

**KANSAS BOARD OF REGENTS**  
**MINUTES**  
March 5, 2025

The Board of Regents met virtually for a special meeting on Wednesday, March 5, 2025, via Zoom. The meeting was called to order by Chair Carl Ice at 10:30 a.m. Proper notice was given according to the law.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Carl Ice, Chair  
Alysia Johnston  
Blake Benson  
John Dicus  
Wint Winter  
Diana Mendoza  
Kathy Wolfe Moore

Chair Ice stated that this morning's meeting represented an important step in moving forward with the search for a new Pittsburg State University President. The purpose of the meeting is to establish the search committee and its charge.

Chair Ice thanked Rick Webb for agreeing to chair the search committee. Mr. Webb has a strong business background and is an important contributor to the Pittsburg community. Mr. Webb led the last PSU presidential search. Regent Benson has agreed to serve on the committee and to be a liaison for the Board.

Rick Webb thanked the Board for the opportunity to lead the search committee's work.

**CONSIDERATION OF DISCUSSION AGENDA**

*Other Matters*

**APPOINT MEMBERS TO THE PITTSBURG STATE UNIVERSITY PRESIDENTIAL SEARCH COMMITTEE**

Regent Dicus moved to appoint the following individuals to the Pittsburg State University Presidential Search Committee:

Rick Webb, Search Committee Chair  
Blake Benson, Regent  
Blake Flanders, KBOR President and CEO

Faculty and Staff

Abigail Fern, Executive Director & Associate Vice President of Marketing  
Jason Reid, Associate Professor School of Technology and Workforce Learning  
Anthony Crespino, Associate Athletic Director for Operations and Special Projects  
Dr. Carol Meza-Bakke, Assistant Professor School of History, Philosophy, and Social Sciences  
Susan C. Bon, J.D., Ph.D., Provost and Executive Vice President  
Michelle Hensley, Executive Assistant to the Registrar  
Molly Baumgardner, Associate Vice President for Public Affairs & Engagement  
Lisa Paterni, Assistant Instructional Professor/Executive-in-Residence  
Dr. Karen Johnson, Associate Professor Irene Ransom Bradley School of Nursing

Students

Kate Strader, Senior, Majoring in Elementary Education  
Hannah Eckstein, Student Body President and Senior, Majoring in Elementary Biology  
Frida Herrera Escobedo, Graduate Teaching Assistant and Majoring in Psychology

Alumni/Community Leaders

Pat Crossland, Executive Vice President of Crossland Construction Company  
Miles Schnaer, Owner of Crown Organization  
Paula Baker, President and Chief Executive Officer of Freeman Health System  
Todd Ferguson, Superintendent of Girard Schools  
Harold Richard (Dick) Coleman, Owner of Miller's/Mpix  
Riley Scott, Founder of Scott Consulting, LLC  
Thom Watts, Program Director and Morning Show Talent for Classic Hits 93.9  
Leah Smith, Local Insurance Agency Owner  
Blaise Bauer, Retired USD 248 District Superintendent  
Shane R. Kannarr, OD, Managing Member of Kannarr Eye Care  
Bill Wachter, President and Owner of One Media, Inc  
Amanda Sukraw, President of Community National Bank  
Steve Westfall, CEO of Tuthill Corporation

Regent Winter seconded the motion. The motion carried.

APPROVE PITTSBURG STATE UNIVERSITY PRESIDENTIAL SEARCH COMMITTEE CHARGE

Regent Benson thanked Rick Webb for agreeing to serve on the search committee. The purpose of the committee's charge is simple but important. The committee will assist the Board in finding the next president of Pittsburg State University. The committee will have five key responsibilities: developing a presidential profile; ensuring an unbiased and nondiscriminatory review of candidates; maintaining confidentiality to protect the integrity of the search process and to protect applicants; working with the executive search consultant to identify and evaluate candidates; and presenting an unranked list of four to five top candidates to the Board for consideration. Regent Benson relayed that the committee members each understand the importance of their work and are enthusiastic to begin.

Regent Dicus moved that the following search committee charge be adopted:

1. The Pittsburg State University Presidential Search Committee ("Committee" or "Search Committee") shall be comprised of individuals ("Committee Members") appointed by the Kansas Board of Regents to assist and advise the Kansas Board of Regents in the selection of the next President of Pittsburg State University in accordance with the terms and conditions expressed herein.
2. The Committee shall recommend to the Board in the form of a "Statement of Leadership Characteristics" or "Presidential Profile" the criteria for the position of President of Pittsburg State University to be approved by the Board by the March 2025 Board meeting. The Board asks the Committee to consider inclusion of strong demonstrated skills in attracting and retaining students, leadership and decision making, innovation, fundraising and financial stewardship, economic and job growth collaborations, consensus building, change management, relationship building, talent development, and execution of a strategic plan.
3. Committee Members shall serve without predetermined bias for or against any prospective candidates nominated, referred, or discovered in the search process.
4. Committee members shall review all candidates without regard to race, religion, creed, or national origin.

5. Committee members shall preserve the confidentiality of the search process and candidate identities. Such confidentiality is essential to the successful outcome of the search and must be maintained with professionalism and diligence at all times throughout the search process and beyond. Public communication regarding this search is to be done only by the chair of the Search Committee.
6. Committee Members shall serve with the understanding that the Search Committee will meet frequently over a period of months and that attendance at scheduled meetings is a top priority.
7. The Committee shall work with an executive search consultant to search for and screen appropriate candidates. The Committee shall evaluate nominations and applications.
8. The Committee shall present to the Kansas Board of Regents an unranked list of the four to five candidates who are the most qualified for Board selection as the next President of Pittsburg State University.
9. In all deliberations, Committee Members shall adhere to Board of Regents policies and act in accordance with applicable state and federal laws.

Regent Wolfe Moore seconded the motion. The motion carried.

**ADJOURN**

Chair Ice adjourned the meeting at 10:40 a.m.

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Blake Flanders, President and CEO

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Carl Ice, Chair