



**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
CLEVELAND STATE UNIVERSITY**

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

DATE: Thursday, January 23, 2025; 9:00 a.m.

PLACE: Hybrid Meeting— Wolstein Center, 4th Floor and via Zoom; livestreamed for public view.

PRESENT: Board Chair David M. Reynolds; Trustees Nikki C. Byrd; Timothy J. Cosgrove, Diane M. Downing, Alan G. Starkoff, and Vanessa L. Whiting; Student Trustees Skye Carlson and Akshat Shah; Faculty Representatives Dr. Carol Olszewski and Dr. Linda Quinn; Ex Officio Member Karen A. White; Community Member Lisa K. Kunkle; President Laura Bloomberg; and Secretary to the Board of Trustees, General Counsel and Vice President, Legal Affairs and Compliance Sonali B. Wilson.

Others in attendance: Provost and Sr. VP of Academic Affairs Nigamanth Sridhar; Chief Financial Officer Nicole Addington; VP of Enrollment Management Randall Deike; VP, Chief Marketing and Communications Officer, Roy Gifford; VP of Advancement Julie Rehm; Executive Director, Government Affairs Caryn Candisky; VP, Student Belonging and Success Tachelle Banks; Chief of Staff and Chief Administrative Officer Patricia L. Franklin; Special Advisor Business Affairs P. Kelly Tompkins; Chief Information Officer Wesam Helou; Dean's Representative to the Senior Leadership Team Stephanie Brooks; Chief Human Resources Officer Douglas Dykes; Athletic Director Kelsie Gory Harkey; and Assistant Board Secretary Heather A. Link.

Vice Chair Cosgrove called the meeting to order at 10:24 a.m., confirmed that a quorum was present, and noted that the meeting was being livestreamed on the Board website for public viewing.

He called for a motion to approve the minutes of the November 21, 2024 meeting. Trustee Downing moved the approval, and Trustee Whiting seconded. Board Secretary Wilson called the roll and the minutes were approved.

Vice Chair Cosgrove announced that Chair Reynolds would be joining the meeting remotely due to a previously scheduled obligation.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Vice Chair Cosgrove moved for the Board to recess into Executive Session to discuss imminent and pending litigation with the University General Counsel, to discuss trade secret information required by law to be kept confidential and to discuss personnel matters including the appointment and employment of public employees. Trustee Starkoff seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was taken by the Secretary of the Board; voting in the affirmative were Ms. Byrd, Ms. Downing, Mr. Starkoff, Ms. Whiting, and Mr. Cosgrove. The motion carried.

Vice Chair Cosgrove excused everyone except the voting trustees, President Bloomberg, ex officio Board Member White, Community Board Member Kunkle, Chief of Staff Franklin, Chief Financial Officer Addington, Special Advisor Tompkins, Chief Human Resources Officer Dykes, Assistant Board Secretary Link, and VP, General Counsel and Board Secretary Wilson.

The executive session began at 10:25 a.m.

At 10:34 pm., Vice Chair Cosgrove announced that the Board had finished its business in Executive Session and was returning to its regular meeting.

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

President Bloomberg updated members on the ways that the recently approved strategic plan, Cleveland State United, is being deployed and the multiple plans to track its progress. A dashboard is being designed, to be housed on the University's website, which will measure key metrics and timelines, points of pride, and details regarding priorities. The campus wide launch is scheduled for January 28 at 2pm, and she invited members to attend if their schedules allowed.

President Bloomberg also provided updates on: managing changes due to the voluntary separations of faculty and staff; her "Top of Mind" video series for the campus community; equity initiatives, and the proposed Biomedical Discovery Complex.

She relayed that the campus recently hosted candidates for the director position for the Center for Civics, Culture and Society. Administrators, students, and faculty met with candidates and she expressed gratitude for those who attended the sessions.

President Bloomberg ended her report with a recap of the December commencement ceremony, noting that she has received very positive feedback—especially the "student forward focus" of the program. She compared watching the students walk across the stage to an

exclamation point for the University's work, and she thanked those who were able to attend and participate with the platform party.

REPORT FROM STUDENT TRUSTEES

Student Trustees Carlson and Shah reported on current student activities and initiatives underway across all of the University's colleges. They noted that activities include social, academic, personal, and professional opportunities for student engagement and advancement.

REPORT FROM FACULTY REPRESENTATIVES

Faculty Representative Quinn reminded members of the three elements of faculty work: teaching, research, and service. She focused her report on the teaching element, and how teaching is weighed within individual departmental workload requirements, as well as compensation, fairness, and equity across colleges.

Faculty Representative Olszewski noted that after the winter break, the beginning of the spring semester has seen campus come alive with a renewed energy and purpose. She encouraged that recognition and appreciation include a consideration of compensation as the cooperative efforts of the campus community continue to support the Cleveland State United plan.

President Bloomberg noted that she is proud of her faculty colleagues, and she thanked them both for their active leadership and cooperative efforts on many fronts including the development of the strategic plan and participation in campus wide learning initiatives.

Vice Chair Cosgrove thanked the faculty members, noting that the magic that takes place in the classroom is between a student and their professors, and that students are more familiar with their professors than they may be with members of campus leadership.

FINANCIAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE UPDATE

Report of the January 16, 2025 Meeting

Committee Chair Starkoff reported that the meeting included updates from CFO Addington on the FY26 budget process (to be presented in May for full Board approval) and the SB6 composite score for the University.

The Committee received an enrollment update from VP Deike that included initial projections showing that Spring Semester enrollment is ahead of budget. Data was also shared

around “Say Yes” students who enroll at the University and the strong relationship between the organization and CSU.

Chair Starkoff reported that Director of Internal Audit Johnston updated members on FY24 open audit findings, current year audit plans, and new internal audit standards. Mr. Johnston brought forth a proposed internal audit charter amendment for consideration. These amendments were approved by the committee and are included on the consent agenda.

AVP VandeVelde presented other action items related to design and construction services for campuswide mechanical, electrical and plumbing improvement projects.

Noting that the Committee met in Executive Session, an item related to the renovation of Fenn Tower was approved under new business, and is also included on the consent agenda.

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS AND STUDENT SUCCESS COMMITTEE REPORT

Report of the January 16, 2025 Meeting

Committee Chair Cosgrove reported that the Provost provided an update on the University’s new Core Curriculum efforts and progress, CSU’s Center for Public and Nonprofit Management professional development programs, and details on the proposed Biomedical Discovery Complex (renovation of a portion of Fenn Hall). The members also received a quarterly research report which indicated that the University is getting better at attracting outside funding and getting stronger in research capabilities every year.

The members also received an update from VP Banks on initiatives underway within the Division of Student Belonging and Success, including progress toward the Unified Academic Coaching model and upcoming scheduled student activities. Dr. Banks also shared a dashboard being implemented to provide data of student interactions with the Division’s programs and offices.

Chair Cosgrove reported that Vice Provosts Jackson and Holcomb presented on the Student Experience Project, and that ED Candisky provided members with a written update on governmental affairs and other issues affecting higher education and the University.

In addition, two faculty members highlighted the work that they were able to conduct during their recent sabbaticals as a complement to the item before the committee (approving professional leaves of absence for the upcoming year).

There was also an Executive Session portion of the committee meeting.

Chair Cosgrove noted that all of the items that came before the committee were approved and are included on the consent agenda.

REPORT OF ATHLETIC COMMITTEE

The Athletic Committee met prior to the full Board earlier in the day and considered one item under new business following their Executive Session. The item will be considered under new business, reported Vice Chair Cosgrove.

REPORT OF THE CSU FOUNDATION

VP Rehm reported on fundraising progress to goal for FY2025 attainment and annual giving and selected philanthropic highlights (including a \$2.75 million gift from the Gund Foundation for the Gund Living Learning Community, among others). Members were invited to join, and to help spread the word, about upcoming alumni events in Florida and Arizona (February 19 through 22), if their schedules permit.

Ex Officio Member White reported on a Foundation supported initiative to raise funds for the CSU art gallery including a relocation to an expanding Playhouse Square footprint; there is an opportunity for a lead donor.

There are CSU Foundation members who will attend the AGB's conference for Foundation Boards; the University's annual day of giving is scheduled for February 27; and CSU's Radiance fundraising event is scheduled for May 8.

Vice Chair Cosgrove asked members to support and participate in the Radiance event as they are able.

CONSENT AGENDA

Vice Chair Cosgrove stated that routine matters, or those recommended by committees and discussed previously, are considered on the Consent Agenda. He asked if there were any other items that Board members wished to discuss or remove; there were none. Vice Chair Cosgrove noted that there was one administrative change to the Authorization to Enter into Construction Contracts for the Biomedical Discovery Complex resolution, delegating authority to the Executive Committee, not the Financial Affairs Committee.

Trustee Downing moved, and Trustee Whiting seconded, the motion to approve the following consent agenda items: Amendments to the Internal Audit Charter; Authorization to Execute Contracts Necessary for Design and Construction Services for the Campuswide Mechanical, Electrical, Plumbing Improvement Projects; Authorization to Executive Contracts Necessary for Design, Restoration, and Improvement of Fenn Tower; Authorization to Enter into Construction Contracts for the Biomedical Discovery Complex; Approval of Faculty Professional Leaves of Absence; Approval of Integrated Degree—Data Science and Health Sciences; Approval of Integrated Degree—Electrical Engineering and Environmental Sciences; Amendments to Faculty Personnel Policy: 3344-11-13 Attachment A to Chapter 3344-11 of the Administrative Code – 1940 statement of principles on academic freedom and tenure; Approval of Emeritus Status for Faculty; Ratification of the Appointment of the VP, General Counsel and Board Secretary; and Accepting Gifts and Pledges, 2nd Quarter, October 1, 2024-December 31, 2024.

Board Secretary Wilson called the roll and the following resolutions were approved.

RESOLUTION 2025-01

AMENDMENTS TO THE INTERNAL AUDIT CHARTER

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of Cleveland State University created the Office of Internal Audit in 1981 as an independent appraisal function to examine and evaluate University business or administrative activities as a service to management and the Board of Trustees; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees, Audit Subcommittee approved an Internal Audit Charter, at the recommendation of the Director, Internal Audit, defining the governance, authority, role, responsibility, and standards of practice of the internal audit function on October 9, 2015; and

WHEREAS, the Director, Internal Audit, has recognized a need for a revision to the Internal Audit Charter; and

WHEREAS, the Director, Internal Audit, in an effort to clarify organizational reporting lines, ensure independence from management, has now proposed the adoption of a revised Internal Audit Charter, and requests that the Board of Trustees adopt said Charter; and

WHEREAS, the Financial Affairs Committee of the Board of Trustees has reviewed this matter as submitted by the University Administration and recommends full Board approval:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Cleveland State University Board of Trustees adopts the Internal Audit Charter (in form substantially similar to Exhibit A attached hereto) and

authorizes the Office of Internal Audit to operate under the terms of the Charter.

RESOLUTION 2025-02

**AUTHORIZATION TO EXECUTE CONTRACTS NECESSARY FOR DESIGN AND
CONSTRUCTION SERVICES FOR THE CAMPUSWIDE MECHANICAL,
ELECTRICAL, PLUMBING IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS**

WHEREAS, on October 30, 2023, the University submitted a request for a State Capital Bill appropriation of \$17.5 million for the FY25-26 biennium; and

WHEREAS, on June 28, 2024, the State signed into law H.B. 2 of the 135th General Assembly, which allocated \$15,779,731 to Cleveland State University; and

WHEREAS, \$10,500,000.00 of the appropriation was designated for the design, construction, furnishing and equipping for Campuswide Mechanical, Electrical, Plumbing Improvement Projects to be locally administered on the University's campus; and

WHEREAS, CSU Administration has opted to use \$4.0M for the Campuswide Mechanical, Electrical, Plumbing Improvement Projects and re-appropriate the remaining \$6.5M to support the Fenn Hall 4th Floor Science Research Project; and

WHEREAS, the contracts for this project will be ready for execution in 2025 and will exceed \$1,000,000; and

WHEREAS, under existing Board policy, construction and consultant contracts in excess of \$1,000,000 require prior approval of the Board; and

WHEREAS, the Financial Affairs Committee of the Board of Trustees has reviewed this matter as submitted by the University Administration and recommends full Board approval:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Cleveland State University board of Trustees approves the delegation of authority to the University Administration to enter into a Design Contracts, and with the lowest, responsive, responsible Construction Contract for Campuswide Mechanical, Electrical, Plumbing Improvement Projects in an amount not to exceed \$4,000,000.00 in appropriated state capital funding, subject to revisions deemed necessary by the University's Office of General Counsel to protect the interests of the University.

RESOLUTION 2025-03

**AUTHORIZATION TO EXECUTE CONTRACTS NECESSARY FOR DESIGN,
RESTORATION, AND IMPROVEMENT OF FENN TOWER**

WHEREAS, Fenn Tower holds historic significance for both the University and downtown

Cleveland, and was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2003; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to that certain Lease dated March 1, 2005, between the State of Ohio Department of Administrative Services, and the Euclid Avenue Housing Corporation n/k/a the Euclid Avenue Development Corporation, Fenn Tower was leased to EADC; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Lease, EADC is responsible for operating student housing in Fenn Tower and for all interior maintenance, and the University is responsible for maintaining the exterior of the building including the exterior walls; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Memorandum of Understanding dated May 14, 2024 between the University and EADC, the University manages the maintenance and repair of Fenn Tower on behalf of EADC; and

WHEREAS, Fenn Tower is operated by EADC primarily as student housing for incoming freshmen; and

WHEREAS, through façade assessments commissioned by the University for Fenn Tower, the University has identified potential risks in and around the exterior of the building due to degrading conditions of the building's façade; and

WHEREAS, based on the results of the façade assessments, the University administration in cooperation with EADC, officially vacated and closed Fenn Tower in May 2024; and

WHEREAS, the University administration believes that Fenn Tower is integral to the on-campus freshmen experience, and student recruitment and retention, and therefore desires to return the building to productive use and update the interior student housing units; and

WHEREAS, the total cost of design, restoration, and financing the restoration and improvement of Fenn Tower is estimated not to exceed \$18 Million; and

WHEREAS, the renovation and improvement of Fenn Tower supports the University's strategic plan, Cleveland State United, by improving the student experience and cultivating a culture of transformation and continuous improvement; and

WHEREAS, contracts for the design, renovation, and improvement of Fenn Tower will exceed \$1 Million, and pursuant to University Policy 3344-66-01, all contracts in excess of \$1 Million require prior approval of the Board of Trustees; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Memorandum of Understanding dated between the University and EADC, the University will manage the renovation of Fenn Tower on behalf of EADC; and

WHEREAS, the Financial Affairs Committee of the Board of Trustees has reviewed this matter as submitted by the University Administration and recommends that the Board authorize moving forward with the renovation of Fenn Tower and that the Board delegates to the Executive Committee the review and approval of the Construction Manager at Risk and Architect and Engineer Contracts:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Cleveland State University Board of Trustees approves moving forward with the renovation of Fenn Tower, in a total amount not to exceed \$18M; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Cleveland State University Board of Trustees delegates authority to the Executive Committee for the approval of the Construction Manager at Risk and Architect and Engineer Contracts.

RESOLUTION 2025-04

AUTHORIZATION TO EXECUTE CONTRACTS NECESSARY FOR DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION SERVICES FOR FENN HALL RENOVATION AND IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

WHEREAS, pursuant to House Bill 2 of the 135th General Assembly of The Ohio Legislature, the University was appropriated and reappropriated certain capital funding in the amount of \$31,795,451, designated or available for use for a Fenn Hall Renovation Project; and

WHEREAS, the Fenn Hall Renovation Project supports the University's strategic plan, Cleveland State United, by improving the student experience and cultivating a culture of transformation and continuous improvement; and

WHEREAS, the University administration believes that the Fenn Hall Renovation Project is beneficial for student recruitment and retention, and is necessary for the University to remain competitive as a premiere public research institute; and

WHEREAS, the contracts for this project will exceed \$1,000,000; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to University Policy, contracts in excess of \$1,000,000 require prior approval of the Board; and

WHEREAS, the Academic Affairs and Student Success Committee of the Board of Trustees has reviewed this matter as presented by the University Administration and recommends that the Board authorize moving forward with the Fenn Hall Renovation Project and that individual contracts over \$1M will be brought to the Executive Committee for their review and approval:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Cleveland State University Board of Trustees authorizes moving forward with the Fenn Hall Renovation Project; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Cleveland State University Board of Trustees delegates authority to the Executive Committee for the approval of individuals contracts over \$1M related to the renovation of Fenn Hall.

RESOLUTION 2025-05

PROFESSIONAL LEAVES OF ABSENCE, AY2025-2026

WHEREAS, the individuals in the Professional Leaves of Absence Summary Report for the Academic Year 2025-2026 have been reviewed by the appropriate committees and administrators; and

WHEREAS, they have fulfilled the requirements for professional leave as set forth in Article 20 of the Agreement between Cleveland State University and the CSU Chapter of the American Association of University Professors, or in the case of the College of Law faculty, of Section 3344-11-09 of the CSU Faculty Personnel Policies; and

WHEREAS, the Academic Affairs and Student Success Committee has reviewed the proposed professional leaves of absence as submitted by the University Administration and recommends full Board approval:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Cleveland State University Board of Trustees approves the granting of Professional Leaves of Absences for the academic year 2025-2026 to those individuals as outlined in the Summary Report.

RESOLUTION 2025-06

**APPROVAL OF NEW INTEGRATED DEGREE PROGRAM
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN DATA SCIENCE AND HEALTH SCIENCES**

WHEREAS, the Washkewicz College of Engineering and the College of Health have proposed to offer the Bachelor of Science Data Science and Health Sciences, Integrated degree; and

WHEREAS, there is a demonstrated need for such a program in Northeast Ohio; and

WHEREAS, the proposed degree program has been reviewed and approved by all appropriate faculty entities and academic administrators, including approval by the Faculty Senate at its meeting of November 6, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the Academic Affairs and Student Success Committee has reviewed the proposed new integrated degree program as submitted by the University Administration and recommends full Board approval:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Cleveland State University Board of Trustees approves the Bachelor Science Data Science and Health Sciences, Integrated Degree, to be housed in the Washkewicz College of Engineering.

RESOLUTION 2025-07

**APPROVAL OF NEW INTEGRATED DEGREE PROGRAM
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING
AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE**

WHEREAS, the Washkewicz College of Engineering and the College of Arts and Sciences have proposed to offer the Bachelor of Science Electrical Engineering and Environmental Science, Integrated Degree; and

WHEREAS, there is a demonstrated need for such a program in Northeast Ohio; and

WHEREAS, the proposed degree program has been reviewed and approved by all appropriate faculty entities and academic administrators, including approval by the Faculty Senate at its meeting of December 4, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the Academic Affairs and Student Success Committee has reviewed the proposed new integrated degree program as submitted by the University Administration and recommends full board approval:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Cleveland State University Board of Trustees approves the Bachelor of Science Electrical Engineering and Environmental Science, Integrated Degree, to be housed in the Washkewicz College of Engineering.

RESOLUTION 2025-08

APPROVAL OF AMENDMENTS TO THE FACULTY PERSONNEL POLICIES: ATTACHMENT A TO CHAPTER 3344-11 OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE CODE - 1940 STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES ON ACADEMIC FREEDOM AND TENURE

WHEREAS, amendments to attachment A to chapter 3344-11 of the administrative code (1940 statement of principles on academic freedom and tenure) have been proposed to promote and support the principles of academic freedom and tenure; and

WHEREAS, in 1940 the American Association of University Professors published their “Statement of Principles on Academic Freedom and Tenure”; and

WHEREAS, the American Association of University Professors revised the 1940 document with interpretative comments in 1970 to address the issue of introducing controversial matters in the classroom that have no relation to the subject; and

WHEREAS, the proposed attachment states that CSU faculty are entitled to freedom in the classroom in discussing the subject, however, they should avoid persistently introducing material in the classroom which has no relation to the subject of the course; and

WHEREAS, a faculty member’s expression of opinion as a citizen cannot constitute grounds for discipline or dismissal unless it clearly demonstrates that the faculty member is unfit for the faculty position in question; and

WHEREAS, the CSU Faculty Senate has approved the proposed amendment at its meeting on December 4, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the proposed amendments are currently posted on the University's website for a 30-day comment period as required by the Board's rulemaking policy; and

WHEREAS, the Academic Affairs and Student Success Committee has reviewed the proposed amendments as submitted by the University Administration and recommends full Board approval:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Cleveland State University Board of Trustees approves the amendments to attachment A to the University policies as presented; and further instructs the University Administration to file the amended policies with the Ohio Legislative Services Commission after the thirty-day comment period at which time said policies shall become final, subject to any changes or revisions deemed necessary by the General Counsel.

RESOLUTION 2025-09

FACULTY EMERITI STATUS

WHEREAS, faculty members can request emeriti status in accordance with the terms of the applicable University policy; and

WHEREAS, the Academic Affairs and Student Success Committee has reviewed this matter as submitted by the University Administration and recommends full Board approval:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Cleveland State University Board of Trustees awards the designation of emeritus or emerita, as appropriate to the faculty members listed in the attached Summary of Faculty Emeriti Nominations.

RESOLUTION 2025-10

RATIFICATION OF THE APPOINTMENT OF SONALI B. WILSON AS VICE PRESIDENT OF LEGAL AFFAIRS AND COMPLIANCE, GENERAL COUNSEL AND BOARD SECRETARY

WHEREAS, Sonali B. Wilson has served as General Counsel to Cleveland State University since 2004, and for much of that time has also served as Secretary to the Board of Trustees; and

WHEREAS, Sonali B. Wilson retired as of December 31, 2024, after 28 years of distinguished service to the University, having qualified for retirement under the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System; and

WHEREAS, Sonali B. Wilson has been a critical member of the University's senior leadership team, providing essential legal advice and counsel to the institution; and

WHEREAS, the Chair of the Board has designated Sonali B. Wilson as Board Secretary until elections take place at the annual meeting in May 2025; and

WHEREAS, the President of Cleveland State University has recommended to the Board of Trustees that Sonali B. Wilson be rehired as Vice President, General Counsel and Board Secretary, recognizing the importance of her continued service for leadership continuity and institutional stability; and

WHEREAS, rehiring Sonali B. Wilson will result in no additional cost to the University, as she has earned her retirement through her years of service and her re-employment will not increase the University's financial obligations:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Cleveland State University Board of Trustees ratifies the appointment of Sonali B. Wilson as Vice President, General Counsel and Board Secretary, effective January 1, 2025; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board extends its gratitude to Sonali B. Wilson for her many years of exemplary service and expresses confidence in her continued contributions to the success of Cleveland State University.

RESOLUTION 2025-11

ACCEPTING GIFTS AND PLEDGE PAYMENTS

2ND QUARTER, FY 2025

OCTOBER 1, 2024 TO DECEMBER 31, 2024

RESOLVED, that the gifts and pledge payments totaling \$ \$7,298,702 received by the Cleveland State University Foundation during the period October 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024 are hereby accepted with thanks; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the President is hereby directed to use these gifts subject to their terms and conditions.

NEW BUSINESS

Vice Chair Cosgrove announced that one item would be considered as a result of the Athletics Committee held earlier in the day; a resolution was approved by the Committee to move forward with the recommendations of the Athletics Review Working Group.

Moved by Trustee Starkoff; and with Trustee Whiting providing the second, Board Secretary Wilson called the roll which resulted in the approval of the following resolution.

RESOLUTION 2025-12

**AUTHORIZATION TO IMPLEMENT THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE
ATHLETICS REVIEW WORKING GROUP**

WHEREAS, in alignment with national trends in enrollment, the University has experienced financial challenges that have impacted the University's budget over several fiscal years; and

WHEREAS, throughout 2023 and 2024, the University completed a comprehensive assessment of business operations and needs which culminated in the Organizational Resilience and Financial Stability Consolidated Findings and Analysis report; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the Organizational Resilience and Financial Stability Consolidated Findings and Analysis report, units across the institution were tasked with making cost reductions and operational improvement measures to enhance the ongoing financial stability of the university; and

WHEREAS, given the unique nature of collegiate athletics, President Laura Bloomberg asked the University's Athletic Director to stand up an Athletics Review Working Group to take a comprehensive look at the Department of Athletics, their operations, and their budget model; and

WHEREAS, since October 2024, the Athletics Review Working Group has been working in partnership with outside counsel to undergo their comprehensive review; and

WHEREAS, the Athletics Review Working Group has completed their work and submitted recommendations to President Bloomberg on January 15, 2025; and

WHEREAS, President Bloomberg accepted the recommendations of the Athletics Review Working Group and is submitting them to the Athletics Committee for their review and consideration; and

WHEREAS, the Athletics Committee of the Board of Trustees has reviewed this matter as submitted by the University Administration and recommends full Board acceptance:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Cleveland State University Board of Trustees accepts the recommendations of the Athletics Review Working Group and authorizes the University's Athletics Director and President to implement the recommendations of the Athletics Review Working Group.

ADJOURNMENT

In closing, Vice Chair Cosgrove reminded members that their Financial Disclosure Statements need to be completed by March 15, and to contact the Board Office with any questions.

He announced that there was no further business and he thanked members for their participation.
The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

APPROVED ON MARCH 20, 2025

Sonali B. Wilson
Vice President of Legal Affairs and
Compliance, General Counsel and
Board Secretary

APPROVED ON MARCH 20, 2025

David M. Reynolds
Chairman, Board of Trustees