

**BOARD OF REGENTS
MINUTES OF THE MEETING**

**South Dakota School of Mines & Technology
Surbeck Center Ballroom
Rapid City, South Dakota
November 7, 2017**

The Board of Regents convened at the South Dakota School of Mines & Technology (SDSM&T) in Rapid City and via teleconference at 2:30 p.m. on November 7, 2017.

ROLL CALL:

Bob Sutton – PRESENT
Kevin Schieffer – PRESENT (via teleconference)
John Bastian – PRESENT
Conrad Adam – PRESENT
Jim Morgan – PRESENT (via teleconference)
Pam Roberts – PRESENT (via teleconference)
Randy Schaefer – PRESENT (via teleconference)
Jim Thares – PRESENT (via teleconference)
Joan Wink – PRESENT

Also present during all or part of the meeting were Mike Rush, Executive Director and CEO; Molly Weisgram, Janelle Toman, BOR; and members of SD Mines and the Rapid City community.

Regent Sutton called the public meeting of the Board of Regents to order and declared a quorum present. He announced that the Board dissolved into Executive Session at 8:00 a.m. to discuss personnel matters at 8:00 a.m., 12:00 p.m., and 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 1, 2017; and 8:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. on Thursday, November 2, 2017; and that it adjourned at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, November 2, 2017.

Regent Bastian reported that while in executive session, the Board considered personnel matters, and gave directions to its executive director concerning these matters.

IT WAS MOVED by Regent Bastian, seconded by Regent Adam, that the Board approve directions given to the executive director with respect to matters discussed in executive session, that it defer until the completion of further remarks at this meeting approval of the appointment of a successor to Dr. Jan Puszynski as President of South Dakota School of Mines & Technology; and adopt the report of the Executive Session.

ROLL CALL:

Adam – AYE
Bastian – AYE
Morgan – AYE
Roberts – AYE
Schaefer – AYE

Thares – AYE
Wink – AYE
Schieffer – AYE
Sutton – AYE

Motion passed.

Regent Sutton thanked the campus community for its support during the presidential selection. He introduced and thanked the Regents search committee:

- John Bastian, Chair
- Jim Morgan
- Pam Roberts
- Bob Sutton, Board President, Ex-officio

He additionally introduced and thanked the Campus Search Committee:

- Pat Mahon, Executive Council Representative, Vice President for Student Development and Dean of Students
- Rod Rice, Faculty Representative, Professor of Humanities and Chair of the Faculty Senate
- Dan Dolan, Faculty Representative, Director of CAMP & Professor Emeritus of Mechanical Engineering
- Carter Kerk, Faculty Representative, Professor in the Industrial Engineering Department
- Ari Lopez, Student Representative, Senior, Chemical Engineering Major
- Aaron Campbell, Student Representative, Senior, Computer Science & Applied and Computational Mathematics Double Major
- Heather Forney, Non-Faculty Exempt Staff Representative, Controller/Director of Finance
- Cheryl Dillon, Civil Service Staff Representative, Program Assistant I, Student Activities and Leadership Center
- Ron Jeitz, Alumni Representative, Retired Texaco Marketing Executive & Member of the SD Mines Civil and Environmental Engineering Professional Advisory Board
- Lorin Brass, SD Mines Foundation Representative, Member of the Foundation Board of Trustees Executive Committee and Past Chairman of the Foundation Board of Trustees
- Linda Rabe, Community Representative, President/CEO of Rapid City Chamber of Commerce
- James Abbott, Representing the Board of Regents' Council of Presidents and Superintendents, President of the University of South Dakota

Regent Sutton explained that this has been a process that has taken considerable time and energy over the past several months. Each of the committee members made important contributions to the process and the selection of the school's next president. A special thank you to each of them for the professional manner in which they conducted the business of the committee. The results of this search are directly attributed to your dedication and commitment.

Regent Sutton thanked the campus community for its participation in the process. He explained how the campus assisted the Board in the beginning by nominating colleagues to serve on the search committee, by soliciting and making nominations of outstanding candidates, by patiently responding to the process, and by participating in the two-day campus interviews. He stated that one of the great things about the selection process is that it allows the campuses and the Board of Regents to become better acquainted and to work together on issues concerning all of us. Given the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead, such cooperation can only be beneficial.

He said this effort has also served to remind the Board of the extremely valuable role that South Dakota School of Mines & Technology plays in the development of the region's economy and its people. Our search for excellence also demands leadership that is responsive and innovative; aware not only of the present but also of the potential. At this point, Regent Sutton asked for a motion from the presidential search committee for the appointment of the new president of South Dakota School of Mines & Technology.

Regent Bastian said at this time he was pleased to present to the Board of Regents a report from the presidential search committee. He explained that with an outstanding field of candidates, the committee narrowed the field to an excellent pool of finalists that visited the campus last week. It is from this group of talented and experienced leaders that he recommended the appointment of Dr. Jim Rankin as President of South Dakota School of Mines & Technology.

Regent Bastian introduced Dr. Rankin to the campus community and shared Dr. Rankin's biographical information. He explained that Dr. Rankin is currently vice-provost for research and economic development, University of Arkansas. Under Dr. Rankin's leadership, the University of Arkansas has generated more than 50 start-up companies and significantly increased annual external funding to \$103 million. He led efforts to develop the institution's first strategic plan in research and economic development, instituted several faculty recognition programs, and developed an expedited industry contracting process. Previously at Ohio University, Dr. Rankin was interim vice president for research, associate dean, professor of electrical engineering, and director of the Avionics Engineering Center. He has also been a professor at St. Cloud State University and an engineer at Rockwell-Collins. Dr. Rankin's personal research has been funded by NASA and FAA grants. His Ph.D. and master's degrees in electrical engineering were earned at Iowa State University. Significantly, he also holds a B.S. degree in electrical engineering from South Dakota School of Mines & Technology. As an alumnus, his commitment and passion for the success of the School of Mines is clear. He is joined today by his wife, Wendy.

IT WAS MOVED by Regent Bastian, seconded by Regent Adam, that Dr. Rankin be appointed President of South Dakota School of Mines & Technology effective January 8, 2017.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Adam – AYE

Bastian – AYE

Morgan – AYE

Roberts – AYE

Schaefer – AYE

Thares – AYE

Wink – AYE

Schieffer – AYE
Sutton – AYE

Motion passed.

Regent Bastian invited Dr. Rankin to make brief remarks.

Dr. Rankin made remarks regarding his enthusiasm for the role of President of South Dakota School of Mines & Technology and his vision for its future.

Regent Sutton announced that Dr. Rankin, Dr. Rush, and the other regents present would be available to the media for interviews following the meeting adjournment. Additionally, he welcomed the audience to a reception held in the Surbeck Ballroom immediately following the meeting.

ADJOURN

IT WAS MOVED by Regent Bastian, seconded by Regent Wink, to adjourn the meeting of the full board at 3:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Adam – AYE
Bastian – AYE
Morgan – AYE
Roberts – AYE
Schaefer – AYE
Thares – AYE
Wink – AYE
Schieffer – AYE
Sutton – AYE

Motion passed. Meeting adjourned.