

**URBAN CHOICE CHARTER SCHOOL
BOARD OF TRUSTEES EMERGENCY MEETING – MINUTES
MONDAY, APRIL 4, 2022**

Present: Mubarak Bashir, Miriam Miranda-Jurado, Bliss Owen, Taj Smith

Excused: Shakeel Armstrong

Absent: Nicole Reinhardt

Media Notification: Zoom link was posted on the UCCS website

EMERGENCY BOARD MEETING

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 a.m.

Motion 220404.1 Upon a motion by Bliss Owen and duly seconded by Miriam Miranda-Jurado, the following was submitted for approval:

WHEREAS, in May 2020, Urban Choice Charter School received a one-year renewal from the Board of Regents conditioned upon entering into a partnership with a Comprehensive Management Services Provider (CMSP) as that term is defined by the NYSED Charter School Office to support the School's improvement efforts; and

WHEREAS, on May 26, 2020, the Urban Choice Charter School (UCCS) Board of Trustees (Board) approved a resolution authorizing the school to enter into an agreement with the Center for Educational Innovation (CEI), a nonprofit entity referred to UCCS by the Charter School Office; and

WHEREAS, throughout the partnership between UCCS and CEI, CEI failed to meet its contractual obligations and was in material breach of the CMSP Agreement; and

WHEREAS, despite some attempts to cure the breaches, CEI was unable to do so; and

WHEREAS, between November 2021 and February 2022, UCCS interviewed several entities and individuals to serve as the CMSP, but was unable to identify any viable alternatives because of the requirement that CMSPs be nonprofit entities; and

WHEREAS, on February 14, 2022 the Board of Trustees voted to terminate the agreement with CEI and the termination was effective March 14, 2022; and

WHEREAS, Urban Choice Charter School has identified and wishes to engage effective turnaround and school improvement support partners and the Board of Trustees will approve any necessary and reasonable reallocation of funds to support these partners for the remainder of the charter term and, upon renewal, until such time as UCCS receives a full, five-year renewal.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: The Board of Trustees of Urban Choice Charter School hereby approves the April 4, 2022 submission to request a material revision to its charter to discontinue the requirement that UCCS contract with an entity that provides “comprehensive management services” as that term is defined by the Charter School Office; and

RESOLVED: The Board of Trustees hereby authorizes Urban Choice Charter School CEO Lynn McCarthy to submit this revision request on behalf of the Board of Trustees, to make any technical modifications to the request, and to provide any additional information and make any non-material changes in connection with this request as may be requested by the NYSED Charter School Office

RESOLVED: The Board of Trustees hereby approves the April 4, 2022 amended bylaws, which were revised to reflect the removal of a comprehensive management services provider.

A brief discussion about the substance of the revision request took place.



Voting in the affirmative: Mubarak Bashir, Miriam Miranda-Jurado, Bliss Owen, Taj Smith

Voting in the negative: None

Motion 220404.1 passed 4 to 0

SIGNED:

/s/ Mubarak Bashir

Mubarak Bashir
Chair, Board of Trustees

Motion 220404.2

Upon a motion by Miriam Miranda-Jurado and duly seconded by Bliss Owen, the following was submitted for approval:

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees' bylaws currently require a minimum of seven (7) members; and

WHEREAS, New York State Education Law §226(1) requires that charter school board of trustees have a minimum of five (5) members; and

WHEREAS, amending the bylaws to reduce the number of Board members from seven (7) to five (5) will allow the Board greater flexibility as it becomes increasingly actively engaged in the oversight and governance of the School and at the same time continues to grapple with the impacts of Covid-19 on members' availability.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: The Board of Trustees of Urban Choice Charter School hereby approves the April 4, 2022 request for a non-material revision to its charter to change the bylaws to require a minimum of five (5) members of the Board of Trustees; and

RESOLVED: The Board of Trustees hereby authorizes Urban Choice Charter School CEO Lynn McCarthy to submit this revision request on behalf of the Board of Trustees, to make



any technical modifications to the request, and to provide any additional information and make any non-material changes in connection with this request as may be requested by the NYSED Charter School Office; and

RESOLVED: The Board of Trustees hereby approves the April 4, 2022 amended bylaws, which were revised to reflect the change in the minimum number of required Board members.

Voting in the affirmative: Mubarak Bashir, Miriam Miranda-Jurado, Bliss Owen, Taj Smith

Voting in the negative: None

Motion 220404.2 passed 4 to 0

SIGNED:

/s/ Mubarak Bashir

Mubarak Bashir
Chair, Board of Trustees

Motion 220404.3 Upon a motion by Bliss Owen and duly seconded by Taj Smith, the following was submitted for approval:

WHEREAS, in February 2021, the Board of Trustees revised its Enrollment Policy to implement a weighted lottery for the purpose of increasing the number of students with disabilities and English language learners enrolled at Urban Choice Charter School; and

WHEREAS, following the completion of the April 2021 lottery and the submission of enrollment data in October 2021, data indicated that the weights applied pursuant to the revised policy were not heavy enough to substantially increase the number of students with disabilities or English language learners enrolled at Urban Choice Charter School; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees continues to be committed to increasing the enrollment of students with disabilities and English language learners at Urban Choice Charter School; and

WHEREAS, on December 9, 2021, the Board of Trustees amended its enrollment policy to double the weights delineated in the February 2021 policy in order to further improve the chances of enrolling students with disabilities and English language learners.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: The Board of Trustees of Urban Choice Charter School hereby approves the April 4, 2022 submission to request a non-material revision to its charter to amend the Enrollment policy so as to increase the chances of enrolling greater numbers of students with disabilities and English language learners; and

RESOLVED: The Board of Trustees hereby authorizes Urban Choice Charter School CEO Lynn McCarthy to submit this revision request on behalf of the Board of Trustees, to make any technical modifications to the request, and to provide any additional information and make any non-material changes in connection with this request as may be requested by the NYSED Charter School Office.

Voting in the affirmative: Mubarak Bashir, Miriam Miranda-Jurado, Bliss Owen, Taj Smith

Voting in the negative: None

Motion 220404.3 passed 4 to 0

SIGNED:

/s/ Mubarak Bashir

Mubarak Bashir
Chair, Board of Trustees

The board reviewed these minutes for accuracy and finalized them so that they could be submitted with the revision request:

Motion 220404.4 Upon a motion by Bliss Owen and duly seconded by Miriam Miranda-Jurado, the following was submitted for approval: **RESOLVED** that the Board of Trustees approve the April 4, 2022 minutes.



Voting in the affirmative: Mubarak Bashir, Miriam Miranda-Jurado, Bliss Owen, Taj Smith

Voting in the negative: None

Motion 220404.4 passed 4 to 0

Motion 220404.5 Upon a motion by Bliss Owen and duly seconded by Taj Smith,
the following was submitted for approval: RESOLVED that the
Board of Trustees adjourn the emergency meeting at 8:11 a.m.

Voting in the affirmative: Mubarak Bashir, Miriam Miranda-Jurado, Bliss Owen, Taj Smith

Voting in the negative: None

Motion 220404.5 passed 4 to 0

SIGNED:

/s/ Mubarak Bashir

Mubarak Bashir
Chair, Board of Trustees

NEXT BOARD MEETING: April 28, 2022