

**TRUSTEES OF COLORADO MESA UNIVERSITY**  
**MINUTES**  
**REGULAR BOARD MEETING**  
**1100 North Ave, Grand Junction, CO**  
**Dominguez Hall, Gallegos Board Room**  
**August 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Fry called the meeting to order at 11:02 a.m.

**TRUSTEES PRESENT**

Chair Fry, Trustee Buck, Trustee Iwaniczko MacLeod, Trustee Griffin, Trustee Reiff, Trustee Ramos, Trustee Davis, Trustee Foster, Trustee Moreno, Trustee Sekharan, Trustee Dukes, Faculty Trustee Dr. Brian Parry, and Student Trustee Kylie Graham.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Trustee Iwaniczko MacLeod moved to approve the minutes of the regular Board meeting May 17, 2024. Trustee Reiff seconded the motion for approval. Motion passed unanimously.

Trustee Ramos moved to approve the minutes of the board working sessions on July 22<sup>nd</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Trustee Griffin seconded the motion for approval. The motion passed unanimously.

There were no public comments.

**REPORTS**

**CHAIR:** Chair Fry thanked Trustee Buck for chairing the May meeting and highlighted that a lot has happened over the summer. He shared that he, Trustee Ramos, and Trustee Iwaniczko MacLeod attended the Capital Conference and were impressed with the students who attended the conference. Additionally, he shared about the geo exchange project and opportunity to turn dirt with Governor Polis to celebrate the expansion. Chair Fry shared that he also attended the Clifton Community Center grand opening on behalf of CMU and highlighted the presence CMU will have in the community due to that partnership with Mesa. Chair Fry also highlighted attending the Davis School of Business strategic planning event along with fellow trustees, faculty, staff, and community members and that they are looking forward to what is going to be brought before the board in the future related to the Davis School of Business. He also highlighted the Rainbows & Revolution exhibit in partnership with History Colorado and thanked Trustee Ramos for his role in CMU having the opportunity to host that exhibit. Lastly, Chair Fry shared that the Board Governance committee is working with the Attorney General's office related to recommended updates to the Board policy manual and will look forward to bringing forward that work at the next meeting in October.

**PRESIDENT:** President Marshall introduced **Human Scale University Champion Award for August 2024**, which was presented to Mr. Jeff Piper, who exemplifies the values of CMU's Human Scale Campus and works tirelessly to support the Colorado Mesa University campus and overall community.

Following the adoption of the resolution, President Marshall shared about activities that occurred over the summer. He reminded the Board that the Leadership Team had implemented EOS the past year and highlighted the annual EOS meeting that was held over the summer. He shared that the process is allowing the team to prioritize and accomplish a lot each quarter.

He shared about an initiative that Kelly Brough is leading with MSU Denver prepping for the upcoming legislative session and the work being done to align common interests of the two organizations. President Marshall also highlighted the many construction projects that occurred over the summer and heavy lift it was to accomplish all of them prior to the beginning of classes. He also shared about the success of the early FAFSA launch and the media coverage related to that initiative – and he acknowledged the courage the Board had to lean into that situation and approve that initiative. He shared about the work being done as a part of early start programming and welcoming new students – engaging students to tackle difficult topics, embrace free expression and treat each other properly. He highlighted the work that Trustee Griffin has done to help bring the Dignity Index to campus and what a success it has been as seen by the students embracing the idea and implementing it organically. Additionally, Kelly Brough taught a conflict resolution session for students which was really well received. President Marshall also shared the excitement and logistics of welcoming 3000 students to reside on campus and the full campus community back for the 2024-25 academic year. Lastly, he shared about the launch of the centennial celebration committee and highlighted that the planning is beginning for the CMU Centennial year celebration which will occur April 2025-April 2026.

**FACULTY TRUSTEE:** Dr. Brian Parry thanked the Board for being on campus and shared excitement from the faculty perspective about the beginning of the new academic year. He shared the journey the faculty have of welcoming students, watching them grow, and then ultimately watching them leave a few years later. He shared about his journey in faculty governance positions from Faculty Senate President and now serving as the Faculty Trustee has increased his appreciation for the work CMU does to prioritize people. He shared that a new climate survey will be launched and that he’s looking forward to working with the Board in the upcoming year. He shared appreciation for the Board and that he is looking forward to working with this Board this year.

**STUDENT TRUSTEE:** Kylie Graham shared about the excitement of returning to classes from the student perspective. She highlighted that the clubs and organizations donate their time to help with student move in and how helpful that is to welcome students and their families to campus. She shared an update on the biology club going to Brazil and what a wonderful experience it was for students including learning to use AI to recognize animals. She gave an update on the percussion club that went to Spain to perform and shared that the team performed four concerts and attended multiple clinics. She shared about the new Arcadia student social area on campus and the student excitement about having Qdoba on campus. She also shared about multiple strategies being implemented to address the long dining lines and welcoming students to the dining areas across campus. Lastly, she shared that this is a biennial year and that ASG will be working through the process throughout the year to make recommendations to the board as a part of the budget process. She is looking forward to working with the Board this upcoming year.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

Chair Fry asked for consideration of the items on the consent agenda:

1. Personnel
2. Designated Meeting Posting
3. Program Reviews

Trustee Moreno motioned for approval and Trustee Griffin seconded. The consent agenda items were approved unanimously.

## **REPORTS/PRESENTATIONS/DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION**

**TREASURER’S REPORT:** Michelle Quinn, Vice President for Finance and Administration presented the Treasurer’s Report.

**FINANCIAL DASHBOARD:** Michelle Quinn, Vice President for Finance and Administration presented the Financial Dashboard.

*At noon. the Board recessed for lunch and hosted a parent engagement lunch in Arcadia in the University Center. The meeting resumed at 1:30 p.m.*

**STUDENT SERVICES:** Kim Medina, AVP of Enrollment Management & Lindsey Campbell, Executive Dir. of Financial Aid, Advising, and Enrollment Management, and Whitney Bonner, Director of Admissions, gave an update on the fall 2024 enrollment and shared that CMU is expected to welcome the largest freshman class in its history – final numbers to be determined at census date in early September. Prior record was in 2013. They described the efforts and initiatives taken to see these increases.

Jody Diers, Vice President for Student Services, gave an update about on campus housing and the work the team has done to welcome almost 3,000 students to campus housing including renovating existing housing options to accommodate additional students, leasing apartments in the community and prioritizing students to live off campus, as well as serving students through bridge housing in a local hotel. She gave an overview of the activities being done to welcome all students to campus through Residence Life, Student Life, and all the other departments that are contributing to welcoming students back to campus.

**HOUSING:** Michelle Quinn, Vice President for Finance and Administration shared a housing overview including summarizing the housing needs assessment, financial effects of growth, potential projects for consideration as well as CMU debt capacity. Information was shared regarding enrollment and housing trends, and the next steps needed to address this issue were discussed. With encouragement and direction from the Board related to the proposed projects, the Leadership Team will continue to develop a proposal for Board action at a future meeting – most likely a special meeting to be called between the October and December meetings.

**MASTER PLAN:** Kent Marsh, Vice President of Capital Planning, presented an update to the Master Plan that was discussed in depth at the summer working session. Trustee Foster moved to approve the Master Plan as presented. Trustee Ramos seconded the motion for approval. The motion passed unanimously.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Chair Fry asked for a motion to convene an executive session for the purposes of discussing potential property acquisition for public purposes pursuant to section 24-6-402(3)(a)(1), C.R.S. Trustee Ramos made a motion and Trustee Dukes seconded. The Board went into Executive Session at 3:45 p.m. and invited President John Marshall, VP Derek Wagner and Liz Howell to join.

The board had discussion related to a potential property acquisition. There was no action taken.

Following discussion, Charles motioned to end executive session and return to general session. Daniel seconded and the board returned to general session.

**ACADEMIC AFFAIRS UPDATE – STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE:** Dr. Cher Hendricks, Vice President for Academic Affairs, gave an update on the Educational Programs Pillar of the CMU Forming the Future Strategic Plan.

**CIVIC FORUM & INSTITUTIONAL NEUTRALITY – BALLOT ISSUES 50 & 108:** Dr. Cher Hendricks, Vice President for Academic Affairs, gave a report on Institutional Neutrality related to the work of the faculty. Derek Wagner, VP of External Relations and Chief of Staff shared an update on the CMU Civic Forum events occurring this fall to create opportunities for the campus community to engage in the upcoming election season.

In relation to Ballot Issues 50 & 108, a special legislative session was called to address these issues, and they were rendered moot. The board will look forward to continuing to discuss Institutional Neutrality at an upcoming board meeting.

*At 4:15 p.m. the Board recessed the evening and attended dinner at the Asteria Theatre. The meeting resumed at 9:02 a.m. on Friday morning following a tour of the new CMU Tech Mobile Learning Lab.*

**MARKETING MOMENT:** David Ludlam, Vice President for Communications summarized the work the Marketing team has been doing since the last meeting. He also shared an update on the campaign Elevating the Trades.

**COLORADO RIVER CONSERVATION DISTRICT PRESENTATION ON SHOSHONE WATER RIGHT:** Derek Wagner, VP of External Relations and Chief of Staff, introduced Andy Mueller, with the Colorado River District who gave a presentation related to the Shoshone Water Rights.

Trustee Buck motioned that the CMU Board of Trustees authorize the President to pledge the first \$500,000 of utility cost savings resulting from the first phase of campus geo-exchange infrastructure improvements to support the Colorado River Conservation District's efforts to purchase the Shoshone Water Rights on the Colorado River.

Trustee Griffin seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no additional business to be discussed.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Trustee Buck motioned to adjourn. Trustee Griffin seconded. Chair Fry adjourned the meeting at 11:15 a.m.