



## **BOARD OF TRUSTEES CLEVELAND STATE UNIVERSITY**

### **MINUTES OF THE MEETING**

#### **BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING**

- DATE:** Thursday, March 19, 2026; 8:00 a.m.
- PLACE:** Glickman-Miller Hall, 1717 Euclid Avenue, Bonda Community Board Room, Cleveland, Ohio 44115; and via Zoom.
- PRESENT:** Board Chair Timothy J. Cosgrove; Trustees Nikki C. Byrd, Paul J. Dolan, Diane M. Downing, Ronald Johnson, Jr., Alan G. Starkoff, Taras Szmagala, Jr., D. Geoffrey Vince, and Vanessa L. Whiting; Community Board Member David M. Reynolds; Ex Officio Member Michael B. Klein; Student Trustees Skye Carlson and Abigail Blackburn; Faculty Representatives Dr. Carol Olszewski and Dr. Linda Quinn; 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 Executive VP of Academic Affairs Nigamanth Sridhar; Chief of Staff and Chief Administrative Officer Patricia L. Franklin; Chief Financial Officer Nicole Addington; VP of Student Belonging and Success, Tachelle Banks; VP of Marketing and Communication Roy Gifford; Chief Information Officer Wesam Helou; Executive Director of Government Affairs, Caryn Candisky; VP of Enrollment Management, Andrew Crawford; Chief HR Manager, Douglas Dykes; VP, Advancement and Executive Director, CSU Foundation, Chad Warren; Dean, College of Health and Deans' Representative to the Senior Leadership Team, Stephanie Brooks; and Assistant Board Secretary, Heather A. Link.

Chair Cosgrove called the meeting to order at 8:12 a.m. and confirmed that a quorum was present. He reminded members that the meeting was being livestreamed on the CSU website for public viewing.

Chair Cosgrove called for a motion to approve the minutes of the January 21, 2026 Meeting; Trustee Szmagala provided the motion and Trustee Johnson seconded the motion. The minutes were approved by roll call.

## **REPORT OF THE CHAIR**

Chair Cosgrove welcomed invited faculty and librarians who joined the meeting, and he noted that these guests were invited as a part of the CSU tradition, whereby, after a long and rigorous internal and external review process, the members of the Board will vote to approve promotion and tenure.

Chair Cosgrove commented that, as an alumnus himself, he respects the role of faculty, and the relationship between teacher and student. Those interactions contributed to his professional growth.

Trustee Whiting noted that these faculty started the promotion process during the pandemic, and she congratulated them for their diligence and expertise. Trustee Byrd noted that when she attended CSU as a first-generation college student, the faculty and staff that she encountered offered caring guidance and were impactful.

Faculty Representative Quinn expressed gratitude to Board members for acknowledging the achievements of her colleagues.

President Bloomberg acknowledged that faculty are at the core and heart of any learning organization; faculty work to elevate new knowledge and then to translate that knowledge to students.

Chair Cosgrove noted that there are also two librarians being considered for promotion, and he thanked them for their expertise in providing a learning environment for both students and faculty.

Trustee Vince moved the approval of faculty promotion and tenure; Trustee Whiting seconded the motion. The following resolution was approved by roll call vote and with applause.

## **RESOLUTION 2026-11**

### **PROMOTION AND TENURE RECOMMENDATIONS AY2026 - 2027**

**WHEREAS**, the individuals in the attached exhibit have been reviewed by the appropriate Department and College committees, the Chairperson, the Dean, the University Peer Review Committee (where appropriate), the Provost and the President; and

**WHEREAS**, they have fulfilled the requirements for promotion and the award of tenure as set forth in Article 12 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 Rule 3344-11-03 of the CSU Faculty Personnel Policies; and

**WHEREAS**, the Academic Affairs and Student Success Committee of the Board of Trustees has reviewed the promotion and tenure recommendations as submitted by the University Administration and recommends full Board approval:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that Cleveland State University Board of Trustees approves the promotions to the rank of Professor, promotions to the rank of Clinical Professor with tenure and promotions to the rank of Associate Professor with tenure effective at the beginning of the 2026-2027 academic year for those individuals as recommended.

Trustee Downing moved the approval of promotion for the librarians; Trustee Whiting seconded the motion. The following resolution was approved by roll call vote and with applause.

#### **RESOLUTION 2026-12**

##### **PROMOTION OF LIBRARIANS RECOMMENDATIONS**

**WHEREAS**, the individuals in the attached exhibit have been reviewed by the appropriate Personnel Action Committee for Promotion of the Michael Schwartz Library, the Director of the Michael Schwartz Library, the Provost and the President; and

**WHEREAS**, they have fulfilled the requirements for promotion as set forth in Section 3344-62-03 (4) of the Librarians' Personnel Policies; and

**WHEREAS**, the Academic Affairs and Student Success Committee of the Board of Trustees has reviewed the librarian promotion recommendations 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 promotion to the rank of Librarian, effective July 1, 2026, for those individuals as recommended.

Chair Cosgrove welcomed new senior leadership who were attending their first Board meeting: Dr. Andrew Crawford and Dr. Chad Warren. He also reminded voting members to complete their financial disclosure statements by May 15.

Chair Cosgrove then turned to Student Trustee Skye Carlson and acknowledged that her term was ending May 1. He thanked her for outstanding service to the Board and CSU students, as well as her dynamic interactions throughout her tenure on the Board, engaging with members, faculty, and students.

Trustee Szmagala moved the resolution to recognize Ms. Carlson's contributions to the Board; Trustee Whiting seconded the motion. The following resolution was approved by roll call vote and with applause.

Student Trustee Carlson thanked members for the amazing opportunity to serve over the last two years and noted that it was her privilege to be able to contribute and participate on behalf of CSU students. She acknowledged Assistant Board Secretary Link for support and guidance, and Student Trustee Blackburn for camaraderie and shared dedication to the student representative position.

### **RESOLUTION 2026-13**

#### **RECOGNITION OF STUDENT TRUSTEE SKYE A. CARLSON**

**WHEREAS**, Skye A. Carlson was appointed by Governor Mike DeWine to the Cleveland State University Board of Trustees as a Student Trustee on November 8, 2024 for a two-year term ending May 1, 2026; and

**WHEREAS**, having enrolled in the College of Graduate Studies with an established reputation as a dynamic researcher and leader within the academic community, Ms. Carlson is pursuing a Doctor of Philosophy in Applied Biomedical Engineering in the Washkewicz College of Engineering, with a focus on developing advanced technologies for rehabilitation to improve the lives of individuals with spinal cord injuries; and

**WHEREAS**, Ms. Carlson demonstrates leadership and academic prowess, notably including her service as president of the CSU student-led organization Spinal Cord Injury Volunteer Corps, her role as a graduate research assistant at CSU's Center for Human Machine Systems, and through her attentive mentoring of student colleagues, among other examples; and

**WHEREAS**, Ms. Carlson has been an outstanding student representative for Cleveland State University at community events with wide-ranging constituents such as the Ohio Student Trustees conference, roundtable discussions on Ohio's Workforce Playbook hosted by Lt. Governor Tressel, and at the Association of Governing Boards National Conference on Trusteeship; and

**WHEREAS**, during her term as a student Trustee, to better and fully represent student perspectives at Board meetings, Ms. Carlson took initiative to explore and learn about the varied programs and components across campus, and to speak with faculty and staff to develop an understanding of their areas and how that work supports student success; and

**WHEREAS**, Ms. Carlson actively contributed to Board meetings providing relevant, thoughtful, and informative reports, and served dutifully on the Academic Affairs and Student Success, Athletics, and Financial Affairs standing committees of the Board:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that on behalf of the Cleveland State University community, the Board of Trustees conveys appreciation and gratitude to Ms. Skye A. Carlson for her dedicated service and contributions in support of the University and its success, and furthermore encourages her to stay in touch with her Board colleagues as she continues to advance in her impressive academic career in biomedical engineering.

Chair Cosgrove closed his report by recognizing Board Secretary, Sonali B. Wilson, for being recognized by the City of Cleveland with a Hidden Figure Award in recognition of her leadership and legal expertise within Northeast Ohio.

### **REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT**

President Bloomberg thanked members who were able to participate in a very successful *Giving Day*. She reported having the opportunity to meet with alumni and university friends during scheduled visits to Florida and Arizona. CSU alumnus, Mr. Kenn Ricci, hosted an event and spoke about his appreciation of the University. Dr. Bloomberg was also able to meet with a CSU law student who lives in Arizona, is currently enrolled in CSU's online-JD program, and who spoke highly of the program.

She reported that the University has received four Civic Engagement and Community Service Awards from *Insight Into Academia Magazine*, in recognition of demonstrated innovation and sustained commitment to community partnership (Lift Up Vikes! Resource Center and Food Pantry, Center for Refugee and Immigrant Success, community impact through the College of Health, and the Student-Athlete Advisory Council).

President Bloomberg highlighted a novel initiative of CSU Athletics and alumnus and local celebrity, Tim Misney, including a bobblehead giveaway and customized promotional video. After having an insightful conversation with Mr. Misney, she acknowledged that CSU alumni want to support the University's initiatives, and she looks forward to continuing to identify the ways for that to happen.

She reported on the Cleveland State United priorities, associated initiatives, and deepening strategic partnerships. Among these are the TEDxClevelandStateUniversity, the CSU Talent Hub, and The Ideastream Experience @ CSU. She envisions that as community and other partnerships become more embedded within the University, more field-specific opportunities for students will be identified.

President Bloomberg acknowledged the CSU Compass enterprise resource planning initiative is imperative and that the planning and implementation phases are at the core to its success.

She highlighted several upcoming spring events and will send calendar details to members (President's Concert performed by the School of Music, Faculty Excellence Ceremony, Radiance, Spring Commencement Ceremonies, and TEDxClevelandStateUniversity).

President Bloomberg brought forward a resolution to ratify the appointment of Dr. Andrew Crawford as VP of Enrollment Management.

Trustee Downing moved the resolution for approval; Trustee Szmagala seconded the motion. The following resolution was approved by roll call vote.

#### **RESOLUTION 2026-14**

#### **RATIFICATION OF THE APPOINTMENT OF DR. ANDREW CRAWFORD AS VICE PRESIDENT OF ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT**

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Crawford brings 20 years of professional experience to CSU, having served at other institutions of higher education in the state, including Cuyahoga Community College (Tri-C), The Ohio State University and Ohio University, and most recently as Associate Vice President at Kent State University; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Crawford earned his Doctor of Education from Ferris State University, authoring a dissertation that specifically explored student data within Cuyahoga County, and he holds a Leadership Certification from Harvard University's Institute for Management and Leadership Education; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Crawford has gained extensive experience in advocating for student success, growing community partnerships and crafting university policies in a collaborative environment, and throughout his career he has shown the ability to build strong teams and deliver results:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Cleveland State University Board of Trustees ratifies the appointment of Dr. Andrew Crawford as Vice President of Enrollment Management, effective March 9, 2026.

President Bloomberg brought forward a resolution to ratify the appointment of Dr. Chad Warren as VP of Advancement and Executive Director of the CSU Foundation.

Trustee Vince moved the resolution for approval; Trustee Johnson seconded the motion. The following resolution was approved by roll call vote.

**RESOLUTION 2026-15**

**RATIFICATION OF THE APPOINTMENT OF DR. CHAD WARREN  
AS VICE PRESIDENT OF ADVANCEMENT AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE  
CSU FOUNDATION**

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Warren is joining CSU with a professional history of more than 20 years in fundraising and higher education, having served in roles at the University of Dayton, Florida State University, The Ohio State University and the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, and he has most recently served as President and Chief Philanthropy Officer at St. Rose Dominican Health Foundation; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Warren earned his bachelor's degree from the University of Dayton, his MBA from Saint Leo University in Florida, and his Doctor of Public Policy from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Warren's track-record of success in philanthropic attainment, corporate and community partnerships, and developing advancement department infrastructure and personnel will guide the Cleveland State University Foundation into the future:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Cleveland State University Board of Trustees ratifies the appointment of Dr. Chad Warren as Vice President of Advancement and Executive Director of the CSU Foundation, effective March 9, 2026.

**ACADEMIC AFFAIRS and STUDENT SUCCESS COMMITTEE UPDATE  
and REPORT OF THE PROVOST**

Board Chair Cosgrove noted that the Governance Committee will be meeting and that Committee Chair Byrd will bring forward amendments to the Board Bylaw's at the May meeting. Committee Chair Whiting reported that the Committee met on March 12, 2026. The committee received an academic and curriculum update from the Provost and an update on the Division of Student Belonging and Success from Dr. Banks.

Ms. Candisky, Executive Director for Government Affairs, provided the committee with an update and highlighted the Levin College's Columbus Seminar. She thanked the Cuyahoga County delegation and others who were generous of their time with the students.

Committee Chair Whiting reported that the committee will begin to receive regular updates and presentations on CSU's curriculum and the Board member requirements in the review process (HB 96 requirements). She also noted that the consent agenda includes items that the Committee approved.

Provost Sridhar reported the University's curriculum approval policy is due to the ODHE Chancellor by March 31. He reminded members that there are a number of upcoming changes underway that include that all curricular actions must be approved by the Trustees, and all undergraduate syllabi are required to be posted online.

Provost Sridhar updated members on the CSU Talent hub and how it is in alignment with the Cleveland State United strategic plan. The vision for the Talent Hub includes student learning outcomes and providing students with professional experiences. Materials provided to members included objectives for Year 1 and 2 of the Talent Hub, and the public launch is scheduled for Fall 2026.

He noted that many of CSU's academic programs already have work-based learning that are well integrated with curriculum, or are considered immersive experiences, like the Levin College's Columbus Seminar.

Trustee Johnson asked the Provost if outreach is being done to small- and medium-sized companies to learn how they may help to offer opportunities to students. Provost Sridhar noted that a discussion has been held with the Greater Cleveland Partnership, and it is the University's responsibility to create the framework with which to approach those companies. CSU's current initiatives with the digital humanities program and partner organizations may serve as a template for the future.

Provost Sridhar will regularly update members on progress in launching the Talent Hub, including data that will be collected throughout the process. The goal is to have the Hub fully integrated into the curriculum by the end of this strategic plan.

Trustee Downing asked about the plans to coordinate across all academic programs. President Bloomberg acknowledged that as the plans for the launch of the Talent Hub continue, faculty will be working on creating new curriculum so that these types of opportunities become fully integrated into program offerings.

Trustee Starkoff asked if there were plans to integrate information about the Talent Hub with marketing materials that are available to prospective students. VP Gifford assured him that there are.

**FINANCIAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE UPDATE and REPORT OF THE CFO and EADC  
PRESIDENT**

Committee Chair Starkoff reported that the Committee met on March 12. The agenda included an update from CFO Addington, an introduction of new VP of Enrollment Management, Dr. Andrew Crawford, and an update on capital projects currently underway from Chief Administrative Officer Franklin.

The committee also heard an update from the University's investment advisors who provided an investment update and some considerations to better clarify the current policy (Clearstead Investment Advisors).

Committee Chair Starkoff reported that several items for action were reviewed and will be considered for approval or are included on the consent agenda. He also reported that the committee met in executive session.

CFO Addington reported on financials including: the FY26 year-to-date update, FY27 budget update, cash update, and purchase order analysis.

She reminded members that the administration has requested that the Board consider the approval of the FY27 budget in June 2026. Once approved, departments will receive final budget distribution.

Ms. Addington provided members with a high-level overview of the Euclid Avenue Development Corporations (EADC) operations and current state of owned properties. She explained that pro formas for the Edge and Langston properties are being constructed to measure and monitor occupancy projections.

Chief Administrative Officer Franklin was called on to clarify outstanding questions regarding the authorization to complete repairs to CSU's Central Garage. Having provided materials to members in advance of the meeting, including an analysis of identified issues, state-approved identified engineering consultant, pricing estimates, studied parking needs across campus, and other background, Ms. Franklin asked if there were any questions.

Committee Chair Starkoff acknowledged the necessity and urgency for the repairs. Trustee Downing appreciated the analysis and explanation of the review process and asked for regular updates on the project.

After a review of the analysis, Chair Cosgrove supported moving forward, with the note that members should be notified of any red flags or adjustments in costs, throughout the process.

Trustee Downing moved the authorization; Trustee Szmaga provided the second. The following resolution was approved by roll call vote.

**RESOLUTION 2026-16**

**AUTHORIZATION TO COMPLETE REPAIRS TO THE CENTRAL GARAGE**

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Trustees approves all capital projects for University owned facilities; and

**WHEREAS**, Cleveland State University operates approximately 4,800 parking spaces over 29 parking facilities across campus; and

**WHEREAS**, high demand for University parking is expected to continue; and

**WHEREAS**, Central Garage is a vital parking facility centrally located on the campus of Cleveland State University and it is the largest and most used garage on campus with over 24,000 visits per month; and

**WHEREAS**, repairs to the entire Central Garage structure are necessary and critical to its long-term use; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Trustees has reviewed the matter as submitted by the University Administration:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Cleveland State University Board of Trustees authorizes the University administration to use \$5,745,000 in university funds to restore Central Garage.

Ms. Franklin brought forth the resolution for an increase to parking rates, which was previously approved by the Financial Affairs Committee.

Student Trustee Blackburn acknowledged that the rate increase was modest and asked that students be kept in mind when increases are considered. Faculty Representative Olszewski recognized that street-level parking and other nearby parking lots around campus are also raising rates.

CFO Addington confirmed that parking is a profitable business for the University; community parking for downtown events adds to income, and the University is studying the pros and cons of offering overnight parking for non-CSU affiliates.

Trustee Szmagala moved the authorization; Trustee Starkoff provided the second. The following resolution was approved by roll call vote.

**RESOLUTION 2026-17**

**AUTHORITY TO INCREASE PERMIT PARKING RATES BEGINNING IN FISCAL  
YEAR 2027**

**WHEREAS**, University operates approximately 4,800 parking spaces over 29 parking facilities across campus; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Trustees approves all parking permit rates for University-operated parking facilities; and

**WHEREAS**, high demand for University parking is expected to continue; and

**WHEREAS**, the University strives to maintain parking permit fees that are affordable and competitive as compared to parking fees at parking facilities adjacent to campus; and

**WHEREAS**, a 2% increase in University parking permit fees beginning in Fiscal Year 2027 will maintain University permit fees at an affordable and competitive rate in comparison with parking lots adjacent to campus; and

**WHEREAS**, to maximize parking revenue, the University recommends that its Parking and Transportation Services offer limited public parking permits at certain underutilized parking facilities on campus; and

**WHEREAS**, the Financial Affairs Committee of the Board of Trustees has reviewed the 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 authorizes the University administration to increase all permit parking fees by 2.0% effective July 1, 2026, and offer limited public parking permits at certain underutilized parking facilities on campus, as outlined in the attached background document.

Ms. Franklin brought forth the resolution for the approval of meal plan and housing rate increases. She noted for the record that the previously approved rates by the Financial Affairs Committee were adjusted down to accommodate a rate cap of 3.2% for Fenn Tower only.

Trustee Downing moved the rate increases; Trustee Whiting provided the second. The following resolution was approved by roll call vote.

**RESOLUTION 2026-18**

**APPROVAL OF MEAL PLAN AND HOUSING RATE INCREASES**

**WHEREAS**, Ohio Revised Code (ORC) Section 3345.48 authorized the University Board of Trustees to establish a cohort-based undergraduate tuition guarantee plan for in-state and out-of-state degree seeking students; and

**WHEREAS**, on November 29, 2017, the Board of Trustee passed Resolution 2017-111 adopting a cohort-based University Undergraduate Tuition Guarantee Plan (the “Plan”) providing that tuition, certain mandatory fees, and room and board charges will not increase over a four academic year period for each entering cohort of first-time students, and a proportional period of time for new transfer students; and

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with the Plan, the University administration proposes cohort-based fee increases beginning in Fall Semester 2026 for meal plans and housing as set forth in Exhibit “A”; and

**WHEREAS**, the Financial Affairs Committee has reviewed the matter as presented by the University administration and recommends full Board approval:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Cleveland State University Board of Trustees approve the proposed fees for residential and community meal plans as specified below, to be effective beginning Fall Semester 2026.

**EXHIBIT “A”**

**Proposed Meal Plan Fee Increases beginning with Fall Semester 2026 Cohort:**

| <b>Product Name</b>      | <b>FY27 Proposed Purchase Price</b> | <b>Viking Marketplace Access</b> | <b>Dining Dollars-Retail</b> | <b>FY26 Purchase Price</b> |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Green & White All Access | \$2,576                             | Unlimited swipes                 | \$400                        | \$2,501                    |
| Weekly 14                | \$2,007                             | 14 swipes per week               | \$150                        | \$1,949                    |
| Block 135                | \$1,454                             | 135 swipes per semester          | \$250                        | \$1,412                    |
| Weekly 5                 | \$1,245                             | 5 swipes per week.               | \$500                        | \$1,209                    |

**EXHIBIT “A”  
(continued)**

**Proposed Student Housing Rate Increases beginning with Fall Semester 2026 Cohort:**

| <b>Product Name</b> | <b>Room Type</b> | <b>FY27 Proposed Room Rate</b>                             | <b>FY26 Room Rates</b>    |
|---------------------|------------------|--|---------------------------|
| Fenn Tower          | Double           | \$4,179  | FY24 \$4,049              |
| Fenn Tower          | Quad             | \$4,824  | FY24 \$4,674              |
| Euclid Commons      | Private Bedroom  | \$5,306  | \$5,202                   |
| Euclid Commons      | Shared Bedroom   | \$5,046  | \$4,947                   |
|                     |                  |  |                           |
|                     |                  | <b>FY 27 Proposed Monthly Rent/Total Rent for 12-month</b> | <b>FY26 Semester Rate</b> |
| The Langston        | Studio           | \$1,150/\$13,800   | \$6,643                   |
| The Langston        | 1 Bedroom        | \$1,435/\$17,220   | \$7,699                   |
| The Langston        | 2 Bedroom        | \$990/\$11,880   | \$5,722                   |
| The Langston        | 3 Bedroom        | \$889/\$10,668   | \$5,592                   |
| The Langston        | 4 Bedroom        | \$799/\$9,588  | \$5,462                   |
| The Edge            | 1 Bedroom        | \$1,450/\$17,400   | \$9,017                   |
| The Edge            | 2 Bedroom        | \$990/\$11,880   | \$5,610                   |
| The Edge            | 4 Bedroom        | \$799/\$9,588  | \$5,355                   |

Additionally, students at The Edge and The Langston may sign a short-term lease for ten (10) months but pay an additional proposed short-term premium of \$150 per month in addition to the rental amounts above.

### **REPORT OF THE CIO**

Chair Cosgrove called on CIO Helou for an update on CSU Compass and the technology transformation. Dr. Helou reported that the team has been working diligently to follow the timeline of the project, and he acknowledged the campus community for being fully engaged and supportive of the process. The CSU Compass Kickoff is scheduled for April 21 and 22, and more details will be provided soon.

Dr. Helou is taking every opportunity available to engage with campus constituents at regularly scheduled meetings, including those of the senior leadership teams and Faculty Senate, to answer questions and to reinforce the CSU Compass enterprise resource planning transformation and culture shift.

### **REPORT FROM THE STUDENT TRUSTEES**

Student Trustees Carlson and Blackburn reported that they attended the Ohio Student Trustee Conference in Columbus.

Ms. Carlson suggested that information be better communicated with students regarding events and opportunities on campus; for example, reinstating a weekly student electronic newsletter that includes a calendar of upcoming events. She acknowledged that there are many worthwhile events on campus, and more regular communication could help connect commuter students with campus activities that they may not be aware of.

Trustee Blackburn asked about the future CSU Talent Hub and requested that participation not be mandatory for all students. Some students are focused on specific areas that require dedicated time and attention, and some have full- or part-time jobs.

Trustee Carlson requested more clarity on the services offered at CSU's satellite MetroHealth clinic; there is an opportunity to better serve the students with consistent staffing and enhanced services.

### **REPORT FROM FACULTY REPRESENTATIVES**

Faculty Representative Quinn thanked the members for celebrating the achievements of her peers. The breakfast held prior to the meeting and the sincere recognition of her colleagues is appreciated.

She acknowledged her faculty colleagues who are ranked as college lecturer or professor of practice, and who also received promotions or reappointments approved by the administration. Dr. Quinn noted that these subject expert faculty are often the first educators that students interact with, and sometimes are the faculty who are responsible for teaching Inquiry Launch Core Curriculum, large lecture-style, and introductory classes.

Faculty Representative Olszewski expressed gratitude for the special morning that included faculty, and the kind words of support from the members. She acknowledged Student Trustee Carlson, noting that the future is bright with young leaders.

Dr. Olszewski reported that there is a committee tasked with working on guidance for the faculty annual review process and that the Provost requested the work be finalized by April 1.

### **REPORT OF THE CSU FOUNDATION**

Board member Klein introduced the new VP of Advancement, Dr. Chad Warren, noting that he has only been in the position for a matter of days, and that the CSU Foundation is excited and enthusiastic about the appointment.

Dr. Warren offered introductory remarks regarding the opportunities that exist around current initiatives of Cleveland State University. As the University's reputation continues to grow for providing meaningful experiences and innovative programs, he is looking forward to increased excitement from potential partners and supporters.

Board member Klein reported that the 2026 *Giving Day* raised a University record of \$954 thousand dollars from 2,600 donors.

Dr. Warren reported on the Alumni Association's recent successful initiative, "Vikings on the Road," where the University partnered with alumni and friends to host successful events in Florida, Arizona, and Columbus, Ohio. Dr. Warren acknowledged that these types of regional events attract alumni who are eager to engage with CSU, especially because it allows them to hear about their alma mater, even if they no longer live in the area.

Chair Cosgrove thanked them for the report, and he underscored the importance of the Radiance fundraiser. He hopes for full Board participation and that members will participate in the

fundraising as they are able. Trustee Downing suggested that the Advancement Office reach out to past honorees and encourage their participation.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

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.

Trustee Johnson moved, and Trustee Whiting seconded, the motion to approve the following consent agenda items: Approval of Curriculum Review Policy; Approval of New Degree Program: BA in Law and Society; Approval of Religious Accommodations Policy; Lease of Lot 50 to Cross Country Mortgage; Authorization to Execute Contracts Necessary for Design and Construction Services for MEP Improvements within Rhodes Tower and the Music Building; Approval of First Amendment to MOU between CSU and EADC; Approval of Amendment to the Alternative Retirement Plan (ARP).

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

### **RESOLUTION 2026-19**

#### **APPROVAL OF CURRICULUM APPROVAL POLICY**

**WHEREAS**, Section 3345.457 of the Ohio Revised Code requires Cleveland State University to create a curricular approval process to establish and modify academic programs, curricula, courses, general education requirements, and degree programs; and

**WHEREAS**, Section 3345.457 of the O.R.C. also decrees that the Cleveland State University Board of Trustees has ultimate authority to establish new academic programs, schools, colleges, institutes, departments, and centers at the institution; and

**WHEREAS**, notwithstanding anything in section 3333.0420 of the Revised Code to the contrary, the Cleveland State University Board of Trustees does not delegate the Board's authority to adopt a curricular approval process under this section or to approve or reject academic programs; and

**WHEREAS**, the University Administration recommends the approval of the curriculum approval process to ensure compliance with the new regulations; and

**WHEREAS**, the draft policy is 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 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 recommends approves the Curriculum Approval Policy; and further instructs the University Administration to file the Policy with the Ohio Legislative Services Commission after the thirty-day comment period at which time said Policy shall become final, subject to any changes or revisions that are required or deemed necessary by the General Counsel.

**RESOLUTION 2026-20**

**APPROVAL OF NEW DEGREE PROGRAM  
BACHELOR OF ARTS, LAW AND SOCIETY**

**WHEREAS**, the College of Arts and Science has proposed to offer the Bachelor of Arts, Law and Society; 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 February 18, 2026; and

**WHEREAS**, the Academic Affairs and Student Success Committee has reviewed the proposed new 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 Arts, Law and Society, to be housed in the College of Arts and Sciences.

**RESOLUTION 2026-21**

**APPROVAL OF RELIGIOUS ACCOMMODATIONS POLICY**

**WHEREAS**, Section 3345.026 of the Ohio Revised Code requires Cleveland State University to create and maintain a policy that “reasonably accommodates the sincerely held religious beliefs and practices of individual students with regard to all examinations and other academic requirements and absences for reasons of faith or religious or spiritual belief system.”; and

**WHEREAS**, Section 3345.026 of the O.R.C. also provides prescriptive requirements including the allowance of three excused absences for religious accommodations if requested within the first fourteen days of a class; the creation of a non-exhaustive list of major religious holidays or festivals recognized by CSU; the posting of this policy within each course syllabus, including the mechanism for making an accommodation request; and an affiliated grievance procedure related to religious accommodations; and

**WHEREAS**, the Office of General Counsel drafted the Religious Accommodations Policy following the requirements of the regulation; and

**WHEREAS**, the draft policy was posted on the University's website for a 30-day comment period as required by the Board's rulemaking policy; and

**WHEREAS**, the University Administration recommends the approval of the Religious Accommodations policy to ensure compliance with regulations; and

**WHEREAS**, the Academic Affairs and Student Success Committee has reviewed the proposed new Religious Accommodations Policy as submitted by the University Administration and recommends full Board approval:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Cleveland State University Board of Trustees recommends approves the Religious Accommodations Policy; and further instructs the University Administration to file the approved policy with the Ohio Legislative Services Commission after which time said Policy shall become final, subject to any changes or revisions deemed necessary by the General Counsel.

#### **RESOLUTION 2026-22**

#### **AUTHORIZING THE LEASE OF LOT 50 SURFACE PARKING TO CROSS COUNTRY MORTGAGE, LLC**

**WHEREAS**, the University owns certain real property located at the southeast corner of Payne Avenue and East 22nd Street in Cleveland, Ohio, being permanent parcel number 102-32-053, on which is constructed a surface parking lot known as CSU Lot 50 (together "Lot 50"); and

**WHEREAS**, the University has determined it has enough surface parking throughout campus to adequately serve students, faculty, staff and visitors; and

**WHEREAS**, the University has determined that leasing Lot 50 would not have a detrimental effect on its ability to provide adequate surface parking for its students, faculty, staff and visitors; and

**WHEREAS**, Cross Country Mortgage, LLC ("CCM") desires to lease Lot 50 from the University on the terms stated in the attached Exhibit A; 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 authorizes the University administration to lease Lot 50 to Cross Country Mortgage, LLC, subject to the review and revisions as deemed necessary and proper by the Office of General Counsel to protect the interests of the University.

**Exhibit A**  
**Lease Terms for CSU Parking Lot 50**

**Premises:** University shall lease 239 parking spaces within the parking lot located at southeast corner of Payne Avenue and East 22nd Street known as “CSU Lot 50”.

**Initial Term:** five (5) years

**Extension Term:** the lease term shall automatically renew for five (5) one (1) year terms unless either party provides written notice of termination to the other party a minimum of ninety (90) days prior to the end of the then current term.

**Rental Rate:** CCM shall pay to University the sum of \$30,700/month (“Rental Rate”). The Rental Rate after the Initial Term shall automatically increase 5% per year.

**Use:** CCM shall have exclusive use of the Premises solely for parking of CCM’s passenger vehicles for employees, company vehicles, and its customer parking. CCM agrees that all use will comply with applicable laws, regulations, and property rules. CCM will not compete with University and sell monthly parking to the general public or operate the Premises for special events. CCM shall not have the right to sublet any part of the parking area. Under no circumstances may the Premises be used for construction staging or operations.

**Parking Lot Oversight:** CCM shall be solely responsible for the monitoring and enforcement of the Premises including issuing warnings or notices, arranging for towing or removal of unauthorized vehicles, and implementing procedures necessary to maintain orderly and safe use of the parking area.

**Resurfacing:** University shall resurface the entire Premises prior to delivering the Premises to CCM. CCM shall pay 100% of the resurfacing cost (not to exceed \$110,000.00) over the first 12 months (as billed by University in the first year)

**Maintenance, Improvements and Repairs:** CCM solely at its cost and expense, shall maintain the parking lot in good working order, including resurfacing of pavement, lighting, striping, signage, and snow/ice removal (when applicable). CCM shall keep the Premises clean and free of rubbish and debris. Any equipment determined to be necessary by the CCM, such as signage, security cameras, or access control systems, shall be installed and paid for by the CCM.

**Insurance:** CCM shall maintain appropriate insurance, including property and general liability coverage, throughout the Term.

**Redevelopment Right:** University shall retain the right to redevelop the site (with a 6-month written notice to Tenant). If University exercises said redevelop right, then University shall repay the unamortized resurfacing costs (as a termination fee).

**RESOLUTION 2026-23**

**AUTHORIZATION TO EXECUTE CONTRACTS NECESSARY FOR DESIGN AND  
CONSTRUCTION SERVICES FOR MEP IMPROVEMENTS WITHIN RHODES  
TOWER AND THE MUSIC BUILDING**

**WHEREAS,** the University has committed to continuing critical mechanical, electrical, and plumbing (“MEP”) infrastructure improvements on campus; and

**WHEREAS,** the University Administration has identified Rhodes Tower and the Music Building as high priorities for MEP improvements due to the condition of their existing systems; and

**WHEREAS,** the University Administration desires to modernize domestic water systems and address roof leaks within Rhodes Tower, and improve humidity levels in the Music Building, bringing them both up to current standards; and

**WHEREAS,** the Board of Trustees retains exclusive authority to approve all capital projects involving University-owned facilities; and

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

**WHEREAS,** the MEP Project requires an estimated \$3,278,602 to complete a single-phase construction plan to support the University’s commitment to continuing critical MEP infrastructure improvements; and

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

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** the Cleveland State University Board of Trustees approves, authorizes and delegates authority to the University Administration to negotiate execute, and deliver all necessary agreements for MEP Project, subject to review by the University’s General Counsel to protect the University’s legal and financial interests.

**RESOLUTION 2026-24**

**APPROVAL OF FIRST AMENDMENT TO MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING  
BETWEEN CLEVELAND STATE UNIVERSITY**

**AND EUCLID AVENUE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION**

**THIS FIRST AMENDMENT TO MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (“MOU”)** is made and entered into as of the date of last signature below (“**Effective Date**”) by and between **CLEVELAND STATE UNIVERSITY (“CSU”** or the “**University**”) and **EUCLID AVENUE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (“EADC”)**.

**WHEREAS**, CSU and EADC entered into that certain Memorandum of Understanding dated May 14, 2024 (“MOU”), which sets forth the understandings between the parties regarding certain administrative and operational services provided by CSU personnel in support of the EADC Projects and its organizational purpose, and which establishes protocols for information sharing between the parties; and

**WHEREAS**, CSU and EADC now desire to amend the MOU as set forth below; and

**WHEREAS**, the Financial Affairs Committee of the Board of Trustees has reviewed the matter as presented and recommends full Board approval:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Cleveland State University Board of Trustees approves the first amendment to the MOU between CSU and EADC as follows:

**1. Amendments to the MOU.**

Section 1.3b., Operational Servies, is hereby deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:

Subject to applicable law, University policy, and Section 2.1 below, the University will manage, coordinate, and provide operational services including, but not limited to project and construction management, janitorial services, maintenance, and repairs and ancillary services “Operational Services” necessary to effectuate an EADC Project, as reasonably requested by EADC and as agreed to by the University.

1.2 Schedule 2.3 is hereby deleted in its entirety and replaced by the attached Schedule 2.3-1A.

1.3 Exhibit “A” is hereby deleted in its entirety and replaced by the attached Exhibit A-1.

**2. Reaffirmation; Definitions.**

Except as expressly modified by this Amendment, CSU and EADC hereby acknowledge and reaffirm the understandings set forth in the MOU. Capitalized terms used but not defined in this Amendment have the meanings ascribed to them in the MOU.

**2. Understandings.** Except as modified by this Amendment, CSU and EADC Landlord hereby acknowledge and reaffirm their understandings of the parties set forth in the MOU.

**3. Capitalization.** Capitalized terms not expressly defined in this Amendment shall have the meaning set forth in the MOU.

## **RESOLUTION 2026-25**

### **APPROVAL OF AMENDED AND RESTATED ALTERNATIVE RETIREMENT PLAN**

**WHEREAS**, Cleveland State University (the “University”) previously adopted and currently maintains the Cleveland State University Alternative Retirement Plan (the “Plan”), which was established on January 1, 1999, and is amended and restated from time to time; and

**WHEREAS**, the Plan is a pre-approved plan maintained by The Ohio State University (the “Pre-Approved Plan Provider”) as the Alternative Retirement Plan (the “Pre-Approved Plan”), and is the subject of an Opinion Letter issued by the Internal Revenue Service dated June 30, 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, as an “adopting employer” of the Pre-Approved Plan, the University now desires to amend and restate the Plan, effective January 1, 2023, to comply with the requirements of the Internal Revenue Service (“IRS”) regarding the restatement of pre-approved plans and to ensure continued reliance on the Opinion Letter issued to Pre-Approved Plan Provider with respect to the Pre-Approved Plan; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Section 8.3 of the Plan, on behalf of the University, the Board of Trustees of the University has the power and authority to amend and restate the “Plan”; and

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

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that, pursuant to Section 8.3 of the Plan, the amendment and restatement of the Plan, in substantially the form as attached hereto, is hereby adopted, effective as of January 1, 2023, in order to comply with the requirements of the IRS regarding the SECURE 2.0 ACT of 2022 under which the Required Minimum Distribution Date (RMD) has been increased; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the University administration recommends and the Board approves that the RMDs must commence to the Plan Participant no later than the Participant’s required beginning date, and further that “Required Beginning Date” shall mean the April 1 of the calendar year in which the Participant attains the applicable age within the meaning of IRC Section 401(a)(9)(C)(v), subject to ORC Section 3305.07; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Board authorizes the administration of the University, to execute the above-mentioned amendment and restatement of the Plan and any further and future amendments and changes to the Plan, as permitted by law, in order to ensure continued reliance on the Opinion Letter issued to Pre-Approved Plan Provider with respect to the Pre-Approved Plan; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that said officers be, and each of them hereby is, authorized and directed to take such actions and to execute and deliver such other instruments and documents as any of them shall deem necessary or appropriate to effectuate the purpose and intent of the foregoing resolutions, including, without limitation, making any necessary changes to the amendment and restatement of the Plan, with the advice of counsel, as may be required to ensure compliance with the applicable provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, any rules and regulations thereunder, and the Ohio Revised Code, or obtaining a written determination from the IRS that the Plan is qualified under Section 401(a) of the Code.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Chair Cosgrove moved for the Board to recess into Executive Session to discuss matters required by law to be kept confidential, to discuss imminent and pending litigation with the University General Counsel, to discuss matters related to collective bargaining, and to discuss personnel matters involving the employment of public employees. Trustee Downing seconded the motion.

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

Chair Cosgrove excused everyone except the voting trustees, President Bloomberg, ex officio member Klein, Community Trustee Reynolds, Associate General Counsel King, Provost Sridhar, CFO Addington, Chief of Staff Franklin, Chief HR Officer Dykes, CIO Helou, AD Harkey, Dean's Representative Brooks, VP Banks, Executive Director Candisky, VP Crawford, VP Warren, VP Gifford, Associate General Counsel Campbell, Sr. Director of CISO Mansoor, PM Consultant Chudy, AVP VandeVelde, Vice Provost Henry, Ms. McCrone, Assistant Board Secretary Link, and VP, General Counsel and Board Secretary Wilson.

The executive session began at 11:15 a.m.

At 1:05 p.m., Chair Cosgrove announced that the Board had finished its business in Executive Session and was returning to its regular meeting.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Chair Cosgrove announced that one item of business would be considered as a result of the Executive Session and noted that the University has conducted a thorough process in identifying a consultant to provide real estate development services. He thanked Trustees Whiting and Downing for participating in that process.

Trustee Szmagala moved the approval of the resolution; and Trustee Downing provided the second. The following resolution was approved by roll call vote.

**RESOLUTION 2026-26**

**APPROVAL OF RECOMMENDATION TO ENGAGE  
BRAILSFORD & DUNLAVEY, INC., TO PROVIDE REAL ESTATE  
DEVELOPMENT CONSULTANT SERVICES TO THE UNIVERSITY**

**WHEREAS**, in 2025, the Board directed the commencement of a Request for Qualifications (“RFQ”) process to select a qualified and experienced real estate development consultant to bring a fresh perspective and thinking to the University’s holdings and ensure the entire Cleveland State University (“University”) campus is fully optimized and that all real estate assets and improvements support the university's strategic goals; and

**WHEREAS**, the University issued an RFQ on November 21, 2025, with response due by January 16, 2026; and

**WHEREAS**, the RFQ yielded four finalists who were invited to tour the campus on Monday, February 2, 2026; and

**WHEREAS**, the four finalists presented their qualifications and experience to the University RFQ Committee on Friday, March 13, 2026; and

**WHEREAS**, following their presentations, interviews with each finalist, and the opportunity to further analyze and consider their proposals, the Committee unanimously recommended Brailsford & Dunlavey, Inc., be submitted to the Board for their consideration; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Trustees has reviewed the proposal and is in support of the recommendation made by the University Administration:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Cleveland State University Board of Trustees hereby approves the recommendation to move forward with Brailsford & Dunlavey, Inc., (“B&D”) to provide real estate development consultant services to the University; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Board of Trustees authorizes the Office of the General Counsel to work with B&D toward developing a mutually satisfactory consultancy agreement, subject to Board approval; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the President, in consultation with the Board, shall form a real estate development team to work with B&D to meet the strategic goals stated in the RFQ; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Board Chair and appropriate Board Committee shall receive updates on the recommendations and progress of the real estate development consultant at regular intervals throughout its engagement, and shall be kept informed of any significant developments or changes related to the consultancy project; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that real estate or construction projects, related agreements or transactions arising from the consultant's recommendations shall be subject to approval by the Board of Trustees in accordance with University policies and state law.

Chair Cosgrove announced that he spoke with Governance Committee Chair Byrd, and that a nominating committee has been named to oversee the election process and to present a recommended slate of officers at the annual meeting in May. The nominating committee will be chaired by Trustee Byrd, and will include Trustees Johnson, Starkoff, and Szmagala.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Asking if there were any other items of business to discuss, and hearing none, Chair Cosgrove thanked members and administrators for a productive meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

**APPROVED ON MAY 21, 2026**

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

**APPROVED ON MAY 21, 2026**

Timothy J. Cosgrove  
Chair, Board of Trustees