



# Board of Trustees Chair/Vice Chair Meeting Minutes

## MEETING MINUTES

**BOT approved 09.27.2023**

**Thursday, August 17, 2023  
10:30 AM – 11:30 AM**

**Florida Polytechnic University  
IST Building, Room 1047  
4700 Research Way, Lakeland, FL**

### I. Call to Order

Chair Cliff Otto called the meeting to order at 10:32 a.m.

### II. Roll Call

Kristen Wharton called the roll: Chair Cliff Otto and Vice Chair Beth Kigel were present.

Staff present: President Randy Avent, David Fugett, Melaine Schmiz, Maggie Mariucci, and Kristen Wharton

### III. Public Comment

There were no requests received for public comment.

### IV. Presidential Search Firm Discussion

Board Chair Cliff Otto opened the discussion on a presidential search firm by asking whether the University needs to utilize a professional search firm or if the Institution's staff could internally manage a search of this magnitude. Thoughtful consideration and dialogue occurred between Chair Otto, Vice Chair Beth Kigel and the staff present at the meeting. The consensus was that the Institution will be better served in such a high-level and technically specific search by using a professional executive search firm.

Chair Otto and Vice Chair Kigel then discussed the three executive search firms they each individually interviewed the previous week. They shared highlights from each of their conversations with the search firms, and carefully weighed both the positives and the potential challenges of working with each firm. A clear choice of search firm emerged for both the Chair and Vice Chair. Chair Otto recommended that at the August 21, 2023, Board of Trustees meeting, the Board vote to appoint Vice Chair Kigel as their designee as provided for in BOG Regulation 1.002(1)(b)2., with the authority to retain the services of a search firm at the appropriate time.

V. Review Board of Trustees' Charge to the Presidential Search Committee

David Fugett, Vice President and General Counsel, stated he had reviewed the draft of the Board of Trustees' charge to the Presidential Search Committee and found it acceptable to present to the Board with minor grammatical edits. Chair Otto and Vice Chair Kigel concurred, and the draft will be presented to the full Board at their next scheduled meeting.

VI. Closing Remarks and Adjournment

With no further business to discuss the meeting adjourned at 11:40 a.m.