

**BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE  
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM**

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS SPECIAL MEETING  
-  
APRIL 23, 2008**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Vice-Chair Joe Blake called the meeting to order at 1:40 p.m. Chair Jones joined the meeting shortly thereafter and chaired the meetings. Board members attending were Bonifacio Cosyleon, Tom Farley, Ed Haselden, Marguerite Salazar, Tim Gallagher and Katie Gleeson. Ms. Evans joined the meeting late. Staff members attending were Chancellor Larry Penley, Frank Pierz and Carolyn Smith.

**DISCUSSION OF PENDING LEGISLATION: SENATE BILL 08-227: CONCERNING THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM**

Mr. Blake provided a history of events prior to introduction of Senate Bill 08-227. He said that he, Mr. Jones and Collon Kennedy, lobbyist for the Colorado State University System, met with Trey Rogers, Governor Ritter's Chief Legal Counsel, and other members of the Governor's legal office several weeks ago and discussed the proposed legislation. At that meeting, Mr. Jones stressed the importance of and the Board's commitment to retaining Ms. Salazar on the Board. Also, Mr. Jones addressed the Board's unique statutory authority to re-appoint members to fill vacancies and that such Board appointments were made with the consideration of the Governor's wishes. Mr. Rogers and staff agreed not to change this point. In addition, Mr. Jones emphasized that the current Board was a highly functional, aligned, visionary, cooperative Board and that appointments made to fulfill to geographic or Congressional District designations could limit the Governor's ability make continuous appointments reflective of the quality of current members. Similar concerns were discussed during a meeting Mr. Haselden and Mr. Jones had with the Governor a year earlier and during which these intentions for the Board were stressed. Mr. Blake said that, at the meeting, all agreed to maintain the statutory partisan balance and agricultural designations and to move forward on that basis. SB08-227 does not reflect the consensus reached.

Mr. Cosyleon, Mr. Blake & Mr. Schweigert had a recent meeting with the Governor's legal counsel and his Assistant General Counsel. Following that meeting, there were various conversations among Mr. Jones, Mr. Blake, Mr. Kennedy and Chancellor Penley regarding the legislation. They agreed that, based on the importance of the issues, allowing the existing statute to continue would be detrimental, particularly to Ms. Salazar. They would support the bill as introduced. Mr. Blake told Mr. Rogers that the Board was going to discuss the legislation and that he and Mr. Jones would recommend the Board support the Bill as introduced by Senator Romer. He also told Mr. Rogers that there were sufficient votes to amend the bill in committee and/or on the Senate floor that would comport with discussion several weeks ago although they did not want to exercise that option.

Mr. Jones said Mr. Kennedy said there were sufficient votes to kill the bill if necessary. Mr. Jones meet with and apprised Senator Romer of the Board's position and advised

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him of the Board's intent to maintain membership quality while affording the Governor the ability to select quality persons and protect Board members, including Ms. Salazar's appointment. The Board did not want to kill the bill. Senator Romer concurred with the Board's intentions. Senator Tapia is no longer a sponsor of the legislation. Mr. Jones said the legislation is the opposite of the agreement reached at the meeting several week earlier. Some elements of legislation are acceptable but it is imperative that the legislation protect Ms. Salazar's continued appointment to the Board.

Mr. Pierz stated there was confusion in the proposed legislation regarding the number of Board members. Mr. Farley said the bill only addressed the appointment of six members, not nine members, and that the remaining 3 members could be appointed at-large. Mr. Jones said the Board would consist of 9 members. Appointment of persons living in southern Colorado or northern Colorado or Larimer County, alumni and representatives of agricultural production industries is acceptable to the Board. The inclusion of "and/or" provides considerable flexibility to adhere to these parameters. Additionally, Mr. Pierz stated, the numbering/lettering of the proposed legislation needed consistency. Mr. Pierz stated that the language in the bill rules and is not affected by the summary of the bill.

Mr. Jones said the primary purpose of new legislation is to eliminate restrictive Congressional District and geographic criteria when considering potential Board membership. The quality of future appointees is the most important element when considering appointees to represent the System. Ms. Salazar stated, since it is the Governor's bill, it should be supported as presented. At the meeting Mr. Cosyleon attended, he felt there was unfounded concern that a Board member position would be eliminated. He stated he felt Mr. Kennedy should not work on modifications to the bill and prefers that Mr. Jones and Chancellor Penley address the preferred changes.

The Board agreed to support the concept of the legislation subject to modification. The Board agreed that Mr. Pierz and Mr. Kennedy should work to correct the ambiguities and technical discrepancies in the legislation. When the revisions are made, they will advise the Board. Mr. Jones will present the Board's substantive position on the legislation in testimony before the Senate Education Committee. He will emphasize the need for quality membership on the Board.

The meeting Adjourned at 10:14 a.m.