



DINÉ COLLEGE

THE HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTION OF THE NAVAJO NATION SINCE 1968

Board of Regents

Meeting Name: Diné College Board of Regents Regular Meeting

Meeting Start Time: 9:00 AM MST

Meeting Start Date: January 15, 2021

Meeting Location: Teleconference

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

Join by Phone at (669)900-9128

Meeting ID: 915 6721 4467

Minutes – Approved on March 12, 2021

Regent Thinn motioned to approve minutes, seconded by Regent Toadecheenie. Vote: 7-0-0.

I. Call to Order. The Diné College Board of Regents convened at 9:08 AM Friday, January 15, 2020, with the Board President Greg Bigman presiding and calling the meeting to order.

II. Roll Call

- Regent Greg Bigman, President [teleconference]
- Regent Theresa Hatathlie, Vice President [teleconference]
- Regent Sharon Toadecheenie, Treasurer [teleconference]
- Regent LeTanya Thinn, Secretary [teleconference]
- Regent Johnson Dennison, Member [teleconference]
- Regent Anderson Hoskie, Member [teleconference][arrived at 10:30 AM]
- Regent Daniel Tso, Member [teleconference] [arrived at 10:38 AM]
- Vacant seat, Navajo Nation Superintendent of Schools

III. Invocation. Regent Toadecheenie provided the meeting prayer.

IV. Approval of Agenda. REGENT DENNISON MOTIONS TO APPROVE BY AMENDING THE AGENDA TO REMOVE THE OLD BUSINESS ITEM “APPROVING THE CREATION OF A TALLSALT DIRECT FUND AND AGREEMENT FOR INVESTMENTS BY DINÉ COLLEGE.” REGENT TOADECHEENIE SECONDS TO APPROVE AND AMEND BY REGENT TOADECHEENIE.

VOTE FOR APPROVING MOTION: 5-0-0.

VOTE FOR AMENDING MOTION: 5-0-0.

V. Introduction of Guests and Staff

Dr. Monty Roessel	Mathew J. Skeets	Michael Parrish
Michael Upshaw	Merle Dayzie	Michelle Kah-John
Bo Lewis	Paul Willeto	Glennita Haskey
Joseph de Soto	Velveena Davis	Dr. Franklin Sage
Leon Jackson	Travis Teller	George Joe
Delmar Blackhorse	Winifred Jumbo	Kimberley
Malcolm Bob	Marie Nez	Silentman-Kanuho

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

VII. Announcements




- A. January 18, 2021, College Holiday- Martin Luther King Day
- B. Navajo Nation Council Spring Session, January 25, 2021

VIII. Approval of Meeting Minutes

- A. November 13, 2020- Regular Meeting, Teleconference
- B. December 23, 2020- Special Meeting, Teleconference

REGENT TOADECHEENI MOTIONS TO APPROVE MINUTES AS PRESENTED, SECONDED BY REGENT THINN. THERE WAS NO ADDITIONAL DISCUSSION TO APPROVE.
VOTE FOR APPROVING MOTION: 6-0-0.

IX. Consent

- A. Action Items - None
- 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
 -  [Tsaile Library Renovations \(embedded link to view\)](#)
 3. Office of Finance & Administration- Bo Lewis, VP
 4. Office of Student Affairs- Glennita Haskey, VP
 5. Office of External Affairs- Marie Nez, VP
 6. Staff Association- Winifred Jumbo, Staff Association President
 7. Faculty Association- Dr. Joseph A. de Soto, Faculty Association President

REGENT TOADECHEENIE MOTIONS TO ACCEPT THE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS, SECONDED BY REGENT DENNISON. THERE WAS NO ADDITIONAL DISCUSSION HELD TO APPROVE. VOTE FOR APPROVING MOTION: 5-0-0.

X. Reports

A. Oral Reports

1. **Office of the President - Dr. Monty Roessel, President.** President Roessel reports a current enrollment of 1,111 students. An alignment to programs will be accessed to align with the current job market. The Aneth micro-campus / learning center will be ready soon to provide college access for students in those communities. Discussions have been held to look at delivering tutoring for K-12 students in a pilot program. President Roessel shared the 4th COVID-19 Stimulus (CV-4) and FY2021 funding details with the board. Crystal Cree provided an overview of the Navajo Nation Cares funding breakdown. Merle Dayzie shared an update on the requirement of vaccinations for college personnel.
 - ✚ Regent Toadecheenie questions the assessment of new and existing programs. Dr. Roessel advised the academic review was completed within the academic review part HLC criteria.
 - ✚ Regent Bigman expressed the STEM division on programs in meeting the needs of the Navajo Nation. Interdepartmental transfer shifts assessments to ensure effectiveness.
 - ✚ Regent Dennison expressed appreciation to President Roessel and administrators for presentations. A recommendation for a local conference explicitly focused on COVID responses within the Navajo Nation.
2. **Associated Students of Diné College - LeTanya Thinn, Associated Students of Diné College President.** ASDC President Thinn reports new advisor is Shawn Frank. The constitution is in progress in collaboration with the new advisor. The elections advertising handled by a 3-person team also in progress along with the transition team. ASDC meeting at the end of January or the beginning of February. ASDC advertising for the Navajo Nation Government Commission student position after receiving resignation over the Christmas Break.
3. **Faculty and Staff Association Reports - Winifred Jumbo, SA President & Dr. Joseph A. de Soto, FA President.** SA President report held six meetings and an upcoming meeting scheduled on January 20, 2021, and organized Yas Nilt' ees Wellness week with various events over the week. FA President de Soto reports increased faculty attendance within the association. The association introduces faculty mentorship and faculty advisement ideas and possibly expands toward student mentorship and community service. FA association shares recommendations on hiring committees for schools.

4. **Diné Policy Institute Report - Dr. Franklin Sage, Director.** Dr. Sage provides an update on reports the collaborative organizational partnerships. Initial meeting with public health partners on how to formulate the research and timeline of 3-4 years; safety guidelines; and curfew restrictions. The groups are broken into teams to address various aspects, research questions, and cultural perspectives. The presentation included a timeline over the next 12 months.

REGENT TSO MOTIONS TO ACCEPT ORAL REPORTS, SECONDED BY REGENT TOACHEENIE. VOTE: 7-0-0.

XI. Old Business

- A. Action Item- “Authorizing and approving the Dine College Shiprock Math and Science building construction project with Nez/FCI Native American, LLC in the amount of Six Million, One Hundred Eleven Thousand Dollars (\$6,111,000.00).”

Regent Thinn reads the resolution into the record.

REGENT DENNISON MOTIONS TO RECALL ITEM, SECONDED BY REGENT TSO.

Discussion: Request from administration to vote down for project so rebid may occur and future submission at a special meeting.

VOTE FOR APPROVING MOTION: 0-7-0. THE MOTION FAILS.

XII. New Business

- A. Action Item - “Approving and Authorizing Diné College to enter into an agreement with Piñon Unified School District No. 4. Subject: Dual Credit.”

Regent Thinn reads the resolution into the record.

REGENT TOACHEENIE MOTIONS TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION, SECONDED BY REGENT DENNISON.

Discussion: Ms. Jumbo shared the 2020 completion statistics and provided an overview of the renewal with standard MOA.

VOTE FOR APPROVING MOTION: 7-0-0.

Action Item - “Approving the Bachelor of Fine Arts Creative Writing Emphasis.”

Regent Thinn reads the resolution into the record.

REGENT TSO MOTIONS TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION, SECONDED BY REGENT TOACHEENIE.

Discussion: Assistant Professor Skeets provided an overview of presentation slides. Important to note: existing faculty with no changes to workload. Also, DC libraries can support the new track emphasis. Overall support from Regents through individual comments of support. Regent Bigman asks if resolution or

supporting documents reference costing model. President Roessel states there will be minimal costs but not an overall increase in the department budget and no additional faculty needed. Board President requests further defining and provide an updated career track/pathway.

VOTE FOR APPROVING MOTION: 6-0-0.

Action Item - “Approving BOK Financial to be the College’s (401K) Governmental Retirement Plan provider.”

Regent Thinn reads the resolution into the record.

REGENT TOACHEENIE MOTIONS TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION, SECONDED BY REGENT DENNISON.

DISCUSSION: MR. DAYZIE STATED INITIAL PHASE MOVED TO THE GOVERNMENTAL 401K RETIREMENT PLAN. THIS PHASE FOCUSES ON SELECTING A PROVIDER WITH INCREASED ENGAGEMENT AND IMPROVED CUSTOMER SERVICE—ALL PROPOSALS REVIEWED BY 3RD PARTY SERVICER. THE LEGAL REVIEW NOTED AND REDLINE VERSION PROVIDED TO THE DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES.

VOTE FOR APPROVING MOTION: 6-0-0.

B.

Action Item - “Approving a resolution urging the state of New Mexico distribute United States Department of Education Impact Aid funds to the school districts from which the money originates.”

Regent Thinn reads the resolution into the record.

REGENT DENNISON MOTIONS TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION, SECONDED BY REGENT TOACHEENIE.

DISCUSSION: REGENT TSO MOTIONS TO AMEND “RESPECTFULLY REQUESTING THE STATE OF NM...” AND INCLUDING THE NAVAJO NATION SUPPORT THE INITIATIVE AS WELL, SECONDED BY REGENT HATATHLIE.

VOTE FOR APPROVING MOTION: 6-0-0.

VOTE FOR AMENDING MOTION: 6-0-0.

Action Item - “Approval of Diné College 2021 Legislative Priorities for the Navajo Nation, State of Arizona, State of New Mexico, State of Utah and the Federal Government.”

Regent Thinn reads the resolution into the record.

REGENT TSO MOTIONS TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION, SECONDED BY REGENT DENNISON.

DISCUSSION: “STATE OF..” WITHIN THE TITLE AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENT.

VOTE FOR APPROVING MOTION: 7-0-0.

XIII. Executive Session (If Deemed Necessary). There was no executive session called during this meeting.

XIV. Next Meeting Dates

- A. Board of Regents Committee Meeting - Friday, February 12, 2021
- B. Board of Regents Regular Meeting - Friday, March 12, 2021

XV. Adjournment. REGENT THINN MOTIONS TO ADJOURN AT 1:18 PM, SECONDED BY REGENT DENNISON. VOTE: 7-0-0.