



DINÉ COLLEGE

THE HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTION OF THE NAVAJO NATION SINCE 1968

Meeting Name: Diné College Board of Regents Special Meeting

Meeting Start Time: 9:00 a.m. MDT

Meeting Start Date: 07/24/2020

Meeting Location: Teleconference / GCB ITV room 210, Shiprock South Campus

Zoom Webinar:

<https://dinecollege.zoom.us/j/91818418421?pwd=R2xiT1RjNjhVQ2VuMnlyb2doSW9aQT09>

Or Join by Phone: (312) 626-6799

Meeting ID: 91818418421

Minutes – Approved on September 11, 2020.

Regent Toadecheeni motioned to approve minutes, seconded by Regent Tso. Vote: 5-0-0.

I. Call to Order. The Diné College Board of Regents convened at 9:16 a.m. Friday, July 24, 2020, with Board President Greg Bigman presiding and calling the meeting to order.

II. Roll Call. Regent Bigman conducted roll call.

- Regent Greg Bigman, President
- Regent Theresa Hatathlie, Vice President [Teleconference]
- Regent Sharon Toadecheeni, Secretary [Teleconference]
- Regent Johnson Dennison, Member [Teleconference]
- Regent Anderson Hoskie, Member [Teleconference] (arrived at 9:34 a.m.)
- Regent LeTanya Thinn, Member
- Regent Daniel Tso, Member [Teleconference](arrived at 10:16 a.m.)
- Vacant seat, Navajo Nation Superintendent of Schools

III. Invocation. Regent Thinn provided the meeting prayer.

IV. Approval of Agenda. Regent Thinn motions to approve and adopt the presented agenda, Seconded by Regent Hatathlie.

Vote for approving motion: 5-0-0.

V. Items Approved

A. Action Items

1. Action Item – **“Approval of a Native American Research Center for Health partnership proposal to further the health research, training, and education of the Navajo Nation and other native communities.”**

Regent Toadecheenie motions to approve the resolution, seconded by Regent Hatathlie. Regent Toadecheenie reads the resolution into the record.

Discussion: Dr. Bauer provided an overview of the continued partnership that has been funded for the past three years. Developed and graduated 1st cohort from BA in Public Health, and helped NAU establish an Indigenous track in their own master's degree in Public health. It will be offered to high school students through concurrent enrollment.

- Regent Toadecheenie asks about assurances requested for the required documents. Dr. Bauer advised standard assurances and did not include as attachment solely because of the length. Regent Toadecheenie asks if human subject regulations are listed on the website. Dr. Bauer advised yes, the protocol is to follow the NN IRB and DC IRB regulations.
- Regent Dennison mentions the importance of approach toward Diné patients thinking of Navajo Perspective. Dr. Bauer advised includes Navajo speakers within the program helping educate students but working toward more inclusion.
- Regent Thinn voiced her support for the resolution and partnership.

Regent Bigman motions to amend Whereas #3 to show “Diné College has public health programs that serve the greater good and welfare of Navajo communities and their citizens by improving health education, research, and its capacity; and” seconded by Regent Thinn.

Vote for approving motion: 6-0-0.

Vote for amending motion: 6-0-0.

2. Action Item – “Approval of a proposal to support the building of a laboratory to assist the Navajo Nation and Diné College in meeting the public health needs of the Navajo people.”

Regent Toadecheenie motions to approve the resolution, seconded by Regent Thinn. Regent Toadecheenie reads resolution into the record.

Discussion: Regent Bigman provide a brief background on the proposal for the lab to address contact tracing for the Coronavirus pandemic and other infectious diseases. Dr. Roessel was unavailable to address the resolution, so recommend to table and place further on the agenda. Regent Toadecheenie motions to table resolution, seconded by Regent Thinn.

Vote for tabling motion: 6-0-0.

3. Action Item – “Approval of a proposal to support the “add-on” to the current patent, a new patent to be submitted and the creation and

hosting of a MEA lab website to continue the cutting edge research being conducted by Diné College.”

Regent Thinn motions to approve the resolution, seconded by Regent Hatathlie. Regent Toadecheenie reads resolution into the record.

Discussion: Dr. Makeyev requests board support on two initiatives: adding a webpage of MEA lab to the DC website and submitting an add-on to 1st patent application and submitting 2nd patent application. Dr. Makeyev provides an overview of the PowerPoint presentation.

- Regent Bigman asks college counsel if there are any outstanding items for the first patent process. Mr. Upshaw responds and stating the process is complete with the first patent.
- Regent Toadecheenie asks if presented with the NNBRD. Regent Bigman clarifies that it is a separate process from today’s request.
 - Regent Toadecheenie asks is the journals are available at the library for students? Dr. Makeyev responds yes and advises journals that are public and will able to post on the requested web page.
 - Regent Toadecheenie asks about the possible amount from the patent initiatives income. Dr. Makeyev explains that very few patents are licensed and unable to give a specific amount.
- DIRECTIVE: Regent Bigman request President Roessel to look into the use of IDC Funds for the website.
- DIRECTIVE: Regent Bigman request President Roessel to work with the DC Foundation to look into licensure of a patent.

Vote for approving motion: 7-0-0.

“Approval of a proposal to support the building of a laboratory to assist the Navajo Nation and Diné College in meeting the public health needs of the Navajo people.”

Recall motion by Regent Thinn, second by Regent Toadecheenie. The resolution was previously read into the record.

Vote for recall motion: 7-0-0.

Discussion: Dr. Roessel advised back in the May meeting, the board approved the resolution for the proposal for a lab. The denial was based on the Board of Regents not being a duly elected board. The alternative was seeking the partnerships to start a lab.

- Regent Toadecheenie inquires of the sustainability of the lab. Dr. Roessel advised the services from the lab will support sustainability.

Vote for approving motion: 7-0-0.

4. Action Item – “Professor Emeritus Amendments to the Diné College Faculty Ranking Handbook.”

Regent Thinn motions to approve the resolution, seconded by Regent Toadecheenie. Regent Toadecheenie reads resolution into the record. Discussion: Dr. Garrity presented the background of introducing the ranking definition and benefits.

- Regent Thinn inquired if the identification card would appear different. President Roessel confirms it would be the same.
- Regent Bigman suggests considering a culturally significant timeframe or revising to consider only contributions. Provost Garrity and President Roessel note the consideration of commitment and contribution is to the college was a factor in the 10-year requirement.

Vote for approving motion: 7-0-0.

5. Action Item – “Reaffirming of a directive to the President of Diné College to have the Diné Policy Institute conduct research and analysis to improve the public health policy on the Navajo Nation in response to COVID 19.”

Regent Thinn motions to approve the resolution, seconded by Regent Dennison. Regent Toadecheenie reads resolution into the record. Discussion: Regent Bigman stated within his authority provided within bylaws to provide President Roessel a directive. Essential to provide support to the Navajo Nation with a report regarding COVID.

- Regent Dennison stated his support for the directive. It is crucial for the Navajo people and encourages cultural sensitivity in the research.
- Regent Toadecheenie states the data is useful for the public. She questions when the data will be available. Regent Bigman notes the memorandum will report to the Governance Committee meeting on August 12, 2020. The findings than could be reported to the Navajo Nation Council.
- Regent Bigman motion to amend “Reaffirming of a directive ...” in the title and a directive for governance meeting to schedule meeting, seconded by Regent Tso.

Vote for approving motion: 7-0-0.

Vote for amending motion and directive: 7-0-0.

6. Action Item – “Supporting an Amendment, to Section 300.01: Employment, Subject: Reduction in Force of the Diné College Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual.”

Regent Dennison motions to approve the resolution, seconded by Regent Thinn. Regent Toadecheenie reads resolution into the record.

Regent Bigman called a point of order and clarified the last vote tally included the motion, amendment and directive inclusively.

Discussion: Director Mr. Dayzie states the resolution addresses some clarification and assigning individuals to execute the policies and procedures. Mr. Upshaw provided an overview of legal edits on policy, two-level designation, and process.

- Regent Bigman asks if the changes are only procedural. Mr. Dayzie advised, yes.
- Regent Dennison inquires if a thorough orientation is provided to the employees to ensure they are well informed.
- Regent Toadecheenie recommends including a legal memorandum to record legal sufficiency.
 - Regent Bigman requests confirmation no changes were made to the policy; the presented information only contains procedural changes. Mr. Dayzie confirm no changes made to the policy. President Roessel adds the action is to ensure the board is aware and is in support.
 - Regent Bigman motions to amend resolution to reflect “Supporting..”, seconded by Regent Toadecheenie.

Vote for approving motion: 6-1-0.

Vote for amending motion: 6-1-0.

7. Action Item - “Approving the adoption of Furlough Policy Section 3.13.”

Regent Thinn motions to approve the resolution, no second. Motion fails.

VI. Executive Session. Regent Tso motions for executive session, seconded by Regent Thinn. Vote: 7-0-0. Enter the executive session at 11:42 a.m. Regent Thinn motions to exit the executive session, seconded by Regent Toadecheenie. Vote: 7-0-0. Exited executive session at 11:57 p.m.

Lunch Recess entered at 11:58 a.m. | ended at 12:52 p.m. Roll call: [In-person: Regent Bigman, Thinn, and Tso] [Teleconference: Regent Dennison, Hatathlie, Hoskie, and Toadecheenie.]

Regent Bigman calls a point of order noting assumption action item #7 was the same resolution and motions to recall “Approving the adoption of Furlough Policy to Section”

3.13 of the Diné College Personnel Policy and Procedures Manual.”, seconded by Regent Thinn. Regent Toadecheenie reads resolution into the record.

Discussion: Mr. Dayzie advised correction to title needed to reflect “In addition to 3P Manual Section 3.13”; and include change within the resolution. Health benefits would be intact while in furlough.

- Regent Bigman questions if a legal review of policies was conducted. Mr. Upshaw confirms the presented policies is the official draft after legal review.

Vote for approving motion: 7-0-0.

Vote for amending motion: 7-0-0.

DIRECTIVE: Regent Bigman motions for a directive for President Roessel to draft a resolution of support and support letter for legislation 0162-20, “An Action Relating to an Emergency; Approving Meetings Through Telecommunications for All Governing Bodies of the Navajo Nation.”, seconded Regent Toadecheenie. Vote for the directive: 7-0-0.

VII. Next Meeting

- A. Board of Regents BOR Committee Meetings - Friday, August 14, 2020
Finance, Audit, Investment 9 a.m. | Academic and Student Success 11 a.m. |
Governance 1 p.m. MDT, Teleconference
- B. Board of Regents Regular Meeting - Friday, September 11, 2020, 9 a.m. MDT

VIII. Adjournment. Regent Thinn motion for adjournment, seconded by Regent Hoskie at 1:13 p.m. Vote: 7-0-0.