

**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 Saturday, May 20, 2023, at 8:30 a.m. in the Chittenden Bank Room (413) at the Dudley H. Davis Center.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Vice Chair Shap Smith, Stephanie Jerome, Monique Priestley, Tristan Toleno, Catherine “Kitty” Toll, and Samuel Young

MEMBERS ABSENT: Chair Carol Ode, Kevin Christie, and Lucy Rogers

ALSO PARTICIPATING: Board Chair Ron Lumbra¹, President Suresh Garimella¹, and Executive Director of Government Relations Wendy Koenig

¹ Joined the meeting at 9:05 a.m.

Vice Chair Shap Smith called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

Approval of minutes

A motion was made, seconded and voted to approve the minutes from the March 3, 2023, meeting

Election of officers

A motion was made to re-elect Carol Ode as Chair, Shap Smith as Vice Chair, and Kitty Toll was elected Secretary. The motion was seconded and it was unanimously voted to approve the appointments. Each officer will serve a one-year term, effective immediately.

Legislative update

Executive Director Wendy Koenig summarized UVM’s legislative accomplishments for the 2023 session. UVM received a 3% increase to the base general fund appropriation, \$1.5M for the PACE Upskilling Program and \$1.5M for the Green Mountain Jobs and Retention Program. The university will pursue additional funding for both of these programs in the January budget adjustment. The group discussed that UVM will continue to pursue cost-of-living increases in the university’s state appropriation to keep up with inflation.

Trustees then discussed upcoming issues for the new session to begin in January 2024, noting that board governance will be a perennial topic. Trustee Stephanie Jerome noted that it will be important for UVM to provide experts for testimony on a variety of issues including data privacy. Executive Director Koenig agreed to work with the Office of Vice President for Research to create a list of faculty and staff expertise to use for next session. In addition, trustees suggested resuming regional meetings that can be tied to the introduction of the Institute for Rural Partnerships in order to message the university’s statewide impact through research and

engagement. Trustees also agreed to meet every other month in the off-season to achieve these goals.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:20 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine “Kitty” Toll, Secretary