

University of South Florida
Board of Trustees Conference Call
Monday, April 1, 2019
Minutes

Chair Brian Lamb convened the conference call of the University of South Florida Board of Trustees at 2:30 PM and asked President Judy Genshaft to call roll.

President Genshaft called roll with the following trustees present on the call:

Trustee Michael Carrere
Trustee Stephanie Goforth
Trustee Oscar Horton
Trustee Moneer Kheireddine – not in attendance
Trustee Brian Lamb
Trustee Deanna Michael – not in attendance
Trustee Harold Mullis
Trustee Leslie Muma
Trustee John Ramil
Trustee Byron Shinn
Trustee Charles Tokarz
Trustee Nancy Watkins
Trustee Jordan Zimmerman

Chair Lamb began by discussing the “dynamic and historic week” in Tallahassee and reiterated his personal and the Board’s institutional commitment to staying transparent, particularly as it related to governance issues. Before moving on, he reported to the Board on the presentation President Genshaft gave to the Board of Governors on the university’s progress relating to and focus on research and the strategies USF has for sustaining them. Chair Lamb made special note that President Genshaft received a standing ovation for being recognized by the NCAA with the Living Legend Award at the Women’s Basketball Final Four.

Chair Lamb also made remarks and congratulations to President-elect Steven Currall for receiving unanimous confirmation from the Board of Governors as USF’s 7th president. He informed the Board that Governor Darlene Jordan spoke highly of USF’s search committee and the process that was followed in selected President-elect Currall.

Chair Lamb then informed the trustees of Governor Ron DeSantis’ surprise appearance at the Board of Governors meeting where he announced his intentions to nominate the Chair to the Board of Governors. Chair Lamb reported that Governor DeSantis spoke of the significant impact that achieving preeminence has had at USF and that these accomplishments only reinforced his beliefs in higher education.

Before turning the call over to Vice Chair Jordan Zimmerman, Chair Lamb spoke about how his passion for USF will always continue and that he will always bleed green and gold and that this call is important for providing clarity for the Board's future.

Vice Chair Zimmerman began by thanking Chair Lamb, "Governor Lamb," for all of his service to USF, his commitment to students and his passion for the state of Florida and the State University System as a whole.

FL 101 – Election of Chair and Vice Chair

Vice Chair Zimmerman made remarks about the Board's legal authority to elect its chair and vice chair, both of whom serve a two-year term. He also provided a breakdown of the duties and responsibilities for each position: that the chair shall preside at all meetings of the Board of Trustees, call special meetings of the Board when necessary, attest to actions of the Board and notify the Governor in writing whenever a Board member fails to attend three consecutive meetings in any fiscal year, which failure may be grounds for removal. The vice chair shall act as chair during the absence or disability of the chair and, in that event, shall perform those duties of the chair. Vice Chair Zimmerman asked General Counsel Gerard Solis to confirm that the duties and responsibilities were correctly stated for the minutes and Mr. Solis confirmed they were.

Before moving on, Chair Lamb then informed the Board that with his appointment to the Board of Governors he would be resigning from the Board of Trustees and that his decision was not made lightly, but wanted to ensure both boards would have the attention they each deserve. Vice Chair Zimmerman reiterated his thanks to Mr. Lamb and that he is proud to have him on the Board of Governors where he will "carry the torch" for USF.

Vice Chair Zimmerman then opened the floor for nominations for chair. Trustee Hal Mullis nominated Vice Chair Zimmerman, who accepted the nomination and then opened the floor for approval—his election as Chair of the Board was unanimously approved. Chair Zimmerman then made remarks on how honored he has been to serve on the Board and now leading it and he asked his fellow trustees to remain committed to the Board and USF in continuing the upward trajectory they have been on.

Chair Zimmerman then opened the floor for nominations for vice chair. Trustee Byron Shinn nominated Trustee Les Muma, citing his dedication and leadership to USF, especially in chairing the presidential search. Trustee Muma accepted the nomination and received unanimous approval from the Board. Chair Zimmerman welcomed and congratulated Vice Chair Muma on his new position.

Chair Zimmerman then took time to fully highlight Governor Lamb's ten years on the Board:

- Leading a successful confirmation for President-elect Currall with the Board of Governors
- Achieving designation as a Preeminent Research University
- Completed \$1 billion Unstoppable Campaign
- Completed largest P-3 in State University System history with first on-campus Publix in the state
- Top tier for Performance-Based Funding metrics

- Secured support from legislature for funding for downtown Morsani College of Medicine and Heart Institute
- Worked closely with President Genshaft and her leadership team throughout entire tenure
- Prior to chairmanship, led the Academics and Campus Environment Committee for four years, focusing on student success and accountability plans
- Has always made it a priority to enhance the Board and USF's relationship with state legislators, Board of Governors and the Governor

Chair Zimmerman then opened the floor for comments from the Board. Trustee John Ramil offered congratulations to Chair Zimmerman, Vice Chair Muma and Governor Lamb for their new positions, as well as President Genshaft for her NCAA Living Legend Award. Vice Chair Muma responded that he appreciates the vote of confidence and is looking forward to working more closely with Chair Zimmerman. Trustee Deanne Michael thanked Governor Lamb for his attention to detail of student diversity, particularly when it came to the work being done by the Academics and Campus Environment Committee—his leadership of the Board helped reinforced this commitment university-wide. Governor Lamb responded with his thanks to Trustee Michael.

Trustee Mullis stated he was hopeful to have a chance to thank Governor Lamb in a more appropriate fashion later on and that he is thankful for his service and for effective and compelling leadership. Governor Lamb responded with his thanks to Trustee Mullis for his support and collaboration over their years together on the Board.

With no further comments, Chair Zimmerman thanked everyone for participating in the call and adjourned at 3:03 PM.