



MINUTES

Policy Committee

Public Meeting held via videoconference on March 9, 2023 at 11:45 a.m. CT
Pursuant to Texas Govt. Code 551.127 – COVID-19 circumstances

Committee Members **Present/(Absent)**

(Yuejiao Liu, Chair)
Michael Benson
Kelly Crook
Brad Sinclair
Diana Thomas

Guests:

Paige Saenz, General
Counsel

Other Board Trustees **Present/(Absent)**

(Amy Hunter)
Michael Granof
(Dick Lavine)
Chris Noak†
Anthony B. Ross, Sr.
(Leslie Pool)

Others Present

Staff:

Christopher Hanson
Sarah McCleary
Russell Nash
Mehrin Rahman
David Kushner*
Jenni Bonds
Yun Quintanilla
Cathy Edwards*

*Present telephonically

† present via videoconference

1 Call roll of Committee members

Vice Chair Brad Sinclair called the meeting to order at 12:18 p.m. The following Committee members were present in person: Benson, Crook, Sinclair, and Thomas.

Vice Chair Sinclair asked if there were any members of the public who wished to speak, either now or during an agenda item. There were no comments.

2 Review order of business and establish meeting objectives

Vice Chair Sinclair reviewed the order of business and objectives with the Committee. No changes were made to the order of business.

3 Review 2023 Policy Committee Work Plan

Mr. Christopher Hanson presented the Policy Committee Work Plan for 2023. Trustees discussed it and gave general approval.

3 Consider approval of the November 10, 2022 Policy Committee meeting minutes

Vice Chair Sinclair asked Trustees to review the minutes. Ms. Diana Thomas moved to approve the November 10, 2022 Policy Committee minutes as presented. Mr. Michael Benson seconded, and the motion passed 4-0.

5 Discuss and consider Whistleblower Policy

Mr. Russell Nash presented a proposed Whistleblower policy. Mr. Nash reported to the Committee that the Policy's intent is to institute a method of reporting fraud, waste and abuse without the fear of reprisal for those raising such issues. Mr. Nash noted that this policy was recommended as a part of the Board's 2020 Governance Effectiveness Assessment. Staff also outlined the plan to communicate and implement the provisions of the Policy. Trustees discussed the Policy emphasizing its important reporting function and ensuring its scope fits within the provisions of other similar policies and rights created by law. Trustees revised the title of the policy to be consistent with its intent to report waste, fraud, and abuse.

Ms. Kelly Crook moved to refer the policy to the Board for approval as revised and renamed. Ms. Diana Thomas seconded, and the motion passed 4-0.

6 Discuss and consider Board policy review cycle

Mr. Hanson presented the Committee with the current list of Board policies, noting several policies due to be reviewed by various Committees in 2023. Trustees asked that no policies be designated for update cycles "as necessary" and that a specific time frame be added for each. Staff was directed to review the Appointments to Fill Unexpired Terms Policy for possible incorporation into the Bylaws.

7 Receive report on 2022 administrative budget

Mr. Hanson presented the final numbers for the 2022 budget. He noted that several line items that were underspent were due to supply chain issues where hardware was ordered but not delivered in 2022.

8 Review key meeting takeaways and call for future agenda items

Vice Chair Sinclair summarized the actions taken and the information discussed during the meeting and asked for any future agenda items.

As there were no further items to address, the meeting adjourned at 12:55 p.m.

These minutes were approved at the August 31, 2023 Policy Committee meeting.