

# BOARD OF REGENTS BRIEFING PAPER

## **1. Agenda Item Title: *Handbook* Revision-Standing Committees of the Board of Regents**

**Meeting Date: December 3-4, 2015**

### **2. BACKGROUND & POLICY CONTEXT OF ISSUE:**

The Board of Regents Bylaws contained in *Handbook* Title 1, Article VI, Sections 1-3 authorize the appointment of standing committees and the designation of their duties. The Chair and Vice Chair are proposing a revision to the Bylaws providing for the reorganization of the Business and Finance Committee and the Investment and Facilities Committee.

Among other duties, the Business and Finance Committee currently reviews and makes recommendations to the Board respecting operating budget requests and NSHE work programs with the primary objective of affirming the connections between the NSHE Master Plan and System-wide priorities. The Committee also makes recommendations for financing NSHE activities and expenditures of NSHE financial resources.

In addition to its investment functions, the Investment and Facilities Committee presently has oversight of property acquisitions and use, recommendations respecting NSHE capital and improvement priority lists with the primary objective of affirming connections between requests and the institutional facilities master plans, and review and recommendations regarding institutional facilities master plans and space utilization models and data.

It is more efficient to combine these functions with the related NSHE Master Plan and operating budget functions currently exercised by the Business and Finance Committee. This change in committee charges will also allow the Investment and Facilities Committee to devote full time and attention to its crucial core function of providing oversight of NSHE investment policies and programs.

In conjunction with this realignment of committee charges, the names of the two committees would be changed to the Business, Finance and Facilities Committee and the Investment Committee.

This is the second of two hearings required at regular Board meetings for a change to the Bylaws. The first hearing was at the September 10-11, 2015, meeting. A two-thirds vote in the affirmative is required to amend the Bylaws of the Board.

### **3. SPECIFIC ACTIONS BEING RECOMMENDED OR REQUESTED:**

Revise the charge for the Business and Finance Committee and the Investment and Facilities Committee by transferring responsibility for oversight of property acquisitions and use, recommendations respecting NSHE capital and improvement priority lists with the primary objective of affirming connections between requests and the institutional facilities master plans, and review and recommendations regarding institutional facilities master plans and space utilization models and data to the former committee from the latter. Change the respective committee names to the Business, Finance and Facilities Committee and the Investment Committee.

### **4. IMPETUS (WHY NOW?):**

The realignment of the standing committees will increase the efficiency of Board oversight and an effective efficiency measure should be implemented at the earliest practical opportunity.

### **5. BULLET POINTS TO SUPPORT REQUEST/RECOMMENDATION:**

- The realignment of committee charges will be more efficient and result in more effective oversight of investment policies and programs.

**6. POTENTIAL ARGUMENTS AGAINST THE REQUEST/RECOMMENDATION:**

The present Board standing committee structure efficiently processes Board business.

**7. ALTERNATIVE(S) TO WHAT IS BEING REQUESTED/RECOMMENDED:**

Leave the current standing committee configuration in place

**8. COMPLIANCE WITH BOARD POLICY:**

Consistent With Current Board Policy: Title #\_\_\_\_ Chapter #\_\_ Section #\_\_\_\_  
 Amends Current Board Policy: Title #\_\_1\_\_ Article #\_\_VI\_\_ Section #\_\_3\_\_  
 Amends Current Procedures & Guidelines Manual: Chapter #\_\_\_\_ Section #\_\_\_\_  
 Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Fiscal Impact: Yes\_\_\_\_ No\_\_\_\_  
Explain: \_\_\_\_\_

**POLICY PROPOSAL - HANDBOOK**  
**TITLE 1, ARTICLE VI, SECTION 3**  
**Standing Committees and their Duties**

Additions appear in *boldface italics*; deletions are [~~stricken~~ and bracketed]

**Section 3. Standing Committees and their Duties**

The following shall be the standing committees of the Board and their duties:

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b. The **Business, [~~and~~] Finance and Facilities Committee** shall:

1. Review and recommend to the Board the operating budget requests and work programs for the NSHE, with the primary objective of affirming the connections between the NSHE Master Plan and System-wide priorities, budget requests, and funding allocations;
2. Review and recommend to the Board the self-supporting budgets and work programs for the NSHE;
3. Make recommendations to the Board for the financing of the activities of the NSHE and the expenditure or use of NSHE financial resources;
4. Review institutional and System proposals that create added fiscal requirements and/or alter established planning directions;
5. Oversee System direction of, or participation in, studies of funding mechanisms and approaches for public higher education in Nevada;
6. Review and make recommendations on NSHE risk management, insurance programs, and safety and security measures; [~~and~~]
7. Monitor the technology needs and systems of the NSHE to ensure optimal use of resources for integrated system-wide information systems and other proper strategic uses of technology within the NSHE[-] ;
8. *Review institutional requests to purchase or dispose of NSHE property;*
9. *Review all institutional requests to enter into property lease agreements in accordance with Board policy and applicable law;*
10. *Review any requests to lease NSHE property to an outside agency or private entity;*
11. *Review the land acquisitions and disposal portions of all institutional master plans;*
12. *Review all institutional requests for easements on NSHE property;*
13. *Review annual update of all NSHE property holdings and long-term leases;*
14. *Review and recommend to the Board the NSHE capital improvement priority lists, with the primary objective of affirming the connections between the requests and the institutional facilities master plans;*
15. *Review and recommend to the Board institutional facilities master plans; and*
16. *Review and recommend to the Board a System space utilization model and periodically review institutional and System-wide space utilization data.*

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e. The **Investment [and Facilities] Committee** shall:

1. Formulate and recommend to the Board appropriate investment policies to govern the investment program of the NSHE;
2. Review and evaluate reports from the investment managers of the NSHE concerning investment and reinvestment transactions within the limits of the investment policies approved by the Board;
3. Make such recommendations deemed appropriate concerning investment and reinvestment transactions consistent with the investment policies approved by the Board and with agreements, if any, with the investment managers of the NSHE[;] .
- ~~4. Review institutional requests to purchase or dispose of NSHE property;~~
- ~~5. Review all institutional requests to enter into property lease agreements of four years or longer;~~
- ~~6. Review any requests to lease NSHE property to an outside agency or private entity;~~
- ~~7. Review all institutional requests to enter into lease agreements for amounts greater than \$400,000;~~
- ~~8. Review the land acquisitions and disposal portions of all institutional master plans;~~
- ~~9. Review all institutional requests for easements on NSHE property; and~~
- ~~10. Review annual update of all NSHE property holdings and long term leases.~~
- ~~11. Review and recommend to the Board the NSHE capital improvement priority lists, with the primary objective of affirming the connections between the requests and the institutional facilities master plans;~~
- ~~12. Review and recommend to the Board institutional facilities master plans; and~~
- ~~13. Review and recommend to the Board a System space utilization model and periodically review institutional and System-wide space utilization data.]~~