## UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA

## GUIDELINES FOR PREPARATION OF BOARD OF REGENTS AGENDA ITEMS

#### **UNFP 1.0**

#### I. General Information

1. Agenda items and all attachments should be sent to one of the following offices on or before the deadline date:

**Academic items:** Assistant to the Provost

**Business items:** Assistant to the Chief Financial Officer **Facilities items:** Assistant to the Chief Facilities Officer

- 2. **Late Items and Incomplete Items**: An item is considered late if it is submitted <u>after</u> the agenda deadline. Late items will not be accepted unless it is clearly an emergency. The Board expects us to furnish them with completely developed and supported agenda items.
- 3. **Emergency Items**: Any emergency item will be reviewed by either the Vice President for Business & Finance or the Corporation Secretary. They will determine whether it will be placed on that month's agenda or held for the next Board of Regent's meeting.
- 4. Deadlines are established in order to send the agenda to the Board in a timeframe required by the Board. After the Board receives the agenda it is made available to the public via the University's web site at <a href="https://nebraska.edu/regents/agendas-and-minutes">https://nebraska.edu/regents/agendas-and-minutes</a>
- 5. **President's Agenda Review**: We will notify your office and work with you to make appropriate changes to items if modifications are required resulting from the President's agenda review meeting.
- 6. If there are upcoming issues that the Board should be briefed on, the Chancellor should bring them to the attention of the President or Corporation Secretary.

# II. Agenda Item Format

- 1. **Paragraph Indent:** The first tab setting should be at 2-inches (relative to the left edge of the document.) There should be no tabs set to the left of 2 inches.
- 2. **Justification:** Left justified no right justification.
- 3. **Font:** Use only Dutch Roman or Times New Roman 11 point.
- 4. **Spacing:** Single space within a paragraph and double space between titles and paragraphs. Leave 3 blank lines between the SPONSOR's title and RECOMMENDED.
- 5. **Length:** Agenda items should be kept as brief as possible and should summarize the significant issues associated with the action or report. If necessary, additional detailed information should be included in an attachment. Please number the pages of items longer than 2 pages.

- 6. **Attachments:** All pages of attachments must be numbered. Page numbers should be placed at the bottom center or bottom right corner of the page.
- 7. **Margins:** Use 1-inch standard side and top margins. The bottom margin can be reduced to ½-inch in order to keep an item on one page.
- 8. **Formatting:** No boldface, unusual spacing, or centering within the item. You can set up tables and use tabs within the body of the item. When you need to align numbers in a column, try to use decimal tabs.

If you need to *show* text changes: <u>Underline</u> new text and <u>Strikeout</u> deleted text. Do not use the "**Red Line**" method because the shading does not photocopy well.

- 9. **Word processing:** Use Word not WordPerfect. When saving your document, be as descriptive as possible when naming the item and let the program assign the extension.
- 10. **Spreadsheet:** Excel is the only spreadsheet program compatible with the web agenda.
- 11. **Date at bottom of item:** Use the date the item is signed by the Chancellor. If an item is revised, please use the revision date so there is no question as to the latest version of the item.
- 12. **Document review by General Counsel and UNCA Facilities:** All legal documents are to be reviewed by General Counsel **before** the agenda deadline.

All facilities documents should be reviewed and approved by UNCA Facilities **60 days before** the agenda deadline.

- 13. **Numeric Items:** Numeric items, whether within reports or in action items, should never contain pennies.
- 14. **Reports:**

Use: RECOMMENDED ACTION: Report

Do Not Use: RECOMMENDED ACTION: Report. For information only.

- 15. **Subject and Recommended Action:** Information contained in the SUBJECT line should also be included in the RECOMMENDED ACTION line. The RECOMMENDED ACTION language is used on the agenda outline and the web agenda; consequently, the RECOMMENDED ACTION needs to include the subject in its entirety. Please include the campus name in the RECOMMENDED ACTION paragraph.
- 16. **Previous Action:** List the most recent action first. The date should be followed by a (dash) and then the explanation. If there were no previous actions, then the explanation is "None."

PREVIOUS ACTION: February 18, 2003 – The Board approved the ...

November 8, 2002 – The Board approved the ...

- 17. **Project Cost (not Program Costs)**: The Regents have requested that <u>all</u> items (Academic and Business) contain a "PROJECT COST" line (Cost is singular). If there is not a Project Cost, then state "None".
- 18. **On-Going Fiscal Impact**: All agenda items requesting approval of capital projects need to include a line for the fiscal impact. If there is no fiscal impact, then use "None".
- 19. **Source of Funds (not Funding Source):** The Regents have requested that <u>all</u> items (Academic and Business) contain a "SOURCE OF FUNDS" line, even if they do not require funds. If there is not a funding source, then use "None". Fund descriptions should use budget-type fund descriptions.
- 20. **Renewal, Infrastructure and Demolition Agenda Items**: All agenda items for capital projects which do not require a program statement will include a budget and schedule.
- 21. **Approval of Professional Services**: All agenda items will contain a statement that "A contract for design services will be negotiated within the amount shown in the approved project budget (\$.....)."

22.	Signature line:	
	RECOMMENDED:	
		Chancellor's name, Title
		Campus

# 23. Some things to watch for:

- a. The phrase *Bylaws of the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska* or *Bylaws of the Board of Regents* or *Bylaws* should always be *italicized* <u>not underlined</u>.
- b. Use of University of Nebraska-Lincoln: There should be no spaces before or after the dash between Nebraska and Lincoln.
- c. The first time you use the campus name in the document follow it with the campus initials in parentheses so that the designation can be used throughout the rest of the document. Example: University of Nebraska at Kearney (UNK), University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO), University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL), University of Nebraska Medical Center (UNMC), Institute of Agriculture & Natural Resources (IANR), and Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture (NCTA).
- d. Please proofread for spelling, grammar and punctuation. Spell check the agenda item and all attachments.

Date Prepared: October 23, 2003

Revised January 2019