22.3 million (net) after the standard 3% withholding and the extra 2.5% withholding the Governor imposed. Though trying to remain positive, one must seriously ponder the need for a significant tuition increase to offset some of the lost revenue absorbed, not only this year, but also over the past decade.

OLD BUSINESS**None****NEW BUSINESS****Lobbyist Report, Mr. Gary Burton (Dr. Alan Marble)**

Dr. Marble introduced *Gary Burton of Burton & Liese Government Relations: Missouri Government Lobbyist*. Mr. Burton introduced Tony Duggar, who brings experience as a Legislator for 8 years and chairman of the banking committee for 4 years. Mr. Duggar now works with Mr. Burton representing Missouri Southern. Mr. Burton shared briefly information regarding recent tax cuts from the Governor’s office.

Handouts were given by Mr. Burton regarding several bills involving MSSU. Mr. Burton noted one of which is Bill 912 that will allow a CPI plus a 10% increase. This bill has been filed

NEW BUSINESS

Lobbyist Report, Mr. Gary Burton (continued):

with the senate. Mr. Burton noted Bill 912 is a high priority for every university in the state as well as the teams working with the universities.

After speaking with many legislators and senators, regarding the scandal of Governor Greitens, Mr. Burton noted it is hard to tell if the Governor will stay in office. Mr. Burton for sees Governor Grietens finishing out at least his first term unless something else happens with the investigation from the FBI.

Consideration of Academic Policies Proposals (Dr. Carson)

Dr. Carson noted the following items have been approved/accepted by the respective School Curricular Oversight Committees (SCOC), Academic Polices (AP) and Faculty Senate (FS) as of December 4, 2017 and are being brought forward to the Board for consideration:

Certificates:

The following proposed certificates in the Social Sciences Department include:

- Campaigns and Elections
- International Politics and Diplomacy
- Legal Studies
- Public Administration

Majors and Minors:

Dr. Carson explained **Bachelor of Science in Dental Hygiene** will replace current Associate of Science in Dental Hygiene. The practice of dental hygiene is evolving into pathways, much like the nursing profession. State laws are rapidly changing to recognize the Dental Hygiene Therapist, the Expanded Functions Dental Hygienist and the dental hygienists who seek to own and operate dental hygiene practices. Currently a variety of oral health stakeholder groups in many states are exploring proposals to create new workforce models that will increase access to quality or oral health care for all individuals.

A motion was made by Anita Oplotnik and seconded by Carlos Haley to approve the Academic Policies Proposals as presented. Motion passed unanimously. (A copy of the Curricular Proposals memo is attached to the minutes in the permanent record book).

Joplin's 4th of July Fireworks Celebration (Mr. Bruggeman)

Mr. Bruggeman brought forward for consideration a proposal for the Joplin's 4th of July Fireworks Celebration to be held at Missouri Southern. Mr. Bruggeman introduced Paul Bloomberg, Director of Parks and Recreation, along with two Joplin City Councilmembers, Jim West, and Gary Shaw. Mr. Bruggeman and Mr. Bloomberg have met and will continue to meet regarding the logistics with city personnel. Joplin City Parks and Recreation will be funding all fireworks, band, and games. MSSU will sponsor concessions, stadium, and parking throughout the day. Mr. Bruggeman explained the cost would be minimal to MSSU. Mr. Bloomberg noted the City is very excited to bring this event back to MSSU and looking forward to years of collaborating with the university.

A motion was made by Mike Franks and seconded by Carlos Haley to approve the Joplin's 4th of July Fireworks Celebration as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

American Mock Trial Association, Dr. Nick Nicoletti (Dr. Paula Carson)

Dr. Carson introduced Dr. Nicoletti, Faculty advisor, to speak on behalf of the American Mock Trial Association.

Dr. Nicoletti noted MSSU is the national home base for the American Mock Trials. Missouri Southern's team has been involved for 6 years. Dr. Nicoletti, assistant coach for over 4 years and head coach in the last year, explains the American Mock Trial is a very competitive sport.

Dr. Nicoletti noted students get very involved while learning opening and closing statements, direct examinations, and cross-examinations. This year students have competed in three tournaments and will compete soon in the UMKC regional playoffs. Dr. Nicoletti explained every Mock Trial tournament MSSU has engaged in, our students won, including; outstanding attorney award, outstanding witness award, and winning third place at the Northwest MO. Mock Trial Tournament.

Dr. Nicoletti also noted the American Mock Trial is a wonderful educational experience for students and anticipates continuing the Mock Trial on campus.

Other Items

Dr. Carson shared with the board a handout regarding the 2017 "Focus on Faculty" research publication brochure. The brochure honors the significant scholarly activities and research of Missouri Southern State Universities faculty.

Dr. Carson thanked the faculty for their contributions and efforts put into research, and the campus for supporting the brochure. Lastly, Dr. Carson thanked Dr. Wendy McGrane for compiling information for the brochure.

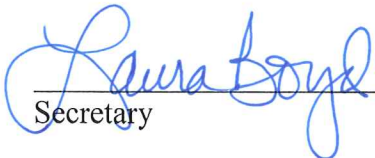
Future Meeting Dates:

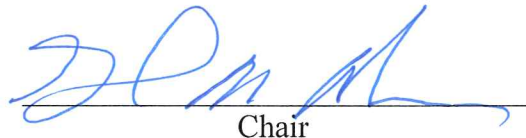
The next meeting of the Board is scheduled for February 16, 2018 at 1 o'clock.

Adjournment:

Chair McCumber noted the Board did not need to go into a closed Executive Session and asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

A motion was made by Anita Oplotnik and seconded by Tracy Flanigan to adjourn. Motion passed.


Secretary


Chair