



**Minutes**  
**Advisory Board Meeting**  
**The Ohio State University at Newark**

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Thursday, March 21, 2024 – 9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Reese 255

**1. Call to Order**

Board Vice Chair Jeff Cox called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. in the Executive Conference Room of the John Gilbert Reese Center.

**2. Approval of Minutes of January 18, 2024 Board Meeting**

The minutes of the January 18, 2024, board meeting were approved as distributed.

**3. Approval of Agenda**

The agenda was approved as distributed.

**4. Public Comments**

In celebration of college sports and the NCAA March Madness series, Jeff Cox challenged board members, staff, and guests to try to guess the winner of the men's and of the women's tournaments. If anyone guesses one correctly, they will win a Rolls by the Pound cinnamon roll. If anyone guesses both, the winner will receive an entire assortment from Rolls by the Pound. With stakes so high, all present took a "shot" at it. Rolls by the pound is a local bakery known for their many confections, but especially the cinnamon rolls.

**5. Central Ohio Technical College (COTC) Board Report**

Rob Montagnese, Chair of the COTC Board, reported that COTC President John Berry has been getting out into the community for a series of town hall meetings in Pataskala, Knox, and Coshocton. The discussions were different at each. Pataskala is growing and has different needs than the other campuses because of the increased diversity. Knox is in the middle in terms growing, but not at the same rate. Coshocton is one of the areas where the campus has become smaller. Those discussions will inform the agenda for the COTC board retreat in June. Rob reported that the healthcare expo brought over 100 adults in the evening and over 250 students in the morning. The expo was held in collaboration with COTC and Licking Memorial Hospital and was beneficial to both. COTC will have a watch party for a Dennis Quaid hosted "Viewpoint Show" which was recorded on campus. Several COTC staff and faculty featured in the video. In addition, the college has created a mascot. Plans are underway for "Watch & Launch" party where the video will be shown and the mascot will be revealed on April 24<sup>th</sup>. Lastly, Rob shared that one of COTC's board members who lives in Granville took the new bus line from her house to the board meeting. According to students and the community, the bus line has been successful so far.

## 6. Unit Reports

- ***Business and Finance report.*** David Brillhart referred to the financial report for the period ended December 31, 2023 for the fiscal year July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024, which was distributed prior to the meeting. Enrollment for Autumn '23-'24 (page 7) was 2,422, which is 6% higher than projections for the year. David complimented the enrollment office and Amy Mangus for their hard work to recover from several enrollment challenges including COVID and demographic changes. An error in the formula used for calculating state supported instruction is another challenge, which has been discussed in previous meetings. This caused the instructional subsidy to decrease \$10.3M in 2023 to \$8.3M in the current fiscal year, which is 50% of budget. Once the correction is completed next year, this will return to budget. Student fees is at 58.7% of budget. The spring numbers have been reported, and the result will be \$1M to the positive. This will help offset next year's corrective payment for the state subsidy error. Overall expenditures are at 44.3%, which is slightly higher than last year but well within expectations for spending. It can be said with confidence that the Newark campus will have a balanced budget for the fiscal year.

Next year's budget projection is due to OSU on March 15 and is in process. There will be a report on next year's budget during the May meeting. Enrollment growth is being projected conservatively but indications are that it will still be on budget. There was a question about the problems this past year with FAFSA's missed deadlines and how it affects Ohio State Newark students. David said that there have been no great effects for the campus or our students. OSU has pushed back commitment dates to accommodate the ongoing problems with Federal student aid. The only concern with that during this year only is that students will potentially be making commitments later in the process while they wait for their financial aid to come in. This may affect students who do not get in at their first choice and come to the regional campuses later than usual. It is unknown what kinds of effects this will have, but there is high awareness of the problem, and everyone is doing what they can. The OSU Newark Financial Aid Office is well-aware of what is going on. There is anxiety about it as the language of how it will work has changed at the same time. It is hoped that this will only be problematic during this year and that next year will be better as the new process catches up. Future expectations are for a better system over time. Dean Bill MacDonald stated that his concern is that for the upcoming Autumn semester, the students who are affected the most are those who are financially challenged and may become frustrated and give up. Bill himself has a student in college and has experienced many obstacles and delays. It was especially frustrating that he could not get any assistance because the customer service line went directly to a recorded message and immediately disconnected. His family was eventually able to complete the process, but the lack of communication over the course of several weeks could be a major deterrent for some students. The rollout has been very challenging.

## 7. Dean/Director's Report

- ***Roads Scholars tour April 11.*** Board members have been invited to a luncheon for the "Roads Scholars" tour. Some have accepted the invitation, and Bill reminded everyone that it is not too late to RSVP and would enjoy having them join. The Roads Scholars tour, championed by the Office of Outreach and Engagement, allows faculty and staff to apply for a day-long bus excursion that visits some part of Ohio each year. The purpose is

to highlight ways in which the university is involved with the state. This is the fourth time the Roads Scholars tour has visited Newark. More information about the Roads Scholars tour can be accessed at <https://engage.osu.edu/roads-scholars-tour>

- ***President Carter's visit.*** The Ohio State University President, Ted Carter, visited Newark campus briefly in March. This was a short (1.5 hour) visit, as he had stops at all the regional campuses over a two-day period. The purpose of the tour is to gather information about the regional campuses to help inform President Carter's strategic plan. He looks forward to coming back to meet with board members. They toured the Alford center and some of the research labs, met with some of the scholars from the Ohio Means Science Learning Community, and then met with the press. He seemed very impressed with the community support and everything he saw about the campus that day. He has gained a good understanding of the regional campuses in the short amount of time he has been with OSU. Bill asked him if he had a vision for the regional campuses and he said he wants to see them all thrive and be successful, and they are vital to the land grant mission, which would be impossible without the regional campuses. The visit was highlighted in several local radio news spots. WNKO News Director, Dave Doney, added many positive comments about the Newark campus.
- ***Licking County Transit Program.*** Rob had mentioned the bus program during his report, and Bill commended Licking Memorial Health System's efforts in launching that program. Ohio State Newark participated in the pilot this year and will participate again next year. Bill expects OSU's sponsorship to decrease over time and hopes there will be other mechanisms for funding a bussing program. People are using it, including OSU students. Bill, David, and Jackie Parrill met with a group at Licking County Transit. Also represented at the meeting were Licking Memorial Hospital and the Licking County Health Department. Licking County Transit has gotten more funding, which should help with OSU's shrinking investment. The Licking County Foundation is also working to get more sponsors.
- ***Meeting of the Executive Committee:*** This topic is merely a reminder that the executive committee of the board is working on finding someone to fill the vacancy that will be created when Kathy Lloyd's term ends in June.
- ***Enrollment in the Engineering Technology Program.*** Enrollment is projected to be flat, but there are reasons to be optimistic that it could be better. One positive sign is enrollment in the Engineering Technology Program, which is almost twice what it was at this time last year in terms of applicants that have paid acceptance fees. Diane Kanney was at Newark campus for an evening event and told Bill that Buckeye Visit Days are very strong, with over 100 at each.

- **June 15 fundraiser.** There will be a fundraiser June 15 to help support Pelotonia as well as the scholarship which was established in Bill's name. The event is also a farewell and appreciation party for Bill's time as dean at Newark campus. It will be held at the Union Square Music Hall (formerly 31West). Local band, Sticks and Stones, will perform, and many friends and family will join Bill on stage. Bill thanks Jackie, Kim Manno, Jenny Nelson-Moorehead, and the many other people helping to make this event happen.

## **8. Old Business**

There was no old business for discussion.

## **9. Adjourn**

Before adjourning, Jeff mentioned the upcoming eclipse on April 8, 2024. Parts of Northern Ohio are in the path of totality and therefore will be affected by large numbers of people traveling to get a good view. Ohio State Newark is not expecting an impact, but Lima and Mansfield campuses are preparing for heavy traffic and are also planning educational programs related to the eclipse. Ohio State Newark, in collaboration with The Works, will host a special event at the SciDome a few days prior to the eclipse. Representatives of Ohio State's astronomy department will present an interactive show at the planetarium. It is free and open to the public.

## **10. The Next Board meeting is October from 9:00 a.m.-10:30 a.m.**

### **2023-2024 upcoming meetings:**

- March 21, 2024
- May 16, 2024
- October 17, 2024
- January 16, 2025

## **11. Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

*Respectfully submitted by*

*Nichole Lenglé*

*Executive Assistant to the Dean and Director*

*The Ohio State University at Newark*