

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

**Present:** Belli, Fech, Kolbe, Minter, Peterson, Purcell, Vakilzadian, Woodman

**Absent:** Adenwalla, Buan, Franco Cruz, Hanrahan, Peterson

**Date:** Tuesday, July 16, 2019

**Location:** 203 Alexander Building

**Note:** These are not verbatim minutes. They are a summary of the discussions at the Executive Committee meeting as corrected by those participating.

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### 1.0 Call (*Belli*)

Belli called the meeting to order at 2:31 p.m.

### 2.0 Mark Robertson, Emergency Management Director

#### 2.1 Hazard Mitigation Plan

Robertson reported that he has been involved in an on-going process to apply for a FEMA grant that would assist us in building a hazard mitigation plan for the campus and wanted to seek input from the Executive Committee. He noted that he has been working with people from facilities and IT to assess what the risks are here on campus and where there could be the likelihood of an incident. He stated that JEO Consulting Group has been contracted and the firm has reached out to students to get their input via a survey about what they consider the biggest hazards on campus to be and he wants to get faculty input as well. He asked the Executive Committee what level of input there should be with the faculty. He reported that the scope of the plan is currently directed to City and East Campus, but the hope is to eventually get all University property included. He stated that the grant would come with a 75% match from FEMA and could cover improvements in things like the steam tunnels, tornado shelters, and laboratories.

Belli questioned how long the survey is. Robertson stated that the length of the survey would be up to the Executive Committee. He noted that the survey would need to be completed by October. Latta Konecky asked how long the student survey was. Robertson replied that it was not long. Belli asked if the Executive Committee could see the survey to see if it was suited for the faculty. Robertson stated that he could send a copy of the student survey to the Executive Committee and JEO could provide some sample questions. He noted that having faculty/student/staff input might be helpful to us in getting the grant. He reported that the student survey had open-ended questions and comment sections and we are one of the first universities in the area to be applying for the FEMA grant.

Minter asked if the grant pertained to natural disasters only. Robertson noted that FEMA also is involved with manmade disasters which can either be accidental or intentional terrorism. Woodman asked if there was an unlimited amount of funding, what would Robertson's team start with in terms of making improvements. Robertson stated that

improvements in our cyber security and infrastructure for the IT system would be a priority. He noted that having a good text to alert system would help to notify the campus community of a campus emergency quickly. Minter pointed out that one concern is for people with disabilities who are in grandfathered buildings that do not have easy access. Robertson stated that the best thing to do in situations where there is a disabled person is to get them on to a fire escape because the first responders are trained to deal with these kinds of situations. He noted that he would like to see all new buildings on campus have a FEMA approved emergency shelter, but there is currently only one on campus. Belli noted that directions on where to go for a storm shelter are not clear in many buildings and he asked if correcting this problem could be considered part of the hazard mitigation plan. Robertson reported that it could be, and stated that anything that is risk of a hazard could be included whether it is educational or infrastructure related. Vakilzadian agreed and stated that good signage is needed. Kolbe pointed out that the signage needs to be easy to read because we have many international people on campus. Robertson noted that all of the posters say the same thing, to go to the lowest point in an interior room. He pointed out that it is harder to convince people that they need to leave a building when the fire alarms go off.

Woodman asked if tornado alerts are sent out on the campus alert system. Robertson stated that an alert is sent, but the all clear signal is not because they do not want to interfere with the National Weather Service messages. Vakilzadian asked if the time of the tornado alert testing can be changed because it occurs during class time. Robertson pointed out that this is the time the National Weather Service in Omaha sends out the signal and it is when the City's sirens go off, and in order not to cause confusion, the university's tests are conducted at the same time.

Belli stated that alerts of gas leaks seem to be frequent. He asked if there is an issue with the gas distribution system on campus. Robertson stated that the Campus Police Department is looking at this issue because there are some leaks that are dangerous, but some are not as significant. He reported that our GIS system is the best that he has seen, but some of the old gas lines haven't been mapped and the utility companies think there are no gas in some of the lines, however, on occasion there is some residual gas left. He pointed out that the problem is more dangerous if there is a gas leak in a confined space. He stated that if the gas is outside the danger is fairly low. He stated that his department tries to limit the number of alerts that are sent out because we do not want people to become desensitized to the alerts.

Robertson noted that if there are specific people on campus that the Executive Committee thinks he should talk to about the hazard mitigation plan to please let him know. Minter suggested talking with the Campus Health Services.

Vakilzadian asked if there were any plans to open some of the dorms for victims of the flooding. Robertson stated that there is a plan. He noted that he was one of a four-person team from the University that went up to Fremont to help with their emergency response system. He pointed out that one of the challenges with opening up the dorms as a shelter is that it can be difficult to eventually close them. He stated that with emergency

response planning all possible scenarios have to be considered and mitigation is how we limit the impacts if a disaster occurs.

Vakilzadian asked if there are plans in place to get people out of the stadium on football game days if a disaster should strike. Robertson stated that for every game he writes up a 35-page emergency plan which states how emergency situations should be dealt with. He noted that prevention and screening is carefully looked at for any sporting event.

Kolbe noted that the University's IT data center is located in the Walter Scott Engineering building which is close to an area where flooding can occur. He asked if there is any concerns about it. Robertson stated that there is concern, and he suspects that this is being carefully looked at. He pointed out that IT does have some recoverable capabilities. Griffin wondered whether the renovation of the Scott Engineering building is looking at making changes to the data center to make it more secure.

Robertson noted that the efforts to get the Hazard Mitigation grant is to ensure that we are as well prepared for an emergency should one happen.

### **3.0 Professor Kristen Blankley**

Belli wanted to thank Blankley for graciously agreeing to serve as the mediator at the upcoming Executive Committee/Administrator retreat. The Executive Committee then worked with Blankley to determine what issues they felt should be discussed at the retreat. Blankley told the Executive Committee that she would draft an agenda and share it with the Committee.

### **4.0 Announcements**

#### **4.1 Proposed Extension Educator Resolution**

Belli reported that Hanrahan and Chancellor Green recently spoke about the proposed Regents Bylaw change that would move Extension Educators into a faculty appointment of their own and which would provide greater termination notice for Extension faculty. He noted that the Chancellor is considering the resolution.

#### **4.2 AAUP Censure Removal Committee**

Belli stated that the AAUP Censure Removal Committee approved the proposed Bylaw revisions with the exception of the additional language that the Executive Committee previously voted on concerning increasing the rights of those with non-tenure track faculty appointments. He stated that the proposed changes are now going to University Counsel for review and the national AAUP is also examining the proposed revisions. He noted that it is his understanding that the Chancellor is pleased with the proposed revisions as they currently stand.

#### **4.3 Ad Hoc Committee on Lecturers**

Belli reported that Hanrahan would be providing names of faculty members to serve on the Ad Hoc Committee on Lecturers being created by Interim EVC Moberly.

#### **4.4 Presidential Search Advisory Committee**

Belli reported that the Presidential Search Advisory Committee and representatives from the AGB search firm recently met to discuss the charge of the Committee which is to provide the Board of Regents with an unranked list of final candidates along with input from all four campuses. He noted that a final single candidate will be identified and then further vetting of the candidate will occur. He stated that the job announcement will be based on the seven pillars of strengths identified by the Board of Regents. He reported that the compensation package will include a salary of \$800,000-\$1,000,000, a house, and additional benefits.

Woodman pointed out that it is notable that only one department, Husker Athletics, was identified in the pillars of strengths. Belli noted that there is some concern that one of the pillars should emphasize diversity and inclusion and recognize the University as a part of the international community. He reported that Regent Weitz is very much in support of the one university concept and a comment was made that unusual candidates need to be sought. There was also emphasis that the University is an economic generator. He stated that a comment was made that there is a need for the President to govern the University system, not manage it. He noted that another comment emphasized that we need a transparent President and we need someone who supports the faculty and the students.

Belli stated that there needs to be emphasis that UNL is unique in its academic mission and is a member of the Big Ten. He pointed out that we need to advocate for someone with strong academic experience at the university level.

#### **5.0 Approval of July 2, 2019 Minutes**

Vakilzadian moved for approval of the revised minutes. Minter seconded the motion. Woodman moved that approval of the minutes be postponed until the next meeting to allow sufficient time for the Executive Committee to review the revisions that just came to the Committee. Motion seconded by Purcell. Vakilzadian and Minter withdrew their motions. Motion to postpone the approval of the July 2<sup>nd</sup> minutes was approved.

#### **6.0 Unfinished Business**

##### **6.1 Proposed Lecturer Bylaw Changes**

Item postponed until the next meeting.

#### **7.0 New Business**

##### **7.1 Draft Resolution on Faculty Senate President Representation on President Search Committee**

Item postponed until the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:32 p.m. The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be on Tuesday, July 30, 2019, at 2:30 pm. The meeting will be held in 201 Canfield Administration. The minutes are respectfully submitted by Karen Griffin, Coordinator and Joan Latta Konecky, Secretary.