



**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**

**APPROVED MINUTES
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
August 17, 2012
Special Teleconference Meeting
Boise, ID**

A special teleconference meeting of the State Board of Education was held August 17, 2012. It originated from the Board office in Boise Idaho. Board President Ken Edmunds presided and called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. A roll call of members was taken.

Present:

Ken Edmunds, President
Don Soltman, Vice President
Richard Westerberg

Emma Atchley, Secretary
Bill Goesling
Milford Terrell

Absent:

Rod Lewis
Tom Luna

BUSINESS AFFAIRS & HUMAN RESOURCES

1. University of Idaho – Athletic Conference

BOARD ACTION

M/S (Terrell/Goesling): I move to authorize the University of Idaho to commence scheduling intercollegiate football games for the 2013-14 football season and beyond, as an unaffiliated, independent FBS institution; and further, to authorize the President of the University of Idaho to negotiate the final terms and determine whether to accept an invitation to the Big Sky Conference, and in doing so to comply with all Board policies and procedures. The motion carried 5-1. (Mr. Edmunds voted nay).

Discussion: Milford Terrell introduced this item and indicated this is a request for authorization by the University of Idaho for independent scheduling of football games and for the President to explore and accept an invitation to the Big Sky Athletic conference.

President Nellis summarized that for the last 12 months the University of Idaho (UI) has been working to secure the best possible outcome for Vandal Athletics, given that the Western Athletic Conference (WAC) is currently unable to support intercollegiate football after the end of

the 2012-13 athletic seasons. He indicated institutions are currently engaged in scheduling football games for the 2013-14 seasons and beyond, and it is imperative that the University begin doing so as well in order to ensure a full schedule of games. Consequently, the University seeks authority to commence scheduling football games as an unaffiliated, independent Football Bowl Subdivision (FBS) institution.

Dr. Nellis indicated they would also appreciate the opportunity to consider other conference affiliation options. One of those options is with the Big Sky Conference for the University's non-football intercollegiate sports. The Big Sky has expressed interest in having the University as a member for non-football sports. The University seeks approval from the board for the President to have authority to proceed in the best interests of the University to explore and accept an invitation from the Big Sky Conference. Dr. Nellis added that the primary impact of the University scheduling intercollegiate football as an unaffiliated independent FBS institution is enhanced revenues. Game payments to the University from scheduling as an FBS institution are estimated to exceed current payouts by approximately \$1.5 million annually.

Dr. Nellis introduced Rod Spear, Athletic Director from the University of Idaho, who reiterated the comments of Dr. Nellis and added they hoped to obtain the maximum flexibility in working with the Big Sky Conference.

There was discussion surrounding the length of time the motion covers, whether it was a two year agreement or open ended. Many board members agreed that there needed to be flexibility with this program and supported it being open ended in nature.

Mr. Luna asked about the financial aspect of athletics and the funding requirements of Title IX. He asked for clarification that the Title IX requirements would not be jeopardized by the approval of today's motion. Mr. Spear indicated they are in compliance with all Title IX requirements presently and intend to remain that way.

Other Business:

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

M/S (Soltman/Atchley): To adjourn at 1:25 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.