

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS
OF HIGHER EDUCATION
MONTANA UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

Conference Call Meeting

DATE: February 24, 1986

TIME: 8:00 a.m.

LOCATION: Office of Commissioner of Higher
Education
33 South Last Chance Gulch
Helena, Montana

REGENTS PARTICIPATING BY TELEPHONE
CONFERENCE CALL: Chairman Morrison; Regents McCarthy,
Hurwitz; Redlin, Lind,

PRESENT IN COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE: Acting Commissioner of Higher Education
Carrol Krause
Deputy Commissioner Jack Noble

REGENTS ABSENT: Paoli; Scully

OTHERS PRESENT: President William Tietz
Montana State University

Chairman Morrison called the meeting to order at 8:02 a.m. He noted that members of the press representing Lee Newspapers State Bureau and the Associated Press were also present in the Commissioner's office.

The first matter on the agenda was selection of a president for Montana College of Mineral Science and Technology. Acting Commissioner Krause reported that additional reference checks on the two candidates, Dr. Donald Schwartz and Dr. Lindsay Norman, had been entirely positive, and all questions raised by

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the Board in the interview process had been answered satisfactorily.

Regent McCarthy moved that Dr. Lindsay Norman be appointed President at Montana Tech beginning on July 1, 1986, at an annual salary of \$65,000, and that Dr. Norman be retained on a consulting basis at Montana Tech beginning April 21, 1986 at a salary to be determined by the Acting Commissioner. Hearing no discussion, the Chairman called the question. The motion carried, with Regent Hurwitz voting no.

Acting Commissioner Krause explained President William Tietz, Montana State University, was participating in the conference call meeting to respond to questions on the second agenda matter. Documentation on the request had been sent to the Regents prior to this meeting. At the October 1986 Board meeting, MSU made a presentation to the Board requesting authorization to remodel its heating plant to convert to wood pellets as a source of fuel, rather than natural gas. Authorization was given to MSU to plan the conversion and inform the legislature of the proposal. Montana State University is now requesting authorization to seek legislative approval in the special legislative session for the construction of the storage facility needed for the conversion. Construction of that facility is the only part of the proposal that requires legislative approval. The construction costs would be approximately \$300,000. No general fund dollars would be required.

On motion of Regent Hurwitz, authorization to seek legislative approval of construction of the storage facility on the wood pellet proposal was approved.

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Acting Commissioner Krause reported on a recent meeting with the Governor to discuss retaining the anticipated overage on indirect cost recoveries on the campuses involved, rather than reverting those amounts to the state general fund. The monies realized would be used to offset the 2% reduction in general funds called for by the Governor's Executive Order 2-86. The Governor did not believe he had authorization to offset that amount from the budget reduction. He believed it would be necessary to request a supplemental appropriation from the legislature. Dr. Krause stated the feeling of the campuses involved is that it is of sufficient importance to pursue. Meetings will be scheduled with the legislative leadership to determine if there is willingness to put the matter on the agenda of the March 1986 Special Session.

The meeting adjourned at 8:11 a.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Regents is March 20-21, 1986, in Helena, Montana.

APPROVED:

Chairman, Board of Regents of Higher
Education, Montana University System

Secretary