

**Board of Regents (BOR) Special Meeting
Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute (SIPI)
August 11, 2021
9:00 AM – 10:30 AM (MDT)
ZOOM**

MINUTES

A. Call the Meeting to Order

Chair Muniz called the meeting to order at 9:07am and welcomed meeting attendees.

B. Welcome and Invocation

Chair Muniz welcomed meeting attendees and Francis Tafoya provided the invocation.

C. Roll Call

Esther Peterson called roll. The following Board members were in attendance.

Ms. Haeyalyn Muniz, Chair, Jicarilla Apache Nation
Mr. Adam J. Begaye, Vice Chair, Navajo Nation-New Mexico
Ms. Esther Peterson, Secretary/Treasurer, Navajo Nation-Arizona
Dr. Sherry Allison, SIPI President Emeritus
Dr. Curtis Chavez, Southern Pueblos Council
Dr. Damon Clarke, Member, Inter-Tribal Council of Arizona-North
Ms. Jamie Killfirst, President, Student Government Association, SIPI
Mr. Francis Tafoya, Eight Northern Pueblos
Mr. Monte Monteith, Ex-Officio member, President, SIP

Absent:

Dr. John Bush, Member, Inter-Tribal Council of Arizona-South
Mr. Darrell Flyingman, Vice-Chair, Oklahoma Tribes

Quorum Established

D. Approval of the Agenda

Chair Muniz asked the Board if there was any discussion needed on the Agenda. No discussion needed.

Dr. Allison motioned to approve the Agenda as presented. Seconded by Esther Peterson. Motion unanimously approved.

F. Old Business

1. Update: SIPI President Search

Jackie Shamblin, Director, BIE Human Resources, informed Board members that the SIPI President vacancy was extended to September 3, 2021 to allow for more applicants to apply. Currently there are three qualified applicants. If no further applicants apply then they will

proceed with the interview process. He also confirmed that with the extension of the deadline SIPI would not have a new president until the new year. Once a selection is made it will need to go before the Executive Resource Board and then to OPM. OPM will approve the actual appointment.

Dr. Allison inquired if anyone was detailed to help Monte who is holding three positions: 1) Interim President, 2) Acting Vice President for College Operations and 3) Security Supervisor. She expressed concerns regarding the work load and wanted her concerns on record,

Monte Monteith reported he is limited on what he can concentrate on but things running however some things are falling thru the cracks.

Board members expressed their concerns and suggested a letter be written to Director Dearman requesting assistance for SIPI.

Dr. Allison motioned to approve Bill Lohr and Chair Muniz to write a letter in request support for SIPI and Monte Monteith. Seconded by Francis Tafoya. Call for question. Motion unanimously approved.

a. ACTION: Election of Interview Committee

Chair Muniz asked for Board volunteers to serve on interview committee for the new SIPI President. Francis Tafoya volunteered. He informed the Board he serve on the interview committee before.

Dr. Allison recommended four Board representatives and requested that one position be reserved for the Student Government Association position.

Jackie Shamblin indicated that each interview would be about at half day for each candidate. The interviewee would come to campus meet and present to staff, faculty and students and be interviewed by a panel. The interview and panel platform could change due to the conditions of the pandemic. Currently, the local numbers have escalated for positive cases. If it is decided to interview in person a rapid test will need to be conducted.

Discussion occurred whether it would be appropriate for Dr. Allison to serve on the committee. It was decided that it would not be a conflict for Dr. Allison to serve and that it would be beneficial for her to be on the committee as he bring valued insight of SIPI.

Dr. Allison noted she would like Dr. Clarke to be on the committee however, Dr. Clarke noted he would be honored however it would be dependent on the needs of his Tribe.

It was also decided the Board Chair should serve on the committee.

Dr. Allison motioned that the interview committee for the new SIPI President include the following: Student Government Association President, Francis Tafoya, Dr. Allison, Haeyalyn Muniz and Dr. Clarke. Seconded by Esther Peteron. Call for Question. Motioned unanimously approved.

2. Update: Background Investigation for Board Members

Monte Monteith informed Board members that he asked Alena Chalan to be the point of contact for background investigations. Board members should contact her if they need assistant tracking their investigations. Esther Peterson is cleared.

Dr. Allison asked Jackie Shamlin if she needed to initiate a new back investigation since she recently completed an investigation when she was SIPI President. Jackie Shamblin noted her background check would be considered reciprocity since it has been within the past five years.

Bill Lohr inquired whether the incoming Student Government Association President is required to complete a background investigation. Jackie Shamblin indication yes because the student is part of the Board and has control and influence on SIPI policies and things of nature that impact students.

Board members also asked Jackie if the Bureau accepts tribal background checks. Jackie indicated that James Barlett is the point of contact for that. The Bureau does do a more in-depth check due to children.

G. New Business

1. ACTION: Fall 2021 Resolution

Monte read Resolution#2021-3: In full support of reopening the Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute campus commencing the Fall 2021 trimester by offering a combination of in-person, hybrid, and fully online courses; and acknowledging if circumstances of the COVID-19 virus change, appropriate adjustments will be made for delivery of academic and support services

Dr. Clark motioned to support Board Resolution 2021-3. Seconded by Esther Peterson. Call for questions.

Dr. Allison asked for revisions to the resolution and for a more declarative statements.

The following were new statements added:

- Whereas, the SIPI Administration has decided to waive all student fees for Fall 2021
- Whereas, for the wellbeing of the SIPI campus community, the interim President has requested from the Department of Interior approval for all students to be required to be fully vaccinated prior to coming on campus for the Fall 2021 trimester and be subject to COVID-19 tests throughout the trimester; and
- BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the SIPI Board of Regents strongly supports the Interim President's request from the Department of Interior approval for all students to be required to be fully vaccinated prior to coming on campus for the Fall 2021 trimester and be subject to COVID-19 tests throughout the trimester; and
- ..all staff will follow federal guidelines an vaccination and testing – added to end of the 11th Whereas.

Dr. Clarke motioned to amend his previous motion to include the additions to the resolution and to approve the resolution with noted amendments. Seconded by Esther Peterson. Call for questions. Motion approved.

Chair Muniz and Dr. Chavez were excused from the meeting at 10:37am due to other commitments. Adam Begaye chaired the remainder of the meeting.

2. Moving FEED grant funds to General account

Bill Lohr asked the Board to moved \$15,497.52 in FEED grant fund to the general account as the Program no longer exists. Per Karen Coffey this is permissible by the funding sources.

Dr. Allison motioned to move \$15,497.52 in FEED grants funds to the Office General account. Seconded by Dr. Clark. Call for questions. Motion unanimously approved.

3. Anthony Mendez Resignation

Bill Lohr informed Board members that Anthony Mendez officially resigned from the Board in July 2021 to focus on work for his tribe. The Mescalero tribe is working to fill the vacant position

Dr. Clark motioned to accept Mr. Mendez's resignation. Seconded by Dr. Allison. Motion unanimously APPROVED.

4. YDI Center

Karen Coffey informed the Board the YDI Childcare Center is unable to open due to extensive roof damage and air conditioner repair. YDI assigned students to other YDI centers within Albuquerque. SIPI is working to get a contractor to fix the roof and has a contract is in place for the air conditioner. The State Licensing will not visit the YDI center without students. She also reported a SIPI team has been reviewing the Memorandum of Understanding between SIPI and YDI. The team sent the MOU to YDI for input and comments. Both teams will meet to review questions and concerns.

Monte Monteith explained there was a campus wide power outage that burned out equipment in both the Science & Technology Building and the YDI Childcare Center. Some equipment was lost but replaced in the S&T building. However, the YDI center experienced extensive roof damage. It was initially thought the damage was a simple fix with patching however the patching contractor conducted a review and note the extensive damage.

Discussion occurred on how this affects Dr. Lansing's Early Childhood mentoring program and City of Albuquerque grant money. Bill will following up with Dr. Lansing.

5. Native Energy Institute

Valerie Montoya provided information on the Native Energy Institute/Consortium. This idea was brought to SIPI via David Conrad (BIA). It addresses energy education for tribal communities. There are several community partners involved including Haskell and the Center for Adult Education and Learning (CAEL).

H. Public Comments

Bill Lohr read a text from Chair Muniz recognizing Jaymie Killsfirst for being strong native leader. Jaymis will be graduating from SIPI and this is her last meeting.

I. Adjournment

Dr. Clarke motioned to adjourn at 11:08am. Seconded by Dr. Allison. Motion unanimously approved adjournment at 11:08 am.

DRAFT