



MINUTES

POLICY COMMITTEE

Public Meeting held via videoconference on November 9, 2023 at 11:00 a.m. CT
Pursuant to Texas Govt. Code 551.127
6850 Austin Center Blvd., Suite 320, Austin, TX 78731

Committee Members Present/(Absent)

Yuejiao Liu, Chair
Michael Benson
Kelly Crook
Brad Sinclair
Diana Thomas

Guests:

Paige Saenz, General
Counsel
Kevin Baloud,
WithIntelligence*
Bhakti Patel, CLA

Other Board Trustees Present/(Absent)

(Amy Hunter)
Michael Granof
Dick Lavine
Chris Noak†
Anthony B. Ross, Sr.
(Leslie Pool)

Others Present

Staff:

Christopher Hanson
Sarah McCleary
Russell Nash
Mehrin Rahman
David Kushner
Jenni Bonds
Yun Quintanilla
Michelle Mahaini
Teresa Cantu

*Present telephonically

† present via videoconference

1 Call roll of Committee members

Chair Yuejiao Liu called the meeting to order at 11.33 a.m. The following Committee members were present in person: Benson, Crook, Sinclair, Thomas, and Liu.

Chair Liu asked if there were any members of the public who wished to speak, either now or during an agenda item. There were no comments.

2 Review order of business and establish meeting objectives

Chair Liu reviewed the order of business and objectives with the Committee. No changes were made to the order of business.

3 Consider approval of the August 31, 2023 Policy Committee minutes

Chair Liu asked Trustees to review the minutes. Ms. Kelly Crook moved to approve the August 31, 2023 Policy Committee minutes as presented. Mr. Brad Sinclair seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

4 Receive report on General Counsel

Mr. Christopher Hanson presented the annual review of the services provided by the COAERS General Counsel. Mr. Hanson overviewed the scope of services and fees and reviewed related projects as well as legal work by the attorneys representing COAERS from The Knight Law Firm, specifically Ms. Paige Saenz, Ms. Audrey Guthrie, and Mr. Deron Henry.

5 Discuss and consider Board policy review cycle

Mr. Hanson presented the Committee with the current list of Board policies, noting that eight policies had been reviewed by COAERS in 2023, and another two will be reviewed at subsequent meetings then discussed at the December Board meeting. Mr. Hanson noted that the Funding Policy, to be updated in alignment with COAERS legislation, has been pushed back to 2024.

6 Discuss and consider 2024 administrative budget

Mr. Christopher Hanson presented the proposed 2024 administrative budget and highlighted the major changes in personnel, professional services, building and equipment, information technology, communications, continuing education, and capital equipment. He noted that the proposal supports the mission, vision, and goals of COAERS' strategic plan.

Ms. Crook moved to refer the 2024 Administrative Budget to the Board for approval. Ms. Thomas seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

7 Discuss and consider Records Management Policy

Mr. Russell Nash presented proposed revisions to the Records Management Policy to the Committee. Ms. Thomas moved to recommend to the Board the Records Management Policy as presented. Mr. Sinclair seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

8 Review 2023 Committee Work Plan and discuss development of 2024 Committee Work Plan

Mr. Christopher Hanson noted that the Committee had completed all goals on the

2023 Work Plan. A draft of the 2024 Committee Work Plan was presented and discussed.

9 Review key meeting takeaways and call for future agenda items

Chair Liu summarized the actions taken and the information discussed during the meeting and asked for any future agenda items.

As there were no further items to address, the meeting adjourned at 12:24 p.m.