



**STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
TRUSTEES OF BOISE STATE UNIVERSITY
TRUSTEES OF IDAHO STATE UNIVERSITY
TRUSTEES OF LEWIS-CLARK STATE COLLEGE
BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO
STATE BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL-TECHNICAL EDUCATION
TRUSTEES FOR THE IDAHO SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF AND THE BLIND**

**APPROVED MINUTES
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
March 11, 2011
Special Teleconference Meeting
Boise, ID**

A special teleconference meeting of the State Board of Education was held March 11, 2011. It originated from the Board office in Boise Idaho. Board President Richard Westerberg presided and called the meeting to order at 3:06 p.m. A roll call of members was taken.

Present:

Richard Westerberg, President
Don Soltman, Secretary
Emma Atchley

Ken Edmunds, Vice President
Rod Lewis

PLANNING, POLICY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

1. Review and Discuss Existing and Potential Legislation Affecting Public Education

Discussion:

President Westerberg initiated the meeting and asked for a roll call. He identified that the purpose of the meeting was to discuss legislation.

Tracie Bent introduced the first agenda item as House Bill 222 regarding the allowance of firearms on campus which is currently prohibited. Ms. Bent also indicated that representatives from various institutions were present at the meeting to answer detailed questions on how this bill would impact the institutions individually. Those present included Bruce Newcomb and Courtney Kirchner from Boise State University, Kent Kunz from Idaho State University, and Marty Peterson from the University of Idaho. Ms. Bent indicated that each Board member received a copy of House Bill 222 and asked if anyone had any specific questions regarding it.

Mr. Westerberg asked if there were any questions. Don Soltman repeated the question Ken Edmunds asked prior to the start of the meeting where he had asked about the Board's position on firearms on campus.

Mark Browning clarified that in the Board's testimony in the House State Affairs Committee, it was expressed that the Board had taken a position on previous similar legislation from 2009 where the Board had expressed an opposition to any kind of repeal or change in the current practice allowing the Board and the institutions to set firearm policies on campus. Mr. Browning stated it was also made clear that the Board has not specifically voted on the 2011 version of House Bill 222, but the position of opposition was based on a long standing opposition regarding allowing firearms on campus.

Mr. Westerberg asked if there were any further questions. Hearing none, he asked if there was a motion before the Board.

M/S (Soltman/Edmunds):

The Board moves to oppose House Bill 222. It is the policy of the Board to cultivate on our public college and university campuses a climate conducive to knowledge and learning, and the Board does not believe that House Bill 222 assists it in achieving this goal.

President Westerberg asked if there was any discussion regarding the motion. Hearing none, a roll call vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously with the five Board members present.

Further Discussion:

Mr. Westerberg asked for further discussion on the progress of Board initiated legislation.

Mark Browning indicated that the majority of the Board sponsored legislation is moving through the legislative process. He indicated that House Bill 159 is on the amending order in the Senate. That bill would allow the board to essentially borrow personnel from the institutions and continue to keep their tenure in place. The Senate Education Committee felt that they wanted more restrictions in place in terms of the Bill being too open ended the way it is currently written. Their primary concern was they wanted term limits of around one year. A second concern was that if the Board was borrowing people for more than six months to a year, the process should be more standardized which included getting a FTE approved. Mr. Browning indicated to the Senate Education Committee that these are very specialized positions and often with specialized projects it is not always pre-determined how long the assignment will be. Currently, the amending order states "date unknown".

Mr. Westerberg asked if there were further questions for Mark Browning on legislative topics.

Mark Browning indicated he would be contacting each of the Board members with individual assignments shortly.

OTHER BUSINESS

There being no further business, a motion was entertained to adjourn.

M/S (Soltman/Atchley): To adjourn at 3:18 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.