State of Wisconsin Higher Educational Aids Board Meeting Minutes March 9, 2021

Board Members Present: Stephen Willett, Jeff Cichon, Jennifer Kammerud, Amy Christen, Tim Opgenorth, Nate Helm-Quest, Angela Haney, Justin Wesolek, Brady Coulthard, Kyle Weatherly and Jeff Neubauer

HEAB Staff Present: Connie Hutchison, Sherrie Nelson, Charlene Sime, Joy Dyer, Peter Zammuto, Peter Noll and Brenda Stoffels.

Others Present: Todd Bailey, Kathy Divine, Sean Nelson, UW System; Rolf Wegenke and Rebecca Larson, WAICU; Grant Huber, DPI; Jennifer Conway and Susan Teerink, Marquette University

Chair Stephen Willett called the meeting to order at 9:37 a.m.

REVISION OF WISCONSIN GRANT FORMULA FOR PNP

On behalf of the private/non-profit institutions, Rolf Wegenke summarized the rationale for revising the Wisconsin Grant formula. Sherrie Nelson clarified that the schools are not getting more money and this change in the formula will ensure that all funds are distributed to students who qualify for the grant.

Board member Brady Coulthard moved to accept the proposal Jennifer Kammerud seconded and the motion carried. Eight members voted in favor of the recommendation while two voting members voted against the recommendation.

Board member Justin Wesolek asked for the following remarks to be included in this record: "I fully recognize that the financial need of students has increased during this pandemic. As a student myself, I have friends that are financially struggling. I voted no on this because it was a proposal that was rushed up in an emergency meeting, and I feel further investigation should have been done by the board, not just for WAICU, but for all sectors. It's our job to be stewards of the state financial aid system. This was a vote on principal, not on the actual substance of the proposal. That all being said, I applaud WAICU for doing what they believe is right for their students and bringing this forward. Thank you."

Stephen Willett made a motion to adjourn the meeting and the motion was seconded by Jeff Neubauer. The meeting adjourned at 10:13 am.

FUTURE MEETING

The next meeting of the Board is Friday, April 23, 2021.

Respectfully submitted, Jeff Cichon, Secretary