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## **Minutes of the special meeting of the Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin: June 15, 1936 and June 16, 1936. 1936**

Madison, Wisconsin: Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System, 1936

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*W. M.*

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS

Madison, Wisconsin

June 15, 1936

*also June 16, " (see p. 5)*

The meeting was called to order at 10:50 A.M.,  
President Wilkie presiding

**PRESENT:** President Frank; Regents Baker, Brown, Callahan, Christopher-  
son, Combs, Gates, Gundersen, Hones, Mead, Miller, Runge,  
Wilkie.

Regent Backus was absent, but arrived at the board  
room at 3 P.M.

Regent Grady was absent, but arrived during the  
evening session at 8 P.M.

Regent Richards was absent, but arrived at 2 P.M.  
on Tuesday, June 16, and was present during  
the afternoon session. All Regents were  
present at that session.

Upon motion of Regent Gundersen, seconded by Regent Brown,  
it was

**VOTED**, That the reading of the minutes of the meeting of the  
Board held on April 22, 1936, be dispensed with and that the minutes  
be approved as sent out to the Regents.

✓ Regent Mead made a verbal report for the Finance Committee,  
stating that all of the members were present at the meeting held on  
June 5, 1936, and that Regent Wilkie as President of the Board was pre-  
sent in an advisory capacity. Regent Mead stated that the action taken  
by the Finance Committee at the close of their session was as follows:

"Regent Callahan moved that the budget be approved as  
presented by the President, including the means of obtain-  
ing the additional money and that it be presented to the  
Board with a recommendation for its adoption.

Regents Mead and Callahan voted "Aye" without reserva-  
tion.

✓ Regent Grady voted "Aye" except for a reservation as to civil service employees receiving salaries below the minimum and with reference to Professor Weaver. ✓

✓ Regent Gundersen voted "Aye" with a request that he be recorded as not voting on the appointment of a relative. (Frederick Midelfart)

✓ Regent Brown voted "Aye" with a reservation as to certain salaries of employees in the lower ranges, mentioning salaries of \$65 and \$70 per month, if such exist."

Upon motion of Regent Callahan, seconded by Regent Mead, it was

✓ VOTED, That the minutes of the meetings of the Executive Committee held on April 10 and June 5, 1936, be approved, ratified and confirmed.

✓ President Frank made a detailed report on the budget as prepared and stated that it provided \$27,500 for Regents' Unassigned, and that the additions to the 1-A budget were distributed as follows:

Additional staff	\$ 80,285
Salary adjustments	29,314
Waiver adjustments below \$3000	61,051
Business items	<u>44,800</u>
	\$215,450.

✓ President Frank stated that the total waiver relief amounted to \$152,577, leaving \$92,326 to come from revolving funds and accounts other than 1-A. He also presented data showing comparative salaries of the instructional staff of other comparable universities, showing that the salaries of Wisconsin were below those now being paid by universities in surrounding states.

President Frank presented also a statement of fees in these universities, showing that the fees at Wisconsin, both at present rates and at the rates proposed, are lower than in comparable universities in the surrounding states.

✓ It was stated that the increased sum produced by the levying of a \$50 flat incidental fee was estimated at \$215,415.

✓ President Wilkie stated that the Emergency Board was meeting at the Capitol and that possibly some relief or assistance could be obtained from them. Upon motion of Regent Brown, seconded by Regent

*Fees lower in Wis*

Miller, it was

✓ VOTED, That a committee be appointed to wait upon the Emergency Board to ascertain if any assistance could be obtained. President Wilkie appointed as such committee Regents Gates, Brown and Gundersen, President Frank, President Wilkie and Business Manager Phillips, together with some of the Regents, accompanied the committee.

At 12:45 a recess was taken to 2:30 and the Board reconvened at 3:10.

✓ Regent Gates reported for the special committee appointed to call upon the Emergency Board and stated that the Emergency Board had voted \$35,000 for the first semester of 1936-37, or to March 30, 1937, to be divided as the Regents may decide, between operation and maintenance.

✓ Regent Gates also stated that the Governor advised against increasing the fees as proposed in the \$50 flat fee, saying he was sure he expressed the opinion of Senator Brunette and Mr. Beggs.

✓ The Business Manager made a verbal report regarding the shop situation, explaining the reductions which the artisans were required to take by a reduction in the Union scale and further by a reduction of hours due to lack of funds, but stated that the budget proposed by the President and recommended by the Finance Committee provided for a full forty-hour week in the shops.

✓ President Wilkie then requested Vice President Mead to take the chair while he addressed the Board. He stated that he was opposed to the budget and to the revision of fees; that he felt that new appointments should be withheld for the present. He stated that he was not opposed to the principle of an increase in fees, but that he believed a \$50 fee was excessive and would prove a hardship to poor students.

✓ President Frank made answer to President Wilkie's statement, asserting that he would be the last one to impose a hardship on poor students, but that with the assistance offered by N.Y.A., by student employment, and by loan funds, all poor, deserving students would be taken care of.

✓ Vice President Mead then yielded the chair to President

Wilkie and made his statement in behalf of the budget. It was then agreed that all Regents should express themselves on the situation and that President Frank, Dean Christensen and Dean Sellery should be heard.

✓ Regent Brown spoke on the amount of the proposed flat fee and stated that he agreed to the principle of an increased fee, but that it should not be out of bounds.

✓ Regent Gates stated that he felt that the cost of room and board for students coming to Madison was too high and that any increase in fees would work an additional hardship on them; that he believed in the freedom of education, and that the cost should be made as low as possible.

✓ The Deans of the several colleges were all present during the discussion and Deans Sellery, Turneaure, Holt, Garrison, Fred and Middleton each spoke in support of the budget and the increase in fees.

✓ The Secretary read a letter from Professor Charles Bunn, President of the University Teachers' Union, with reference to the proposed increase in fees and its effect upon the budget. Professor Bunn was present, accompanied by Professor Curtis Nettels and Professor Walter R. Agard, who constituted the committee appointed by the Teachers' Union to present the matter. Professor Bunn stated that he felt that the increased fee would work a hardship on approximately 1000 poor students in the upper half of their class scholastically and he believed that many of them would have to drop out of the university. If this problem were met, he would have no further objection to the fee schedule. He suggested the raising of a fund of \$25,000 for needy students and intimated that if this were done, he would undertake the collection of the first \$500.

✓ Professor Nettels stated that if salary waivers had to be secured at the expense of poor students, the effort to restore waivers should be abandoned.

✓ Ralph Lewandowski, a student from Milwaukee, stated that he was there representing the Polish House of Milwaukee and spoke opposing the increased fee.

✓ Robert Willihnganz, a senior student from Sheboygan, presented a protest signed by approximately 1000 students against the proposed increase in fee. He stated that he was there as a representative of the Student Alliance. The signed protest was filed with the Secretary.

✓ President Wilkie read a communication from Henry Ohl, President of the Wisconsin<sup>State</sup> Federation of Labor, protesting against the increase in fee and stressing free education for all. The letter was placed on file.

Other communications protesting against the increase in fees were filed with the Secretary.

>  
Upon motion of Regent Mead a recess was taken to 8 P.M. The Board reconvened at 8:30 P.M.

✓ At this point the budget was taken up in detail and explanation of the various items was made by the President, the Business Manager and some of the deans.

✓ Reference was made to an anonymous letter signed "Wisconsin Nurses", with regard to hours of employment, salaries, vacations and sick leave at the Wisconsin General Hospital. This letter was addressed to the Governor, was referred to Regent Runge and Regent Wilkie and transmitted to the university. President Frank read from a confidential compilation showing that the average salary, hours of labor, sick leave, vacations and allowances to nurses in the Wisconsin General Hospital are, in every instance, equal to and, in most cases, higher than in other institutions in this section of the country.

Upon motion of Regent Brown, seconded by Regent Hones, the meeting adjourned to 9 A.M. Tuesday, June 16.

✓ The Board reconvened at 9:50 A.M. in executive session.

✓ At 10:50 the Regents arose from executive session. It was decided that the annual meeting which was called for Saturday, June 20, would be dispensed with and that the necessary business be conducted during this meeting.

it was ✓ Upon motion of Regent Gates, seconded by Regent Gundersen, VOTED, That degrees be granted as certified by the Registrar.

Upon motion of Regent Brown, seconded by Regent Callahan, it was VOTED, That the election of officers for the ensuing year be held before the adjournment of this meeting.

(174) Upon motion of Regent Grady, seconded by Regent Baker, it was VOTED, That the by-laws be suspended to permit the consideration of a report of the By-Laws Committee on a recommendation of Regent Gates regarding a change in committees. The following resolution prepared by Regent Gates was then presented as a report of the By-Laws Committee:

#  
RESOLVED: That beginning with the 1936-37 fiscal year the standing committees of the board be three in number, each consisting of five regents. These committees and their duties shall be as follows:

✓ Business Committee, which shall have charge of consideration of financial matters in general, supply accounts and problems affecting employees other than those in instructional work.

✓ Educational Committee, which shall have charge of consideration of all matters of an educational nature and affecting the instructional staff.

✓ Student Life and General Welfare Committee, which shall have charge of consideration of questions affecting the general welfare of students and the university.

✓ Such special committees shall be appointed as the board shall from time to time provide.

Upon motion of Regent Grady, seconded by Regent Baker, it was VOTED, That the report be adopted.

✓ It was pointed out that this did not provide for an executive committee for the transaction of business in the absence of the board. Upon motion of Regent Backus, seconded by Regent Baker, it was VOTED, That an executive committee of three be continued, with the duties and powers of the present executive committee, and that these three members of the executive committee be also members of the new business committee. Called vote was taken, all Regents present voting and voting "Aye".

✓ Regent Callahan moved that the budget be approved as presented with a provision for an increase of the incidental fee to \$50 per

semester and with a further provision that every effort possible be made to assist the needy student who is unable to pay the additional fee.

✓ President Frank suggested two additions or amendments to Regent Callahan's motion:

1. That needy, worthy and capable students have first call on loan and relief funds.

2. That in view of the necessity of the situation the fees suggested be levied, but that the levy of these fees be accompanied by a resolution of this board requesting an emergency appropriation from the legislature in January sufficient to reduce the fee from \$50 to whatever the board may decide in its judgment to be the wisest social policy for the state.

✓ Regent Backus spoke with reference to approval of the budget and the fee and stated that he believed an effort should be made to get the legislature to provide funds to refund the additional fee; that in the event of the failure of such effort he approved the appointment of a committee to raise funds by private subscription and that he would be willing to head such a committee.

Adjournment was taken to 2 P.M.

✓ At 2:25 P.M. the Board reconvened. The matter of the approval of the budget was again taken up for consideration. Regent Grady spoke in favor of the budget and the increased fee, but stated that he thought the item for increase in staff might be reduced from \$80,000 to \$40,000. He also restated the position which he had taken in the past with reference to paying at least the minimum required by the Bureau of Personnel to employees in the classified service and made a motion, which was seconded by Regent Callahan, that the minimum wage scale prescribed by the Bureau of Personnel be restored to all university employees with the adoption of the budget. Called vote was taken, all Regents voting and voting "Aye", except Regent Baker, who voted "No".

✓ Regent Callahan then moved the previous question on adoption of the budget, stating that this would include amendment No. 1 suggested by President Frank, but not Amendment No. 2. Called vote was taken. Regents voting "Aye", Backus, Callahan, Christopherson, Combs, Grady, Gundersen, Mead (7). Regents voting "No", Baker, Brown, Gates, Hones, Miller, Runge, Wilkie (7). ✓ Regent Richards was present and asked to be excused from voting, giving as his reason the fact that he was not present at the discussion of the budget and was not sufficiently informed to permit him to vote intelligently.



✓ Upon announcement of the tie vote President Frank voted "Aye", making the vote 8 "Ayes", 7 "Noes". President Wilkie then read from Section 36.02 of the Wisconsin Statutes showing that the President of the University could vote in case of tie:

"The government of the university shall be vested in a board of regents, to consist of one member from each congressional district and four from the state at large, of whom at least two shall be women, two shall be farmers, and two shall be engaged in the manual trades, to be appointed by the governor; the state superintendent and the president of the university shall be ex officio members of said board; said president shall be a member of all the standing committees of the board, but shall have the right to vote only in case of a tie. \*\*\*"

> President Wilkie held, however, that President Frank was denied the right to vote in this instance for the reason that his name and salary were embodied in the budget and he declared the motion lost. President Frank then asked the privilege of the Board to have his vote recorded as "Aye" on the approval of the budget, except with regard to those items which applied to him personally.

Regent Mead moved that the decision of the chair denying the right to President Frank be overruled. Called vote was taken. Regents voting "Aye", Backus, Callahan, Christopherson, Combs, Grady, Gundersen, Mead (7). Regents voting "No", Baker, Brown, Gates, Hones, Miller, Runge, Wilkie (7). President Frank voted "Aye" to break the tie, making 8 "Ayes" and 7 "Noes". President Wilkie ruled against his right to vote and declared the motion lost.

President Frank then stated, "We are dealing with a question of procedure. It is my judgment that I have a perfect right to vote on the question of procedure as to the overruling of the decision of the chair and I should like to make a clear request to the Board of Regents that a motion be made dividing me from the budget and segregating me from it. On that basis I suggest that I have a right to cast a ballot."

Regent Callahan moved, seconded by Regent Grady, that the budget for 1936-37, with the President's name and salary deleted from it, be approved. The chair declared this motion out of order.

Regent Mead moved, seconded by Regent Grady, that the question be divided and the budget voted on with all reference to the President of the University, as to salary and employment, removed. Called vote was taken. Regents voting "Aye", Backus, Callahan, Christopherson, Combs, Grady, Gundersen, Mead (7). Regents voting "No",

Baker, Brown, Gates, Hones, Miller, Runge, Wilkie (7). President Frank voted "Aye" to break the tie, making 8 "Ayes", 7 "Noes", but President Wilkie ruled against his right to vote and declared the motion lost.

✓ President Wilkie asked that the records show that he consented to recording the votes of President Frank, but that the right to vote be regarded as denied by the chair.

✓ The Regents then proceeded to the

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

Informal ballot was taken for President and 15 votes cast, of which Regent Wilkie received 7, Regent Gundersen 7 and President Frank 1. A second ballot was taken for President with 15 votes cast, of which Regent Wilkie received 8, Regent Gundersen 7.

Regent Wilkie having received a majority of the votes cast was declared elected President for the ensuing year.

Informal ballot was then taken for Vice President. 15 votes were cast, of which Regent Mead received 7, Gundersen 3, Brown 2, Gates 1, Baker 1, Hones 1.

No Regent received a majority of votes and Regent Mead stated that he wished his name withdrawn, as he could not always attend the meetings.

A second ballot for Vice President was then taken. 14 votes were cast, of which Regent Combs received 6, Runge 3, Gundersen 2, Brown 2, Hones 1.

Upon motion of Regent Callahan, it was VOTED, That the by-laws be suspended and that Regent Combs be unanimously elected Vice President for the ensuing year.

Upon motion of Regent Callahan, it was VOTED, That the rules and by-laws be suspended and that M. E. McCaffrey be elected Secretary for the ensuing year at his present salary.

✓ Upon motion of Regent Grady, seconded by Regent Brown, it was

VOTED, That the meeting of the Board set for Saturday, June 20, be adjourned and that the voting of degrees as certified by the Registrar, and any other action taken while in the Committee of the

Whole, be reaffirmed.

*( Paste in Commencement program )*

was ✓ Upon motion of Regent Grady, seconded by Regent Callahan, it  
VOTED, That the salaries and the necessary business items in  
connection with the operation of the university be continued on the  
basis of the present budget until the budget for 1936-37 is adopted.

✓ Upon motion of Regent Grady it was  
VOTED, That the recommendation of Dean Christensen for the  
preparation of plans and specifications for the construction of a swine  
barn and farm machine shed be approved. *(Letter on file)*

✓ Upon recommendation of President Frank it was  
VOTED, That Professor Ray L. Heffner be permitted to substi-  
tute for Professor Quintana in the summer session of 1936.

✓ Upon recommendation of President Frank it was  
VOTED, That the grant of \$600 from the National Research  
Council for a study of cosmic rays by Professor Victor Jollos be ac-  
cepted.

✓ Upon recommendation of President Frank it was  
VOTED, That an appropriation of \$58.09 be made for travel in  
connection with the course for workers in industry. Charge to Regents'  
Unassigned.

✓ Upon recommendation of the Registrar it was  
VOTED, That the \$5 registration fee be waived in the case of  
Agnes F. Sawyer Ferguson, who is to receive the degree of Bachelor of  
Philosophy as of the Class of 1866.

>  
At 5 P.M. the meeting

A D J O U R N E D .

M. E. McCaffrey,

Secretary.