The Meeting of the Business and Finance Committee was called to order at 9:00 AM by Chair, Regent Scott Beightol.

A. Calling of the Roll

Present: Regents Beightol, Jones, Miller, Peterson, and Wachs,
Present via Zoom Video Conference: Regent Staton
Absent: Regents Atwell and Rai. At all times, the Committee had a quorum.

B. Declaration of Conflicts

The Chair asked Committee Members to identify any conflicts of interest. There were none.

C. Approval of the Minutes of the December 8, 2022, Joint Meeting of the Audit Committee and Business & Finance Committee

Corrections: None
Questions/Comments: None
Discussion: None

D. Approval of the Minutes of the December 8, 2022, Meeting of the Business and Finance Committee

Corrections: None
Questions/Comments: None
Discussion: None

Upon the direction of Regent Beightol, items C and D were combined as a single vote. A voice vote was taken, and the Committee unanimously approved the minutes of the December 8, 2022, Business and Finance Committee meeting, and Joint meeting.
E. UW-Madison Presentation - “Finance and Administrative Opportunities for UW-Madison”

Rob Cramer, Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration, UW-Madison and David Murphy, Associate Vice Chancellor for Finance, UW-Madison provided an overview of UW-Madison’s progress on supporting the mission of the university through an intentional focus on generating additional revenues and improving operations. This presentation is for informational purposes only. Accomplishments related to student success and research were noted, as well as the very competitive market in which UW-Madison exists. Rob Cramer indicated future opportunities for furthering the mission exist and challenges mean that we cannot be complacent and there is a high degree of fragility. While these activities have achieved positive results, allowing for increased investments in areas including student success, student access, faculty retention, and staff compensation, UW-Madison recognizes that a highly competitive market necessitates continual identification and pursuit of new revenue growth strategies - including real estate, cash management, and increases in research and corporate engagement - that advance the mission of the university.

Questions/Comments: Regent Beightol commented that he had inquired about bonding authority in the previous Capital Planning meeting and stated he would like the Regents to take a position on this and asked if Rob Cramer concurred with the approach. Rob Cramer stated he would concur. Regent Beightol asked David Murphy to clarify the impact of the large incoming class. He asked how many students did we have to turn away because we could not provide housing? David Murphy stated the approach was not to turn students away. Cash offers were made to students wanting to live off campus. The goal was to offer housing to new students. Regent Peterson asked if there are other buildings besides the Lowell center that became dorms this year? He shared there is no plan for transitioning the Lowell Center long term. Rob Cramer shared that their path is to create sustainable housing for the future. David Murphy also clarified that the Stipend money comes from institutional dollars. Regent Beightol asked if there are any regent policies impeding progress right now at the flagship campus. Rob Cramer stated that holding UW-Madison accountable for progress was working and shared that a thriving flagship helps the other campuses. There is so much overlap between capital improvements and finance. Brent Tilton, UWSA Procurement Director, shared that simplified bidding improvements in conjunction with DOA are being worked on for a future agenda. Regent Jones shared that the slides showing improvements over the last three years shows tremendous growth and it is impressive. Regent Atwell inquired about the needs based institutional aid chart, he would like to see a breakdown by each type of aid that makes up the total.

F. UW System Status Report on Large/High-Risk Information Technology Projects

Sean Nelson shared that Steven Hopper is stepping into the leadership role for ATP. Steven Hopper, Associate Vice President for the Office of Learning and Information Technology and Chief Information Officer, UW System Administration asked for approval of the required reports to be submitted to the legislative committee on Large
or High-Risk Information Technology Projects. The report, provided by Chief Information Officer Steven Hopper, details the status of 10 major IT projects within the system, including the Procure-to-Pay Automation Project, which was completed on schedule and under budget since the last report in August 2022. Other project milestones since then include completion of the Architect Phase of the Administrative Transformation Program. For other projects still in progress, the report offers updates on their schedule, scope, and budget. The total project portfolio is $251 million, a 3.2% decrease compared to the August report. Covid and supply chain issues continue to impact timeframes.

Questions/Comments: Regent Peterson shared that she is struck by how respectful the process is by going to the different institutions and gaining buy in. Regent Beightol thanked Regent Peterson because he said he would be interested in hearing success stories. Regent Wachs asked about downstream risks and Steven Hopper shared that there are roughly 3000 downstream systems, and any changes will have a significant downstream impact.

Motion made by: Regent Wachs
Motion seconded by: Regent Jones
Discussion: None
Motion carried unanimously (voice vote)

G. UW System Report on Strategic Plans for Major Information Technology Projects

Steven Hopper, Associate Vice President for the Office of Learning and Information Technology and Chief Information Officer, UW System Administration also asked for approval of the annual report on the Strategic Plans for Major IT Projects pursuant to Section 36.59, Wis. Stats., which requires all UW institutions to adopt and report an inventory of all ongoing and new projects, both enterprise-wide and institution-specific, and includes information on each project’s business need, impact, staffing requirements, and budget. Both reports will be submitted to the Legislature’s Joint Committee on Information Policy and Technology, pursuant to state statute. He stated that the effort has been to adopt a pipeline approach to benefit from scaling our IT efforts while minimizing impacts to the institutions. Information Security is a good example of this. UW System Administration is slowly building common infrastructure and shared platforms.

Questions/Comments: Regent Beightol asked Steven Hopper for an explanation of SIS (Student Information System). Steven Hopper shared it is the primary means of administering academic data, class schedules, financial aid, tuition billing, grading, etc. Regent Beightol shared that this is just another example of where combining efforts between the campuses results in better security for the sensitive data held in these systems.
Motion made by: Regent Peterson
Motion seconded by: Regent Miller
Discussion: None
Motion carried unanimously (voice vote)

H. UW System Amendment to Service Agreement with Huron Consulting Group, Inc.

Brent Tilton, Director of Procurement, UW System Administration asked for approval of an amendment to the Service agreement with Huron Consulting Group to assist with implementation of Workday software related to the Administrative Transformation Program. The amendment will provide for additional professional services based on information discovered through the Planning and Architect Stages of the project, at a cost of up to $1.26 million, while removing a “platform as a service” strategy from the project’s scope.

Questions/Comments: None
Motion made by: Regent Miller
Motion seconded by: Regent Jones
Discussion: None
Motion carried unanimously (voice vote)

I. UW-Madison Contractual Agreement with Huron Consulting Services LLC

Rob Cramer, Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration, UW-Madison asked for approval of the contractual information change orders between the Board of Regents and Huron Consulting Services, LLC. The Administrative Transformation Program (ATP) is a multi-year program across the UW System to address legacy process inefficiencies, risks, and gaps in functionality, and to build an administrative infrastructure for the future. One critical component of this is the acquisition and implementation of modern cloud-based research administration software. The two proposed change orders are necessary to add additional tasks and funding for integration to Workday, the UW’s new financial system coming in July 2024. To properly support the UW’s robust research enterprise (~$1.4 billion annually), an integration between the research administration software (Huron Research Suite) and the ERP (Workday) is critical to success.

Questions/Comments: None
Motion made by: Regent Peterson
Motion seconded by: Regent Miller
Discussion: None
Motion carried unanimously (voice vote)
J. UW-Superior Contractual Agreement with Algoma Central Corporation

Jeff Kahler, Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance, UW-Superior representing Dr. Matt TenEyck, Director Lake Superior Research Institute, UW-Superior asked for approval of the contractual agreement between the Board of Regents and Algoma Central Corporation. Regent Policy Document 13-1 requires that any grant or contract with private, profitmaking organizations with a value greater than $1,000,000 for all institutions other than UW-Madison be presented to the Board of Regents for formal approval prior to execution.

Questions/Comments: None
Motion made by: Regent Miller
Motion seconded by: Regent Peterson
Discussion: None
Motion carried unanimously (voice vote)

K. UW-Superior Contractual Agreement with Algoma Central Corporation

Jeff Kahler representing Dr. Matt TenEyck, presented a total of three agreements related to the evaluation of ballast water treatment technologies and the required contractual agreements with the Algoma Corporation to comply with the terms of the grant funding. In the first two agreements, Algoma Central Corporation is the subgrantee, carrying testing equipment on two of its vessels. One project will research the effectiveness of a chemical technology in treating ballast water: the other focuses on an ultraviolet treatment solution. These agreements are valued at $1.9 million and $1.1 million, respectively. Regent Policy Document 13-1 requires that any grant or contract with private, profit-making organizations with a value greater than $1,000,000 for all institutions other than UW-Madison be presented to the Board of Regents for formal approval prior to execution.

Questions/Comments: None
Motion made by: Regent Jones
Motion seconded by: Regent Wachs
Discussion: None
Motion carried unanimously (voice vote)

L. UW-Superior Contractual Agreement with The Interlake Steamship Company

Jeff Kahler representing Dr. Matt TenEyck, then presented a third agreement related to this project with The Interlake Steamship Company, at a project budget of $2.1 million. The research aboard their vessel will evaluate the effectiveness of filter technology in treating ballast water to current discharge standards.

Questions/Comments: None
Motion made by: Regent Peterson
Motion seconded by: Regent Wachs
Discussion: Regent Beightol shared we appreciate the research, and the funding that UW Superior is attracting for this good work.
Motion carried unanimously (voice vote)

The meeting adjourned at 11:42 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda L. Joyce
Recording Secretary