

## OHIO HIGHER EDUCATIONAL FACILITY COMMISSION

### MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMISSION

November 17, 2021

The Ohio Higher Educational Facility Commission (the "Commission") met on Wednesday, November 17, 2021, at 11:00 a.m. at the Ohio Department of Education Building, 25 S. Front Street, Columbus, Ohio, due written notice of which had been given to all members of the Commission.

The following members attended: Thomas Needles, Chair; John Martin, Secretary; John Adams; Mike Gonsiorowski; James Shindler; and Susan Tate. Absent: Frederick Church. Also present were: Ben Christensen of the Ohio Department of Higher Education; Alexander G. Burlingame of Squire Patton Boggs (US) LLP, Bond Counsel to the Commission; Kate Biggar of KeyBanc Capital Markets; and representatives of the institution appearing before the Commission.

The meeting was called to order by the Chair. Upon call of the roll, the Secretary declared that a quorum was present. He also stated that the notice of this meeting had been given to all media, organizations or other persons who requested that information in accordance, and in full compliance, with Section 121.22 of the Revised Code.

The Chair noted that the minutes of the Commission meeting of October 20, 2021 were sent to each member prior to this meeting. Upon a motion by Mr. Gonsiorowski that was seconded by Mr. Shindler, all Commission members present approved the minutes of that meeting.

#### **JOHN CARROLL UNIVERSITY**

The Chair next called on Lauri Strimkovsky, Vice President for Finance, to speak to the Commission regarding John Carroll University's financing request. Ms. Strimkovsky was joined by University President Dr. Alan Miciak, Assistant Vice President for Facilities Jeremiah Swetel and Kate Biggar of KeyBanc Capital Markets. Prior to becoming President, Dr. Miciak was dean of the University's business school. Prior to joining the University, Dr. Miciak held positions at Duquesne and St. Mary's. Dr. Miciak noted that the University is focused on new programs and the student experience, while maintaining affordability. It is developing healthcare related programs. The emphasis on the student experience includes a focus on student housing and athletic facilities. The proposed fieldhouse will include indoor track and practice facilities; something the University currently does not have. Approximately one-third of students participate in University athletics. The University also desires to improve library and residence hall facilities and provide other campus improvements. The plan of finance includes the refinancing of the University's 2018 Bonds issued through the Commission.

Ms. Strimkovsky noted that the University is undertaking an RFP process for architectural firms on the fieldhouse and will be seeking input from stakeholders. The current plan is to start on the project this summer. Dr. Miciak noted that a portion of the fieldhouse will be paid for

through fundraising. Proposed improvements to Pacelli Hall include improvements for accessibility, utilities and gathering spaces. Proposed library improvements include improved spaces for career services and a writing center. Campus improvements include improvements to 1950's era building systems.

In response to questions from Ms. Tate and Mr. Needles, Ms. Strimkovsky noted that COVID took care of the issue of displaced students in recent residence hall projects. Dr. Miciak noted that the University is glad to be holding in-person classes. There is a mask requirement. The cumulative impact of COVID has highlighted the need for counseling due to stress and for academic support and tutoring. There have been less than fifty cases of COVID since August. There has only been one sporting event cancelled in the University's athletic conference due to the virus, and that did not involve the University. The University had gone to on-line instruction earlier in the pandemic. Some students obtained apartment space. The University is optimistic for this spring and will continue to follow County health guidelines. CARES Act funds were very helpful to the University.

In response to questions from Mr. Gonsiorowski and Ms. Tate, Dr. Miciak noted that the University's early application deadline is December 1. It's early to predict what fall 2022 enrollment will look like, but the University to date has an 8% increase in applications. The University requires freshman and sophomores to live on-campus. A goal of residence hall improvements is to attract more juniors and seniors to campus housing. Jesuits are involved in campus ministry and faculty. Administrators receive instruction on the Jesuit mission.

Mr. Burlingame stated that the resolution approves the Preliminary Agreement with the University. That agreement and related resolution preliminarily approve the financing transaction.

Ms. Tate moved and Mr. Gonsiorowski seconded the motion that Resolution No. 2021-20 be adopted.

There being no further discussion, the Chair called for the roll and, pursuant to the roll call, the following votes were cast:

Aye: Adams; Gonsiorowski; Martin; Needles; Shindler; Tate

Nay: None


The Secretary declared the motion passed and Resolution No. 2021-20 adopted.

Resolution No. 2021-20 is as follows:

**OTHER BUSINESS AND CALL OF NEXT MEETING AND ADJOURNMENT**

Commission members continued the discussion regarding virtual meeting authority. Mr Christensen will share the idea within the Department of Higher Education. Mr. Burlingame will investigate what other bond issuers in Ohio have similar Board make-ups.

It is now expected that the Commission will next meet on December 15, 2021, if necessary, or upon the call of the Chair. On a motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned.

  
Secretary

