The Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska met on December 4, 2020, at 9:05 a.m. by remote electronic means as provided for in Governor Ricketts’ Executive Order No. 20-36, in a publicly convened session, the same being open to the public and having been preceded by advance publicized notice, a copy of which are attached to the minutes of this meeting as Attachment 1 and 2 (pages 52-53).

In compliance with the provisions of Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-1411, printed notice of this meeting was sent to each member of the Board and was posted on the front of the first floor entrance of Varner Hall. In addition, copies of such notice were sent to the Lincoln Journal Star, Omaha World Herald, the Daily Nebraskan, the Gateway, the Antelope, the Kearney Hub, and the Lincoln office of the Associated Press on November 24, 2020 and revised on November 30, 2020.

Regents present:
Timothy Clare
Howard Hawks
Paul Kenney, Vice Chairman
Elizabeth O’Connor
Bob Phares
Jim Pillen, Chairman
Robert Schafer
Barbara Weitz
Max Beal, University of Nebraska at Kearney
Veronica Miller, University of Nebraska-Lincoln
Thomas Schroeder, University of Nebraska Medical Center
Jabin Moore, University of Nebraska at Omaha

University officials present:
Walter E. Carter, President
Susan M. Fritz, Executive Vice President and Provost
Stacia L. Palser, Interim Corporation Secretary
Jeffrey P. Gold, Chancellor, University of Nebraska Medical Center and University of Nebraska at Omaha
Ronnie D. Green, Chancellor, University of Nebraska-Lincoln
Douglas A. Kristensen, Chancellor, University of Nebraska at Kearney
Michael J. Boehm, Vice President for Agriculture and Natural Resources
Christopher J. Kabourek, Vice President for Business and Finance | CFO
Heath M. Mello, Vice President for External Relations
James P. Pottorff, Vice President and General Counsel

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL

The Board convened at 9:05 a.m. by remote electronic means as provided by in Governor Ricketts’ Executive Order No. 20-36. Attendance is indicated above.
III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND RATIFICATION OF ACTIONS

Motion Moved by Schafer and seconded by Phares to approve the minutes and ratify the actions of the regularly scheduled meeting on October 8, 2020.


Chairman Pillen announced the location of the Notice of Meeting and Open Meetings Act posted on the front entry of Varner Hall.

IV. KUDOS

Regent Beal presented a KUDOS award to Jenny Jansky, Director of Educator Certification at the University of Nebraska at Kearney.

Regent Miller presented a KUDOS award to Karen Kassebaum, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Inclusive Leadership and Learning at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Regent Phares presented a KUDOS award to Kimberly McLaughlin, Administrator for the Educational Program in the Department of Surgery at the University of Nebraska Medical Center.

Regent O'Connor presented a KUDOS award to Mike Nicola, Assistant Athletic Director for Athletic Performance at the University of Nebraska at Omaha.

V. PRESENTATIONS

Mary Niemiec, Associate Vice President for Digital Education and Director presented on the Annual Report on Distance Education

Lieutenant General (Ret) Robert Hinson presented on the NSRI in Review-2020

VI. HEARINGS

None

VII. RESOLUTIONS

Regent Schafer presented the following resolution

WHEREAS, Lieutenant General (USAF, Retired) Robert C. Hinson, has served as the founding executive director of the National Strategic Research Institute at the University of Nebraska since its inception in September 2012. He retires after more than a half century of supporting the missions of the Department of Defense; and

WHEREAS, General Hinson served for 33 years in the United States Air Force, leading as Vice Commander of Air Force Space Command at Peterson Air Force Base and Deputy Commander of U.S. Strategic Command at Offutt Air Force Base. General Hinson is a command pilot with more than 3,000 flying hours, primarily in B-52, FB-111, and B-1 bomber aircraft. He received many prestigious awards and decorations during a long and
distinguished military career that included 25 moves for his family while they served our country; and

WHEREAS, General Hinson continued to support the national security of the United States upon his retirement from the Air Force, serving for nine years as vice president of government programs and corporate lead executive at Northrop Grumman; and

WHEREAS, Under General Hinson’s leadership, as the University Affiliated Research Center of the University of Nebraska, NSRI has received three contract awards from its sponsor, U.S. Strategic Command — $84 million in 2012, $92 million in 2018 and another $92 million in 2020. The institute has also received $30 million in additional contracts and grants for a total of $298 million; and

WHEREAS, General Hinson has instilled a tenacious pursuit of mission in the institute’s expanding team of leaders, scientists and partners. In total, the institute has more than 75 professionals working from offices and laboratories across the University of Nebraska’s campuses and near customers in the national capital and space coast regions. NSRI has collaborated with more than 350 NU researchers and students to serve 44 customers across the DOD and federal government. All numbers that will continue to grow thanks to the course he has set for the institute and the university going forward; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his prolific career, General Hinson continues to contribute to his community, serving on the board of directors for several organizations, including the STRATCOM Consultation Committee; the STRATCOM Strategic Advisory Group’s Bomber Task Force Panel; and the SAC Air and Space Museum. He has also served on the Offutt Advisory Council and the Peter Kiewit Institute Board of Policy Advisers; and

WHEREAS, General Hinson has demonstrated through his work — and genuine relationship building across our university community and beyond — a humbleness, authenticity and passion that comes from true commitment to purpose. He has been known to pound the table zealously to advocate for the best possible opportunities and deliverables for the warfighters and first responders NSRI keeps at the center of its work. He recently said: “We must always be thinking ahead to the next threat and the next solution.” Bob, please know, we will.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the University of Nebraska Board of Regents expresses its sincere appreciation for the exemplary contributions of General Robert Hinson during his term of NSRI Founding Executive Director and in the more than 42 years of dedicated service and support to our country’s national defense prior to this role. Bob, we wish you, Karen and your family well in the promising future that awaits you all.

Regent Weitz presented the following resolution

WHEREAS, Howard Hawks has represented District 2 on the University of Nebraska Board of Regents since 2002; and

WHEREAS, Regent Hawks has served twice as Board chairman and has also led numerous Board committees, including the 2014 Presidential Search Screening and Selection Committee; and
WHEREAS, drawing on his exceptional experience in the fields of finance, business operations, and strategic planning, Regent Hawks has made the University a more efficient and effective organization by prioritizing public-private partnerships, investing in deferred maintenance, and advocating for more state investment in higher education and research; and

WHEREAS, Regent Hawks is a Nebraska native, and two-time University of Nebraska alumnus, who has not only served the citizens of District 2, but the entire state of Nebraska admirably as an elected official, civic and community leader, and philanthropist; and

WHEREAS, Regent Hawks has earned the respect of those who served with him on the Board as well as current and past Presidents, Chancellors, and other members of the University community; and

WHEREAS, Regent Hawks decided to retire from his service as a Regent and not seek a fourth-term of office in 2020; and

WHEREAS, Regent Hawks leaves a legacy as a champion of the University of Nebraska and its four campuses through well-crafted public policy, strategic public investment, and generous philanthropic support that will forever be remembered by the entire University community.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Regents extends its deepest thanks and appreciation to Howard Hawks for nearly two decades of dedicated service on the Board and wishes he and Rhonda the very best in their next chapter of service.

Resolution Adopted There being no objection, the above resolutions were approved and adopted by the general consent of the Board.

VIII. PRESIDENT’S REMARKS

President Carter provided the Board with an update on the University’s ongoing response to COVID-19 and plans for the spring semester. He also updated the Board on sustainability efforts at the University.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT

Motion Regent Pillen moved that the portion of the Standing Rules providing for the public’s physical presence at a meeting be waived and that the processes for public comment at this meeting conform to the meeting notice provided to the public one week ago. Seconded by Phares.


Donald Costello spoke on the topic of cybersecurity.
Christopher Dethlefs spoke on the topic of UNMC’s Student Senate resolution to support divestment from fossil fuels by the University system.

Conor O’Neill spoke on the topic of divestment from the fossil fuel industry.

Zee Elmer spoke on the topic of divestment from the fossil fuel industry.

X. UNIVERSITY CONSENT AGENDA

Motion Moved by Pillen and seconded by Clare to approve items X-A-1, X-B-1, X-B-2, X-B-3, X-B-4, and X-B-5

A. ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

University of Nebraska

X-A-1 President’s Personnel Recommendation

B. BUSINESS AND FINANCE

University of Nebraska at Kearney

X-B-1 Approve an amendment to the agreement with Enrollment Advisory Group, LLC for International Student Recruitment

University of Nebraska Medical Center

X-B-2 Approve the naming of the Dr. Leland and Dorothy Olson Atrium within the Wigton Heritage Center at the University of Nebraska Medical Center pursuant to Board of Regents Policy RP-6.2.7.3.c

X-B-3 Approve the naming of the William H. Northwall, M.D. Plaza within the Wigton Heritage Center at the University of Nebraska Medical Center pursuant to Board of Regents Policy RP-6.2.7.3.c

X-B-4 Approve a waiver of the requirements of Board of Regents Policy RP-6.2.7 with respect to facilities named for current employees, naming the dental gallery exhibit space within the Wigton Heritage Center at the University of Nebraska Medical Center, the “Stanton D. Harn, Ph.D., Dental Gallery”


XI. UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATIVE AGENDA

A. ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

University of Nebraska

Motion Moved by O’Connor and seconded by Kenney to approve item XI-A-1
XI-A-1 Approve the award of the title “Regent Emeritus” to Howard Hawks


Motion Moved by Miller and seconded by Kenney to approve items XI-A-2, XI-A-3, and XI-A-4

XI-A-2 Approve amendments to RP-5.8.3 of the Policies of the Board of Regents related to tuition scholarships (remissions) for non-residents

XI-A-3 Approve amendments to RP-5.8.4 of the Policies of the Board of Regents related to rules for granting of nonresident tuition scholarships (remissions) to children of alumni of the University

XI-A-4 Approve amendments to RP-5.8.5 of the Policies of the Board of Regents related to undergraduate Regents Scholarships


Motion Moved by Beal and seconded by Weitz to approve item XI-A-5

XI-A-5 Approve the addition of RP-5.8.8 of the Policies of the Board of Regents related to tuition remissions

There was discussion

Motion to Table Moved by Hawks and seconded by Kenney to table item XI-A-5


B. BUSINESS AND FINANCE

University of Nebraska of Kearney

Motion Moved by Phares and seconded by Beal to approve item XI-B-1

XI-B-1 Approve the Owner’s Representative Agreement, Property Transfer Agreement, and Condominium Declaration for the development and construction of a Regional Engagement and Alumni Center at the University of Nebraska at Kearney


University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Motion Moved by O’Connor and seconded by Moore to approve item XI-B-2

XI-B-2 Approve the License Agreement with Collegiate Licensing Company, L.L.C.

Motion Moved by Clare and seconded by Schroeder to approve item XI-B-3

XI-B-3 Approve the Program Statement for College of Law Schmid Law Library Renovation at UNL


Motion Moved by Hawks and seconded by Miller to approve item XI-B-4

XI-B-4 Approve a budget increase for Scott Engineering Center Renovation and Link Replacement at UNL


Motion Moved by Kenney and seconded by Schafer to approve item XI-B-5

XI-B-5 Approve revisions to the North Stadium Expansion project and receive report from Business and Finance Committee regarding Intermediate Design Review


University of Nebraska Medical Center

Motion Moved by Schroeder and seconded by O’Connor to approve items XI-B-6 and XI-B-7

XI-B-6 Approve the acquisition of real property located at 4417 Douglas Street, 4418 Farnam Street, and 4430 Farnam Street, Omaha, Nebraska

XI-B-7 Approve the acquisition of real property at 4724 Leavenworth Street, Omaha, Nebraska


University of Nebraska at Omaha

Motion Moved by Hawks and seconded by Weitz to approve item XI-B-8

XI-B-8 Approve the lease of the vacant lot located at 6465 Center Street, Omaha, Nebraska via Request for Proposal


Motion Moved by Moore and seconded by Schroeder to approve item XI-B-9
XI-B-9  Approve the acquisition of real property located at 6705 Dodge Street in Omaha, Nebraska commonly known as the William H. and Dorothy Thompson Alumni Center


C. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Motion  Moved by Clare and seconded by Miller to approve item XI-C-1

XI-C-1  Approve the appointment of the President of the University of Nebraska as the University’s “Designated Representative” in accordance with the Bylaws of the Board of Directors of the Nebraska Medicine Corporation


D. REPORTS

XI-D-1  Quarterly Status report of Capital Construction Projects

XI-D-2  Bids and Contracts

XI-D-3  Naming of the Jack and Norma Mills Conference Room at the University of Nebraska at Kearney

XI-D-4  Orthmer-Topp Endowment Fund, second priority uses, for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2020

XI-D-5  Approval of Intermediate Design Report for the Barkely Memorial Center Expansion and Renovation of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL)

XI-D-6  Approve for the reallocation of funds exceeding $250,000

XI-D-7  Naming of selected spaces within the Wigton Heritage Center at the University of Nebraska Medical Center

Chairman Pillen accepted the reports on behalf of the Board.

XII. ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

Motion  Moved by Kenney and seconded by Miller that the Board go into closed session as authorized by Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-1410 of the Revised Statutes of Nebraska for the protection of the public interest, and to prevent needless injury to the reputation of persons who have not requested a public hearing, for the purpose of holding a discussion limited to the following subject:

- Personnel matters involving members of the University staff.

Chair Pillen declared that the closed session would be strictly limited to a discussion of:
• Personnel matters involving members of the University staff.

Action


The Board went into closed session at 12:30 p.m. The Board reconvened the open meeting at 2:23 p.m.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by Chairman Pillen at 2:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacia L. Palser  
Interim Corporation Secretary

James D. Pillen, Chair
ATTACHMENT 1

NOTICE OF MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska will meet in a publicly convened session on Friday, December 4, 2020, at 9:00 a.m. via videoconference at the Nebraska Innovation Campus Conference Center, 2021 Transformation Drive, Lincoln, Nebraska. An additional meeting site will be provided by videoconference, also open to the public, at the Thompson Alumni Center, 6705 Dodge Street, Omaha, Nebraska.

When so posted, the full agenda for the meeting will be available for inspection in the office of the Corporation Secretary of the Board of Regents, Varner Hall, 3835 Holdrege Street, Lincoln, Nebraska, or at https://nebraska.edu/regents/agendas-minutes

A copy of this notice will be delivered to the Lincoln Journal Star, the Omaha World-Herald, the Daily Nebraskan, the Gateway, the Antelope, the Kearney Hub, the Lincoln office of the Associated Press, members of the Board of Regents, and the President’s Council of the University of Nebraska.

Dated: November 24, 2020

Stacia L. Palser
Interim Corporation Secretary
Board of Regents
University of Nebraska
ATTACHMENT 2

NOTICE OF MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska will meet in a publicly convened session on Friday, December 4, 2020, at 9:00 a.m. by remote electronic means as provided for in Governor Ricketts’ Executive Order No. 20-36. Internet stream is available at https://nebraska.edu.

The full agenda for the meeting is available by contacting the office of the Corporation Secretary of the Board of Regents, Varner Hall, 3835 Holdrege Street, Lincoln, Nebraska, at corpsec@nebraska.edu or at https://nebraska.edu/regents/agendas-minutes

Any member of the public wishing to speak in the Public Comment portion of the meeting must contact the Office of the Corporation Secretary no less than 24 hours prior to the commencement of the meeting. The public may so contact the Office of the Corporation Secretary by leaving a voice mail message with his/her name and phone number at which he/she can be reached at 402-472-7146 or by e-mailing the same information to adibbert@nebraska.edu. Upon receipt of such notice, the Office of the Corporation Secretary will provide instruction on remote participation in this public meeting.

A copy of this notice will be delivered to the Lincoln Journal Star, the Omaha World-Herald, the Daily Nebraskan, the Gateway, the Antelope, the Kearney Hub, the Lincoln office of the Associated Press, members of the Board of Regents, and the President’s Council of the University of Nebraska.

Dated: November 30, 2020

Stacia L. Palser
Interim Corporation Secretary
Board of Regents
University of Nebraska