

**VERMONT AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

A meeting of the Vermont Agricultural College Board of Trustees of the University of Vermont and State Agricultural College was held on Friday, June 4, 2021 at 12:50 p.m. The meeting was held via remote conferencing due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Vice Chair Shap Smith, Secretary John Bartholomew, Kevin “Coach” Christie, Stephanie Jerome, Carol Ode, Lucy Rogers, Catherine Toll and Samuel Young

MEMBERS ABSENT: Johannah Donovan

ALSO PARTICIPATING: Director of Federal and State Relations Wendy Koenig

Vice Chair Shap Smith called the meeting to order at 12:52 p.m.

**Approval of minutes**

A motion was made, seconded and voted to approve the minutes from the February 5, 2021 meeting.

**Election of officers – Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary**

According to the board’s by-laws, officers are elected annually in May for one-year terms. The following were elected officers for the coming year: Carol Ode, Chair; Shap Smith, Vice Chair; and John Bartholomew, Secretary.

**Legislative update**

Director Wendy Koenig gave an overview of the appropriations outcomes of the legislative session, reminding trustees that UVM received level funding general appropriation of \$42.5M, a capital appropriation of \$3M for the next two years, which represents an increase of \$500K per year and \$5.2M of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds. She also indicated that the legislature will consider additional ARPA spending when the biennium continues in January. The trustees then discussed upcoming summer legislative visits in districts. Trustee Catherine Toll stated that trustees should explain UVM’s unique position in the state as the land-grant, research flagship, while also illustrating that engaging in research is a costly proposition for UVM. Trustee Shap Smith brought up the need to present UVM as the state’s university and emphasize its impact in all 14 counties of the state. Trustee Stephanie Jerome underscored the need to highlight UVM’s workforce and economic development left in Vermont and reminded all to discuss the university’s economic impact on the state. All trustees agreed to participate in county visits and to work with Director Koenig on coordination of this project.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

John Bartholomew, Secretary