December 2, 2010

The Honorable Chester J. Culver, Governor
State of Iowa
State Capitol Building
Des Moines, IA 50319

Dear Governor Culver:

This letter provides information about the meeting of the Board of Regents on December 9, 2010. The meeting will be telephonic originating from the Board Office. The meeting materials are available on the Regent website at the following address:

www.regents.iowa.gov/Meetings/DocketMemos/agendaitems.html

I am available at any time to answer questions about the meeting materials or any other matter.

University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics Committee chaired by Regent Downer will review year to date financial performance and receive a Joint Commission update.

The Audit/Compliance and Investment Committee chaired by President Pro Tem Evans will receive two Auditor of State reports – Review of controls over ISU purchase order/requisite system and ISU Student Health Facility revenue bond funds. Weblinks to these two reports may be found in Audit/Compliance and Investment Committee Agenda Item 1.

Agenda items include:

Appointment – Iowa State University. The Board will be asked to consider approval of the appointment of Dr. Lisa K. Nolan as Dean of the College of Veterinary Medicine. Dr. Nolan replaces Dr. John Thomson who is retiring January 1, 2011.

Annual Report on the Articulation Efforts. The Board will consider the final report to the Iowa General Assembly regarding articulation efforts and activities implemented by the community colleges and the Regent universities between September 2009 and October 2010. HF 815 (2009 session) directed the Department of Education, the public community colleges and the Board to collaborate on articulation efforts and activities, including the dissemination of articulation information. Agenda Item 2f provides specifics on these efforts. Per the legislation, this report will be submitted to the General Assembly.
Report on Statewide Research and Development School Transition. This report is an update required by 2008 legislation (SF 2307) and 2009 legislation (SF 470). The legislation required the development of detailed plans for the expansion of Price Laboratory School at the University of Northern Iowa as the State of Iowa research, development, demonstration and dissemination school. During the last two years, continuous progress has been made toward implementation of the statewide school. More specifics may be found in Agenda Item 2k.

Appointment of Interim President –University of Northern Iowa. The Board will consider the appointment of Gloria Gibson, Executive Vice President and Provost UNI, as interim president while President Allen is on medical leave for a period of time beginning in January 2011.

Sale of $16,790,000 Dormitory Revenue Bonds. Bonds will be sold to partially fund phase 1 of apartment housing at UNI. The project will provide additional housing for 204 junior and senior students.

Professional Development Assignment Requests for FY 2012. The Board will consider approval of the requests by the Regent universities for professional development assignments for FY 2012. The universities have requested 95 professional development assignments for FY 2012. Agenda Item 5 provides a brief description of each assignment.

Register of Capital Improvement Business Transactions – University of Iowa. The Board will be asked to authorize permission to proceed with project planning to modernize the Department of Pharmacology in the Bowen Science Building. The estimated cost of the renovations is $5.4 million. The Board is also asked to approve the design and budget ($19.5 million) for the Indoor Athletics Practice and Recreation Facility. The Board is also asked to authorize permission to proceed with planning for the West Campus Transportation Center. In order to provide space for the new Children’s Hospital, a portion of Hospital Parking Ramp 2 must be removed. The proposed transportation center including an overhead pedestrian link to the UIHC complex would be located in a parking lot east of the the existing recreation building. The anticipated project cost of $12-$13 million would be funded through a variety sources including parking system funds and institutional road funding. Other projects for consideration on the SUI capital register are described in Agenda Item 6.

University of Iowa Proposed Property Purchase. The Board will consider approval of the purchase of property at 301 South Clinton in Iowa City for the price of $3.1 million plus $350,000 in relocation costs from Bank of the West. The purchase price is consistent with Board policy and is based upon two appraisals. The purchase would be funded by state and federal flood recovery grants, with required support from university flood recovery funding. The property will be used for the construction of the new School of Music and recital halls replacing flood damaged facilities.
Flood Recovery Updates. Both the University of Iowa and Iowa State University will provide the Board with flood recovery updates.

If we can provide additional information, please contact us.

Sincerely,

David W. Miles

cc: Lt. Governor Patty Judge
    Molly Kottmeyer, Policy Liaison, Governor’s Office
    Members of the Board of Regents, State of Iowa