## Board of Control January 15, 2020

The Statutory Meeting of the Board of Control was held on this day at the Government Office Building, 450 Columbus Boulevard, Hartford, CT 06103.

<u>Present</u>: Messrs. Andreadis, Fikrig, Jones, Larson, Royer, and Ms. Maroney and Nichols. Messrs. Capone (FIA), Last, and White were present by invitation.

Absent: Commissioner Hurlburt.

The meeting was convened by Vice President Terry Jones at 10:12AM.

<u>Minutes</u>: On a motion by Mr. Larson, seconded by Ms. Maroney, the minutes of the October 16, 2019 meeting were approved unanimously.

Election of Officers: Ms. Nichols nominated the following slate of officers for 2020:

President

**Governor Ned Lamont** 

Vice President

Terry Jones

Secretary

Paul Larson

Director, Treasurer, and

Attorney for Investments

Theodore Andreadis

**Executive and Finance** 

Committee

**Terry Jones** 

Theodore Andreadis

Dana Royer

The nomination was seconded by Mr. Larson and passed unanimously.

## **Future Meeting Dates:**

April 15, 2020	Wednesday	New Haven	10:00AM
August 5, 2020	Wednesday	Hamden	1:00PM
October 14, 2020	Wednesday	Windsor	10:00AM
January 19, 2021	Tuesday	Wethersfield	10:00AM

(snow date January 22, 2021)

<u>Fiduciary Investment Advisors</u>: Mr. Jeff Capone reported on the Board's investment portfolio for the year ended December 31, 2019. The Board reviewed the investment policy and no updates were required. Per a recommendation by Mr. Capone, Ms. Nichols moved to reduce investment in Templeton Global Bond Funds by 2.5% and increase the investment allocation in

Metropolitan West Total Return Bond Plan by 2.5%. The motion was seconded by Ms. Maroney and passed unanimously.

<u>New Scientist Recruitment Update</u>: Dr. Andreadis updated the Board on the recruitment of a Plant Physiologist to work on urban forestry issues in Connecticut. The Station is interviewing three finalists and plans on offering the position by the end of January 2020.

## **Status of Building Projects:**

- Valley Laboratory Renovation and Addition: Mr. Last reported that the Governor's recommended budget will be released in early February and he will know if the additional \$6.3 million is included.
- o <u>Jenkins-Waggoner Greenhouse Renovations</u>: The Station is waiting for the Department of Administrative Services to put the project out to bid.
- New Telephone System/Virtual Servers: The new Voice over IP system has been fully installed in New Haven, Windsor, and Hamden. The Station will migrate to the State Enterprise System in spring 2020. The data files will then be housed and backed up in Groton, CT and Springfield, MA.
- Farm House Renovations Lockwood Farm: Mr. Last reported that the renovations have begun and are going well. The Board authorized the project not to exceed \$221,540 at the October 2019 meeting. The project will be complete in spring 2020.

<u>Board of Control Audit</u>: The Board of Control audit for Fiscal Year 2019 (July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019) was distributed and reviewed. The audit was performed by Seward & Monde, CPA, of North Haven. The audit contained no recommendations or findings.

<u>Louis A. Magnarelli Post-Doctoral Fellowship Award</u>: Dr. Jason White, Vice Director, gave a report on the program. The 2019 awardees were Dr. Christina Robb and Dr. Lindsay Triplett for their proposal entitled "Plant Hormones: Linking Soil Microbes and Predators to Crop Health." There were six very good proposals submitted by Station scientists.

Staff Changes: Dr. Andreadis reviewed staff changes since the last Board meeting.

Ms. Nichols moved that an Executive Session be held to discuss Board funds, personnel, and the Director's report. Messrs. Last and White were invited to attend. The motion was seconded by Dr. Fikrig and passed unanimously at 11:31 AM.

The Executive Session adjourned at 12:16PM.

Mr. Larson moved the Director's recommendation to promote Ms. Katherine Dugas from Agricultural Research Assistant III to Agricultural Technician I effective 1/17/2020. Ms. Dugas will be transferred to the Insect Information and Plant Disease Information Offices. The motion was seconded by Dr. Royer and passed unanimously.

Mr. Larson moved that the Board approve Emeritus status for Dr. Francis Ferrandino consistent with the Board's Emeritus Policy approved 8/7/2019. The Board will provide, subject to availability, the facilities and support related to Dr. Ferrandino's continued research and service to the residents of Connecticut. The motion was seconded by Dr. Fikrig and passed unanimously.

Mr. Larson moved approval of Dr. Neil Schultes' request for a six-month paid sabbatical to Penn State. The motion was seconded by Dr. Fikrig and passed unanimously.

Ms. Nichols moved that the hourly pay rate for CAES seasonal assistants be increased to \$12.00 per hour effective 5/1/2020. The motion was seconded by Mr. Larson and approved unanimously.

Dr. Theodore Andreadis informed the Board of Control that he will step down as Director and retire from the Experiment Station effective April 1, 2020. Dr. Andreadis thanked the Board for the honor of serving as Director and for their support.

Mr. Larson moved that the meeting be adjourned. The motion was seconded by Dr. Royer and passed unanimously at 12:27PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul C. Larson, Secretary