



MEETING OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS
Committee on Public Affairs

September 20, 2019 at 8:00 a.m.
University of North Carolina System Office
Center for School Leadership Development,
Chapel Hill, North Carolina

AGENDA

- A-1. Approval of the Minutes of May 2019..... C. Philip Byers
- A-2. State Government Relations Update..... Drew Moretz
- A-3. Federal Affairs UpdateElizabeth Morra
- A-4. Military and Veterans Affairs Update Kathie Sidner and Siobhan Norris
- A-5. Adjourn

DRAFT MINUTES

May 22, 2019
University of North Carolina System Office
Center for School Leadership Development, Room 276
Chapel Hill, North Carolina

This meeting of the Committee on Public Affairs was presided over by Chair C. Philip Byers. The following committee members, constituting a quorum, were also present: Joe Knott, N. Leo Daughtry, and R. Doyle Parrish.

Chancellors participating were Karrie Dixon and Dan Gerlach.

Staff members present included Drew Moretz, Elizabeth Morra, Kathie Sidner, Siobhan Norris, Austen Nowell, and others from the UNC System Office.

1. Approval of the Minutes of March 21, 2019 (Item A-1)

Chair C. Philip Byers called the meeting to order at 8:02 a.m. on Wednesday, May 22, 2019, and called for a motion to approve the open session minutes of March 21, 2019.

MOTION: Resolved, that the Committee on Public Affairs approve the open session minutes of March 21, 2019, as distributed.

Motion: N. Leo Daughtry

Motion carried

2. State Relations Update (Item A-2)

Drew Moretz provided the committee with updates on the budget approved by the House, including its impact on university priorities and capital projects. Other policy bills impacting the university were also discussed briefly.

This item was for information only.

3. Federal Priorities for FY 2020 (Item A-3)

At its meeting on March 21, 2019, the Committee on Public Affairs reviewed the Federal Priorities for FY 2020. After a brief explanation by Elizabeth Morra about how it is used to support legislative efforts, the committee elected to vote on this document.

MOTION: Resolved, that the Committee on Public Affairs approve the Federal Priorities for FY 2020 and recommend the document to the full Board of Governors for a vote.

Motion: N. Leo Daughtry

Motion carried

4. Military and Veterans Affairs Update (Item A-4)

a. Military Credit Database Update (Item A-4a.)

Kathie Sidner and Siobhan Norris, on behalf of the Committee on Military and Veterans Affairs, provided the Committee on Public Affairs with an overview of survey information gathered over the past year and the advantages – both moral and practical – of enrolling military-affiliated students, who academically outperform almost every peer group. Surveys conducted this year also captured the number of military-affiliated students at each institution, along with the resources available at each institution specifically dedicated to military-affiliated students.

Lastly, Kathie Sidner and Siobhan Norris previewed the database that will soon be available for military-affiliated students to check which university credits they are eligible for because of courses taken during their military service.

This item was for information only.

5. Adjourn (Item A-5)

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:00 a.m.

Joe Knott, Secretary

AGENDA ITEM

A-2. State Relations Update..... Drew Moretz

Situation: The Committee will receive an update on the current legislative session and status of the state budget.

Background: On January 9th, the legislature returned for the “Long Session.” The legislature has passed numerous bills impacting the University, including H. 966, the 2019 Appropriations Act. H. 966 included a number of UNC Board of Governor-approved priorities, including a sizeable investments in new capital projects, major renovations, and significant funding for repair and renovations.

On June 28th, the Governor vetoed H. 966 and the legislature is continuing to work to pass a spending bill, but has not held a veto override (as of this writing). Until a new budget is passed, the University is operating under the FY18-19 budget spending levels (excluding non-recurring funding).

In the meantime, the legislature remains in session and the University continues to engage on bills that impact our universities.

Assessment: The legislative session will end upon the passage of budget.

Action: This item is for information only.

AGENDA ITEM

A-3. Federal Affairs Update Elizabeth Morra

- Situation:** Elizabeth Morra will give an update on the federal budget, as well as several recent UNC System activities on Capitol Hill.
- Background:** Prior to the congressional recess in August, the Congress and White House reached agreement on a path forward for annual appropriations bills impacting federal accounts of importance to the UNC System, including Department of Education funding, as well as critical health and research funding. Elizabeth will provide an update on the negotiated agreement, as well as state of play and potential for a continuing resolution (CR) to keep the federal government open and running, if the annual spending bills cannot be completed prior to the October 1 deadline. Additionally, during the months of July and September two UNC System luncheon briefings were held on Capitol Hill to educate key congressional staff on the efforts and initiatives of the BOG's two special committees – Military Affairs and HMSIs. Elizabeth will give a brief update on those briefings and associated activities.
- Assessment:** This briefing will summarize the current state of play on the FY 2020 federal budget and challenges.
- Action:** This item is for information only.

AGENDA ITEM

A-4. Military and Veterans Affairs Update..... Kathie Sidner and Siobhan Norris

Situation: Staff will share updates on major UNC System military and veterans' affairs activities since the last Board of Governors meeting.

Background: Since May 2019, the UNC System has engaged in several efforts supporting military affiliated students and the state's defense community. These efforts include: launching a new military credit equivalency database; briefings to state and federal audiences; and implementation of strategic partnerships and trainings with national and regional organizations.

Assessment: This briefing will summarize key military-focused UNC System initiatives.

Action: This item is for information only.