From: Lehman, Josh M [BOARD]
Sent: Tuesday, October 13, 2015 11:17 AM
To: Andringa, Mary [BOARD]; Bates, Sherry [BOARD]; Cownie, Patricia [BOARD]; Dakovich, Milt [BOARD]; Johnson, Rachael [BOARD]; McKibben, Larry [BOARD]; Mulholland, Katie [BOARD]; Rastetter, Bruce [BOARD]; Sahai, Subhash [BOARD]; Donley, Robert [BOARD]; Braun, Mark [BOARD]; Keith Saunders; Murphy, Joseph D [GOV R]; Mary Braun; Smith, Dianne [BOARD]; linda.fandel@iowa.gov; Margaret Hough; Michael Bousselot (michael.bousselot@iowa.gov)
Cc: Anderson, Terry; England, Danelle; Hobson, Sara; Johnson, Stephanie; McComb, Carla; Pruismann, Linda
Subject: Board of Regents Meeting Letter - October 21-22, 2015
Attachments: October 2015 letter.pdf

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October 13, 2015

The Honorable Terry E. Branstad, Governor
State of Iowa
State Capitol Building
Des Moines, IA  50319

Dear Governor Branstad:

This letter provides information about the meeting of the Board of Regents on October 21-22, 2015. The meeting will be held at the University of Iowa in Iowa City.

The meeting materials are available on the Regents 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. Audio streaming of the meeting may be accessed through the Board of Regents website.

The Property and Facilities Committee, chaired by Regent Dakovich, will meet at 12:30 p.m. on October 21. Among the agenda items to be considered is the University of Iowa register of capital improvement projects (P&F item 2). The first project to consider is the renovation of Daum Residence Hall. This project would upgrade the finishes in the building, including flooring and paint in the student rooms and corridors, as well as renovation of elevator lobbies. The estimated project cost of $3.8 million would be funded by university housing renewal and improvement funds. The work would occur over three summer breaks.

The second project for consideration is the construction of a steam tunnel from Davenport Street to Bloomington Street. The tunnel will house high and low pressure steam, condensate and telephone lines that serve University buildings on the north end of campus, including several residence halls and the north campus chilled water plant. The estimated project cost of $5.75 million would be funded by utilities system renewal and improvement funds.

A third project is the installation of a reverse osmosis water filtration system within the existing University of Iowa water plant. The plant treats, monitors and supplies water to the entire campus, including the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics. The estimated project cost is $5.3 million and would be funded by utility system renewal and improvement funds.

The fourth project is a request for approval of the project description and budget ($6.15 million) and the selection of Heery International of Iowa City as the design professional for the replacement of four air handling units at UIHC-Colloston Pavilion which have reached the end of their serviceable life. The project will be funded by University Hospitals building usage funds.
The University also requests ratification of a revised budget ($18.87 million, an increase of $3.07 million) for the power plant air regulation compliance project. This would install new pollution control equipment to meet the new, more stringent federal emissions requirements for the steam-generating boilers at the main power plant. The regulations became effective January 31, 2013 and require compliance by September 30, 2016. This project is being funded by utility system revenue bonds.

Also on the agenda is a recommendation to the Board for the approval of the gift agreement between AIB College of Business and the University of Iowa and authorization for the University and the Board’s Executive Director to take further actions as needed to complete the gifting process (P&F item 3).

The University of Iowa will also be requesting permission to demolish three obsolete University-owned buildings, two located on the Oakdale campus and one on North Madison Street. The cost of demolition will be paid from Treasury Temporary Investment (TTI) funds. All three properties will be restored to greenspace following demolition.

The committee will consider the University of Northern Iowa register of capital improvement projects (P&F item 5). The first project is to request approval of the schematic design, project description and budget ($22 million), and financing plan for the renovation of Lawther Hall. Following the renovation, the building will continue to serve as a residence hall with student rooms, gathering spaces and support spaces. The project would be financed by proceeds from the sale of dormitory revenue bonds and/or residence system funds.

The second project is to request approval of the project description and budget of $2.5 million, and the selection of Snyder and Associates, Inc. of Ankeny as the design professional for the southwest campus storm water management project. This would construct approximately 1,700 lineal feet of buried, reinforced concrete pipe storm sewer, which would provide adequate drainage to the southwest portion of campus, including benefiting the residence system. The project would be funded by dormitory improvement funds and/or general funds.

The third project is to request approval of a revised project description and budget ($38.555 million, an increase of $3.655 million) for the renovation of Schindler Education Center. The budget revision reflects an additional funding commitment for the project that was made by the Gerdin family through the UNI Foundation. This revised budget will permit the addition of a clerestory over the second floor commons area, a green roof, and new exterior and interior windows.

The Education and Student Affairs Committee, chaired by President Pro Temp Mulholland, will meet at 1:30 p.m. The committee will hear two presentations, one on the positive impact of first-year seminars at the University of Iowa, and another on alignment strategies to improve high school students’ college readiness and shortening time to degree.

The committee will review the Fall 2015 enrollment report (ESAC item #4). Total headcount enrollment at all three universities is an all-time high of 80,132 students, an increase of 2.7 percent from the previous year. All three universities saw their enrollment climb. Approximately 61 percent of students are residents of Iowa. More information on the Fall 2015 enrollment report may be found in the agenda item.
The committee will consider recommending approval of the request by Iowa State University to establish the Center for Statistics and Application in Forensic Evidence (CSAFE) in the Office of the Vice President for Research (ESAC item #5). The purpose of the proposed center is to provide a national research center in forensic sciences.

The committee will consider proposed funding allocations for the Regional Study Centers, $182,734 for the Southwest Iowa Regents Resource Center (Council Bluffs); $96,114 for the Northwest Iowa Regents Resource Center (Sioux City); and $5,000 for the Quad Cities Graduate Center (Quad Cities). More information is available in ESAC item #6.

The committee will receive the 2014-2015 annual report of the Iowa Lakeside Laboratory Regents Resource Center (ILLRRC) and consider recommending approval of the 2015-2016 budget for the center. The ILLRRC annual report describes the activities undertaken in 2014-2015 to address the center’s strategic plan. More information is available in ESAC item #7.

The committee will also consider recommending approval of the request by the University of Northern Iowa to establish the Arctic, Remote, and Cold Territories Interdisciplinary Center (ARCTICenter) in the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences (ESAC item #8). The purpose of the proposed center is to advance the interdisciplinary knowledge about socio-economic and social-ecological systems in the polar, remote and cold regions.

As noted earlier, the Property and Facilities Committee will consider approval of the AIB School of Business gift to the University of Iowa. If approved, the Education and Student Affairs committee will consider for approval the development of a comprehensive plan of program offerings by the three universities and the Board Office. Four undergraduate programs are proposed to be offered by the University of Iowa beginning in Fall 2016. In order for the Regent universities to provide the type of educational programming in the Des Moines metropolitan area that is data driven, the Board authorized the issuance of a Request for Proposal to engage the services of a consultant to conduct a higher education needs assessment in the Des Moines metropolitan area. The consultant's report is expected to be completed by February 2016; the study recommendations will inform the universities regarding new program offerings. More information is available in ESAC item # 9.

It is anticipated the full Board will convene at 3:30 p.m. At this time, there will be an update on TIER from Pappas Consulting.

The full Board will meet at 8 a.m. on October 22 for breakfast with student leadership from the three universities.

The Board will convene in open session at 9 a.m. and begin with a meeting of the Audit/Compliance and Investment Committee chaired by Regent McKibben. The committee will consider the recommendation of hiring an investment advisor to manage the Regent universities’ financial portfolios (ACI item # 2).

The University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics Committee chaired by Regent Andringa will meet following the Audit Committee. The committee will receive the operating and financial performance report, a strategic plan update, and hear a faculty presentation on precision cancer medicine.
The Board will have its first reading of proposed conditional 2016-2017 tuition and mandatory fees. Board action is expected to be taken on these proposals during the December 2015 Board meeting. For the Spring 2016 semester, undergraduate resident tuition was raised 3 percent for Iowa State University and the University of Northern Iowa. It is proposed that tuition for undergraduate resident students at the University of Iowa be increased by 3 percent for FY 2017, with no increase proposed for undergraduate residents at Iowa State University and the University of Northern Iowa. Agenda item #9 has additional details.

The Board will receive the annual report on economic development (Agenda item #17). In FY 2015, Iowa’s public universities received $1.02 billion in total sponsored funding. For FY 2015, the Iowa General Assembly provided $8.8 million in total funding for ongoing and innovation activities at the regent universities. As a result, the universities increased new intellectual property disclosures by 11 percent from 261 disclosures in FY 2014 to 291 in FY 2015. In addition, a total of 3,603 individuals were employed by the 156 companies located at the SUI, ISU and UNI research parks and business incubators, an increase of 12 companies and 348 jobs over FY 2014.

Other Board agenda items include the following:

- Each of the institutional heads will provide the Board with an update on campus activities.
- The three university provosts and superintendent of the special schools will provide the Board with strategic plan progress reports. Agenda items 10a and 10b provide details.
- A TIER report will provide an update on the work conducted by Ad Astra regarding space utilization and course scheduling.
- Bond Sales – The Board will receive bids for the sale and award of three sets of bonds totaling and estimated $56.24 million. Additional information is available in Agenda item 14a, 14b and 14c.
- Receive a presentation on Santos, a human simulator developed during the past 12 years at the University of Iowa that helps in the reduction of load for the U.S. Marines, tests new equipment, and helps design new vehicles.

If we can provide additional information, please contact us.

Sincerely,

Bruce L. Rastetter

cc: Lt. Governor Kimberly Reynolds
Members of the Board of Regents, State of Iowa