



**USF Board of Trustees  
Governance Committee**

Monday, November 21, 2022

Microsoft Teams Meeting

**MINUTES**

Chair Will Weatherford called the meeting to order, thanked everyone for participating, and provided opening comments.

**Kiara Guzzo called the roll**

Trustee Sandy Callahan  
Trustee Mike Carrere – Did not participate  
Trustee Mike Griffin  
Trustee Melissa Seixas  
Trustee Will Weatherford

There were no public comments.

**FL 101 - New Business – Action Items**

Approval of the Minutes – August 23, 2022, and October 21, 2022

Having no revisions to the Minutes, Chair Weatherford requested a motion to approve. It was given by Trustee Griffin and seconded by Trustee Seixas. The minutes were approved.

**FL 102 – USF Financing Corporation and USF Property Corporation Board of Directors**

Chair Weatherford commented that the Board is grateful for these individuals' willingness to serve on the Board of Directors.

Pursuant to Florida Statute Section 1004.28 and USF System Regulation 13.002, the USF Board of Trustees must approve members of Direct Support Organizations' Boards of Directors.

Andrew Mayts is recommended to serve a term of 4 years on the USF Financing Corporation and the USF Property Corporation Boards of Directors.

Mr. Mayts is a partner and public sector chair of the Shumaker law firm and focuses his practice on banking and finance and construction related litigation, as well as cybersecurity prevention and response. He handles complex civil litigation matters for businesses, including national banks in state and federal court. Mr. Mayts is a USF Alumni.

Chair Griffin commented that Mayts is a great advocate for USF and formally moved for approval. It was seconded by Trustee Callahan and the motion was approved.

### **FL 103 – USF St. Petersburg Campus Board member.**

The Board of Trustees shall appoint members to the Campus Advisory Boards, from recommendations of the President.

St. Petersburg Campus Advisory Board Appointment:

Isaac McKinney III is an accomplished leader and problem solver, with a proven ability to deliver cost-effective, innovative solutions that enhances the ability of a business when delivering cutting edge products and solutions to its clients. Isaac has over twenty-five years of organizational leadership experience with a canny ability to identify and solve complex problems. A highly effective communicator who inspires others to maximize their performance, and equally important, achieve their professional and personal goals. Respected as a credible voice in decision making, finding strategic direction, and establishing execution guidelines, Isaac earns a seat at the table wherever he serves. Isaac McKinney is a USF Alumni.

Trustee Seixas commented that Mr. McKinney has a strong foundation of leadership and has a commitment to USF. He is a good and solid candidate.

Chair Seixas made a motion to approve. It was seconded by Trustee Griffin and approved.

### **FL 104 – USF Research Vessel Western Flyer**

FIO Director Monty Graham provided an update.

The University of South Florida entered into a grant agreement in July 2022 to receive the 117' Research Vessel *Western Flyer* to be utilized as a platform for workforce development and for increased ocean STEM participation by historically underrepresented groups across Florida and the southeast United States. The research vessel's operator will be the Florida Institute of Oceanography (FIO). The vessel and its associated programming will directly support FIO's approved strategic plan and three of USF's strategic priority areas: Sustainability, Environmental, and Oceanographic Sciences; Global and National Security; Social Justice and Human Rights. As a platform of advanced ocean technologies, the Western Flyer will increase

USF STEM opportunities, support degree completion, increase recruitment of faculty and students, and increase research funding. Funding for the vessel's operations will be through the existing FIO vessel auxiliary with revenues generated by contracts and grants with federal agencies, maritime industry and philanthropic organizations.

A power point was provided which highlighted the following:

- Research Vessel Western Flyer – Action to accept the title
- Financial Overview
- Inclusive Training and Mentoring Program for Ocean STEM – Program Goals
- Remote Science Fosters Equity and Inclusion – Technologies and social systems to connect humans, robots, and data
- Impact and Timeline

Chair Weatherford thanked FIO Director Graham for his fantastic presentation and the committed work from him and his team. Chair Weatherford commented that this is a very exciting opportunity for the University and is truly a great gift.

USF President Rhea Law expressed her sincere appreciation and congratulated FIO Director Graham and his team on their effort and hard work that went into the USF Research Vessel Western Flyer project.

Chair Weatherford requested a motion to approve. It was given by Trustee Seixas and seconded by Trustee Griffin. The motion was approved.

Having no further business Chair Weatherford adjourned the Governance Committee meeting.