



DINÉ COLLEGE

THE HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTION OF THE NAVAJO NATION SINCE 1968

Board of Regents

Diné College Board of Regents Regular Meeting

Meeting Start Time: 9:00 AM MST

Meeting Start Date: 11/13/2020

Meeting Location: Teleconference

Remote Meeting Details: <https://dinecollege.zoom.us/j/91567214467>

Or Join by Phone: (669)900-9128

Meeting ID: 915 6721 4467

Minutes – Approved on January 15, 2021

Regent Toadecheenie motioned to approve minutes, seconded by Regent Thinn. Vote: 6-0-0.

I. Call to Order. The Diné College Board of Regents convened at 9:08 AM Friday, November 13, 2020, with the Board President Greg Bigman presiding and calling the meeting to order.

II. Roll Call

- Regent Greg Bigman, President
- Regent Theresa Hatathlie, Vice President
- Regent Sharon Toadecheenie, Treasurer
- Regent LeTanya Thinn, Secretary
- Regent Johnson Dennison, Member
- Regent Anderson Hoskie, Member
- Regent Daniel Tso, Member
- Vacant seat, Navajo Nation Superintendent of Schools

III. Invocation. Regent Toadecheenie provided the meeting prayer.

IV. Approval of Agenda. Regent Toadecheenie motions to approve and adopt the presented agenda, seconded by Regent Hoskie.

Discussion: Regent Bigman motions to remove the minutes for further review. Regent Toadecheenie and Hatathlie reviewed minutes and support approval with minor grammatical edits to finalize.

Vote for approving motion: 6-0-0.

V. Introduction of Guests and Staff

Chris Balzano

Bo Lewis

Marie Nez
Leon Jackson
Velveena Davis
Heather Dreifuss
Michael Upshaw
Dr. Geraldine Garrity

Merle Dayzie
Joseph de Soto
Winifred Jumbo
Crystal Cree
Al Henderson

VI. Public Comments (Time Limit of 3 Minutes) There were no public comments during this meeting.

VII. Announcements

- A. December 11, 2020 Diné College Fall 2020 Graduation, Tsaile, AZ
- B. November 18 through December 2, 2020, Virtual Art Auction and Show & Sale
- C. November 26, 2020 Thanksgiving Holiday & November 27, 2020 Family Day

VIII. Approval of Meeting Minutes

- A. September 11, 2020- Regular Meeting, Tsaile, AZ
- B. October 7, 2020- Annual & Special Meeting, Tsaile, AZ
- C. October 28, 2020- Special Meeting, Tsaile, AZ

Regent Toadecheenie moved to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Regent Hatathlie.

Discussion: As discussed under approval of agenda, minor grammatical edits to finalize.

Vote for approving motion: 6-0-0.

IX. Consent

A. Action Item

- 1. **Action Item - “Approving and Authorizing Diné College to enter into an agreement with Flagstaff Bordertown Dormitory. Subject: Public Health and/or Health Education lectures or activity sessions and Dual Credit.”**

B. Written Reports

- 1. Office of the President- Dr. Monty Roessel, President
 - Projects and Operations
 - OIPR
- 2. Office of the Provost- Dr. Geraldine Garrity, Provost
- 3. Office of Finance & Administration- Bo Lewis, VP

4. Office of External Affairs- Marie Nez, VP
5. Staff Association- Winifred Jumbo, Staff Association President
6. Faculty Association- Dr. Joseph A. de Soto, Faculty Association President

Regent Toadecheenie motions to accept the consent agenda items, seconded by Regent Hatathlie.

Vote for approving motion: 6-0-0.

X. Reports

A. Oral Reports

1. **Office of the President - Dr. Monty Roessel, President.** President Roessel reports prioritizing and planning are being adapted in response to COVID 19. The Navajo Nation held a ribbon-cutting for the Navajo Nation with the access of the 2.5 GHz spectrum for the expansion of broadband services for faster cellphone services.

The college is closely monitoring staff and students reporting positive test results. Dr. Roessel informs the board of the internal fiscal review of personnel regarding combining positions or possible furloughs.

Chris Balzano, NM Lobbyist. Mr. Balzano shared the upcoming legislative timeline and deadlines for bills. Mr. Balzano will attend the Legislative sessions. He will follow-up with reports sent to the administration and Board of Regents.

- Regent Tso mentions the consideration of a year-round education program for state and BIE-funded schools.
 - Regent Bigman commented on topics for consideration at the board committee level.
 - Governance
 - Policy for a framework for board reports
 - Follow-up on leave buyout policy
 - IGO policy update
 - Finance, Audit, and investment committee
 - Address aged accounts
 - Follow-up on procurement policy
 - Regent Hatathlie request documentation on what is the outstanding per site for reference.
2. **Associated Students of Diné College - LeTanya Thinn, Associated Students of Diné College President.** ASDC President Ms. Thinn advised the last meeting was held on November 4, 2020. ATD surveyed students and will complete the remaining questions online. ASDC Is advertising for student elections with plans to host elections by Spring Break. Two

additional advisors were available to assist ASDC. First-year student workshops offered to collaborate with ASDC. ASDC officers are working on bylaws collaboratively to present by February.

3. Faculty and Staff Association Reports - Winifred Jumbo, SA President & Dr. Joseph A. de Soto, FA President.

SA President Ms. Jumbo reports on meetings and efforts to engage staff participation. A Veterans program offered to veterans providing gift baskets and turkeys acknowledging their services. The association is seeking to add a treasurer position.

- Regent Thinn and President Roessel expressed their appreciation.

FA President Dr. de Soto mentioned the associations working together in the future. The Tribal College Journal is seeking input for an upcoming article on Diné College's response to COVID. FA reports an increase in participation with an estimate of 25-50 attendees per meeting.

FA items in review/process for approval

- FA voted unanimously to have curriculum committees report to the association for improving process and communication. The recommendation will seek executive and board consideration to amend the FA bylaws.
- Reports association provided recommendations on the Faculty promotion and ranking process.
- Mentions proposal to consider salary similar to the federal government that includes rank and time served.
- Peer-reviewed publications by faculty are necessary for Diné College to be competitive in becoming the primary holders of large NIH and other grants. The faculty and ranking process that considers research will be helpful in promoting research, publications, and grants.

Regent Dennison expressed his overall appreciation for the associations' collaborative effort in improving the college community during this unprecedented time.

XI. Old Business. There is no old business presented during this meeting.

XII. New Business

A. Action Item - “Approving and supporting Diné College and Navajo And Hopi Families COVID-19 Relief Fund collaboration from January 2021 to June 2021.”

Regent Dennison moved to approve the resolution, seconded by Regent Tso. Regent Thinn read the resolution into the record.

Discussion: Discussion held to consider adding Newcomb and Crownpoint. Regent Bigman motions to amend resolutions to revise to include all Diné College locations, and the college president will have discretionary approval for specific areas. Seconded by Regent Toadecheenie.

- Regent Hatathlie highlights the organization's efforts reaching 686 community members from the Tsaile area, approximately \$72,736 in aid provided. She expressed her appreciation for the college's support and continued professional communication in advocating for surrounding communities.

Vote for amending motion: 6-0-1.

Vote for approving motion: 6-0-1.

B. Action Item - “Bestowing Diné College Degrees and Certificates upon 56 Degrees and Certificate Candidates Who Will Fulfill Program Requirements by the end of the Fall 2020 Semester.”

Regent Hatathlie moved to approve the resolution, seconded by Regent Toadecheenie. Regent Thinn reads the resolution into the record.

Discussion: President Roessel notes the importance of the commencement as the first fall commencement for the college. Provost Garrity shared details on the ceremony.

Vote for amending motion: 7-0-0.

Vote for approving motion: 7-0-0.

XIII. Executive Session (If Deemed Necessary)

- Regent Toadecheenie motions to enter executive session at 11:25 AM, seconded by Regent Hathlie. Vote: 7-0-0.
- Consensus to exit executive session at 12:42 PM. Vote: 7-0-0.

XIV. Next Meeting Dates

A. Board of Regents Regular Meeting - Friday, January 8, 2020

B. Board of Regents Committee Meeting - Friday, December 4, 2020

XV. Adjournment. Regent Toadecheenie motions to adjourn at 12:44 PM, seconded by Regent Hoskie. Vote: 7-0-0.