

**Board of Governors
Pennsylvania's State System of Higher Education
Meeting Minutes**

319th Meeting
Wednesday, July 29, 2026
9:00 a.m.

System Office | 2300 Vartan Way Suite 207 | Harrisburg, PA 17110
Remote Technology

ATTENDING:

Board of Governors:

Representative Tim Briggs
Dr. Quintin Bullock
Richard Caruso
Dr. Brandon Danz
William Gindlesperger
Dr. Lynette Kuhn for Secretary of Education Carrie Rowe Lynette Kuhn
David Maser (Vice Chair)
Brenna McGowan, student member
Representative Brad Roae
Erin Serre for Senator Art Haywood
Dr. Cynthia D. Shapira (Chair)
Ali Sina Sharifi, student member
Sade Taylor, student member
Samuel H. Smith (Vice Chair)
Cindy Urban for Senator Lynda Schlegel Culver

Also, in attendance was Faculty Liaison, Dr. Jamie Phillips.

Chair Cindy Shapira called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Attendance was taken; a quorum of the Board was present.

CHAIR'S REMARKS *(Full remarks in video archive)*

Chair Cindy Shapira shared that Jon Anderson has been appointed president at Utah Valley University. She thanked President Anderson for his service and his work to put PennWest on a positive trajectory with greater enrollment stability accompanied by stronger student recruitment efforts. PennWest has an updated academic array, a new strategic plan, and made progress on its capital campaign.

REMARKS BY UNION LEADERS *(Full remarks in video archive)*

Shane Clark on behalf of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees

PUBLIC COMMENT *(Full remarks in video archive)*

None.

APPOINTMENT OF PENNWEST INTERIM PRESIDENT *(Full remarks in video archive)*

MOTION: THAT THE BOARD APPROVES THE APPOINTMENT OF DR. JAMES FISHER AS INTERIM PRESIDENT OF PENNSYLVANIA WESTERN UNIVERSITY EFFECTIVE AUGUST 9, 2026, AND AUTHORIZES THE CHAIR AND CHANCELLOR TO EXECUTE THE NECESSARY DOCUMENTS.

Voice vote of the Board. No opposition. The motion passed.

ADJOURNMENT

For the record, Chair Shapira reported that the Board of Governors met in executive session on July 29 from 8:45 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. to discuss personnel matters.

The meeting adjourned at 9:09 a.m.

ATTEST:

Randy A. Goin Jr., Ph.D.

Deputy Chancellor

Meeting webcast is available here: [BOG Meeting 07-29-2026](#)