

MINUTES
FLORIDA BOARD OF GOVERNORS FOUNDATION, INC.
NEW COLLEGE OF FLORIDA
SEPTEMBER 10, 2025

*Video or audio archives of the meetings of the Board of Governors
are accessible at <http://www.flbog.edu/>.*

1. Call to Order

Mr. Brian Lamb convened the Foundation meeting at 4:55 p.m. Members present were Alan Levine, Ashley Bell-Barnett, Tim Cerio, Carson Dale, Kimberly Dunn, Pat Frost, Carson Good, Edward Haddock, Ken Jones, Anastasios Kamontsas, Charles Lydecker, and Paul Renner.

2. Public Comment

Mr. Lamb introduced the next item on the agenda, the opportunity for public comment.

Mr. Mike Sanderson made a comment questioning the state funds that were transferred to the Foundation.

3. Approval of Committee Meeting Minutes from July 11, 2025.

Mr. Lamb introduced the next item on the agenda. The approval of the meeting minutes for July 11, 2025.

Mr. Timothy Cerio moved the adoption of the meeting minutes from July 11, 2025, as presented. Mr. Ken Jones seconded the motion, and members of the Foundation concurred.

4. Approval of the Agreement Between CPHE and BOG Foundation

Mr. Lamb introduced the last item on the agenda. An update from the Commission for Public Higher Education (CPHE) and the approval of the agreement between CPHE and the Board of Governors Foundation. He reminded the Members that in July they approved a motion to incorporate the CPHE, and Board Foundation approved the budget amendment for 2025 foundation budget for the funds specifically appropriated for the implementation of the new accrediting body. The formal agreement has been submitted, and the members could review it in their meeting materials. He asks Mr. Jason Jewell, Board of Governors staff Member and State University System's designated seat on CPHE's Board of Directors to update the group.

Mr. Jason Jewell gave the members an update on CPHE's activities that have taken place since they approved its creation back at the July meeting. Some of those updates included the Articles of Incorporation, which were filed with Florida's Department of State on July 23, 2025, and the first Board meeting, which took place on August 6, 2025. At that Board meeting, CPHE approved the bylaws that the Board of Governors approved in its July meeting. They also voted to retain the firm of Hogan, Marin, Babbo,

and Rose, LTD to provide CPHE with legal advice and counsel during its foundational phase.

Mr. Jewell shared that federal regulations require that at least one-seventh of the Board Members qualify as public members. They have issued an invitation to a highly respected member of the higher education world and are not ready to release that information yet, but they will be fully compliant with the 501 (c) (3) regulations in that respect. The Board Members had a discussion of the accreditation standards and procedures the CPHE is developing. Staff and directors have workshopped multiple drafts and are now seeking input from various stakeholders, including experts suggested by the Board Members of the Board of Directors, leadership at each institution in the six founding university systems, faculty representatives, as well as a new organization called Faculty for Responsible Education and Accreditation. He mentioned that Governor Dunn is a member of that organization. He stated that they plan to finish collecting the feedback by September 16, 2025. After review and consideration of the feedback, they will move forward with a formal adoption of procedures and standards by the end of the month. To start as quickly as possible, the CPHE's business plan calls for 6 to 8 institutions that will apply to begin our accreditation process this fall. At this point, they have 10 who say they will apply this fall. They are not ready to publicly announce who, but they come from four of the six founding university systems.

To conclude his presentation, he tells the members the plan at the next Board of Directors Meeting, which will be held at the end of the month, they hope to get the founding systems that have not yet contributed financial resources to support the operations of the CPHE to commit. They have also launched a website, and the Directors and staff have email addresses and are conducting business. This gives a single point of contact for public inquiries and press releases, which they have received. External interest in the CPHE has been very strong. Institutions from at least 6 other states have expressed interest in applying for accreditation by the CPHE. They've begun preliminary conversations with a number of those institutions that have indicated a desire to be part of the second cohort, which they plan to announce sometime in 2026.

Mr. Lamb asked if there were any questions for Mr. Jewell?

Ms. Dunn commented that she is very encouraged by the responsiveness and willingness to listen to the faculty feedback regarding the standards from the staff at CPHE.

Mr. Jewell introduced Cameron Howell, secretary for the University of South Carolina Board, and Dan Harrison, Vice President for Academic Affairs in the UNC System. If anyone has any questions about line items in the agreement, they can help answer them. This proposed agreement envisions a quarterly disbursement of funds from the Board of Governors Foundation to CPHE. This totals over \$537,000 for the fiscal year, which will end on June 30, 2026. This agreement covers only the money that is taken out of the \$4 million appropriation. It does not cover any funds that the CPHE might receive from other sources. The CPHE will be in default of the agreement if it uses the funds for purposes not specified in the disbursement schedule. If it commits misrepresentation or fraud or is in material breach of any of the agreement's terms or conditions. And so, in the event of a default, the Foundation has several enumerated

remedies available to it, including termination of the agreement and the demand for the repayment of any misspent funds.

Mr. Jones asked if the second fiscal year will be different?

Mr. Jewell replied that it might be different, but they are hoping that some of the other university systems might be helping with funds.

Mr. Jones asked when do they anticipate other university systems to start participating, and will the two CPHE staff members' salaries eventually need to be covered by those funds as well?

Mr. Jewell replied that it is possible, but they have not made the budget yet for the second fiscal year. However, there is a consensus among the directors that this is a high-priority item, and they need to go back and secure funding from their respective systems.

Mr. Jones asked if we think it would be somewhat equal with the State of Florida?

Mr. Jewell replied that they would bring a proposal to the Board Members, laying out the conditions by which the other systems could become members of the corporation. Whether that be that they each contribute an equal amount, an identical amount to what Florida is contributing, or if it's somehow scaled to the size of their systems, or something along those lines.

Mr. Levine commented that it could be, as they pay for the cost of accreditation, should there be a tiered cost, if you're a member, versus if you're a non-member.

Mr. Jewell replied yes, eventually they will be assessing fees from the institutions. They are not doing that in the near term because the CHPE does not yet have that financial aid gatekeeping authority. That will only come when they receive full recognition by the Federal Department of Education.

Mr. Levine commented that they need to remember that as they are organizing their Board structure, Bylaws, and committees, they establish an Independent Audit and Compliance Committee of the Board. Once money begins to be transferred, you want to make sure that there is independent oversight of the expenditures.

Mr. Jewell replied that part of the agreement states that the foundation has the right to audit at any time, and they will be working on that internally as well.

Mr. Alan Levine moved to approve the agreement between the Commission for Public Higher Education (CPHE) and the Board of Governors Foundation, and to delegate the Board of Governors Foundation Chair authority to approve potential amendments to the financial agreement with the parameters provided during discussion. Mr. Jones seconded the motion, and the members of the Foundation concurred.

5. Concluding Remarks and Adjournment

Mr. Lamb asked if there was any other business from Foundation members. Having no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:17 p.m.

Brian Lamb, Chair

Prepared by Sarah deNagy, Treasurer