

**College of Eastern Idaho
Board of Trustees**

May 14, 2021

College of Eastern Idaho Campus, Christofferson/Building 3, Room 306, Idaho Falls, Idaho
and remotely via Zoom

A Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the College of Eastern Idaho was held on May 14, 2021 at the College of Eastern Idaho campus in Idaho Falls, Idaho and via Zoom. Chairman Park Price presided.

Present:

Park Price, Chairman
Stephanie Mickelsen, Vice Chairman
Cal Ozaki, Treasurer
Craig Miller
Carrie Scheid

Guests:

Rick Aman, CEI President
Lori Barber, CEI Vice President of Academic and Student Affairs
Jed Bigelow, CEI Counsel
Amanda Logan, CEI Executive Liaison
Byron Miles, CEI Vice President of Finance and Administration

Additionally, approximately twenty-five CEI employees attended the meeting via Zoom to listen to the discussion.

The meeting was called to order at 3:35pm by Chairman Price.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

M/S Mickelsen/Scheid to approve the agenda for the May 14, 2021 Special Meeting. *Motion passes unanimously.*

APPROVAL OF REVISED COVID-19 MEASURES ON CEI'S CAMPUS

On behalf of CEI leadership, President Aman recommended to the Board of Trustees that they lift the requirements to wear face coverings and practice physical distancing on CEI's campus effective Monday, May 17, 2021. He elaborated that CEI would be respectful of anyone who chooses to wear a mask and masks would be welcome, especially for those who are not vaccinated. Additionally, Aman noted that CEI leadership encourages everyone to be vaccinated against COVID-19, understanding that it is an individual choice and the College does not intend to require any staff, faculty, or student to be vaccinated. In our region, vaccines are readily available to anyone 12 and older.

Aman also explained that CEI would continue to conduct contact tracing: if someone tests positive for COVID-19 and was on campus 48-hours prior to the onset of their symptoms, the College would continue to alert people they came in contact with that they were exposed to COVID-19. If an individual has been vaccinated, they could “self-monitor.” If not, anyone in proximity to a positive case would need to isolate or document a negative COVID-19 test. Finally, Aman explained that CEI would monitor the state of COVID-19 case rates in Bonneville County and make procedural adjustments as needed to protect the health and safety of students, employees and visitors.

Chairman Park pointed out that since CEI leadership sent this recommendation to the Trustees in advance of the Special Meeting, two developments of note had occurred. Governor Little moved Idaho to “Stage 4,” which notably means that restrictions on gathering sizes were removed, and the CDC issued new guidance stating that individuals who are fully vaccinated against COVID-19 do not need to wear a mask except for a few situations.

The Trustees asked about faculty and staff concerns and were assured that they were mainly about ensuring that people did not feel ridiculed if they wore a mask. They also thanked College leadership for holding the listening sessions about removing the mask and physical distancing requirements with CEI employees. Aman explained that Dean of Student Affairs, Mike Walker, also checked with the Student Senate and they were unanimous in their desire to see the requirements dropped.

The Trustees also noted at the end of the discussion that they had worried enrollment was stifled with mask mandate.


M/S Mickelsen/Miller to approve discontinuing the mask mandate and physical distancing requirement, effective, Monday, May 17, 2021, with the caveat noted in the recommendation to revisit if case counts warrant it. Motion passes unanimously.

DISCUSSION ITEM

Aman briefly highlighted the draft agenda for the day-and-a-half-long Trustee retreat scheduled for June 7th and 8th at CEI’s Teton Valley Outreach Center in Driggs, ID.

ADJOURNMENT

Seeing no other business, Chairman Price adjourned the meeting at 3:47pm.



Park Price, Chairman

5/25/2021

Date