

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS BOARD OF TRUSTEES
UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS SYSTEM
CAMMACK CONFERENCE ROOM
LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS
VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE
12:00 P.M., JUNE 17, 2020

TRUSTEES PRESENT:

Chairman John Goodson; Trustees Kelly Eichler, Morrill Harriman and Sheffield Nelson.

TRUSTEES PRESENT VIRTUALLY:

Trustees Tommy Boyer; Stephen A. Broughton, M.D.; Steve Cox; Ted Dickey; Ed Fryar, Ph.D.; and Cliff Gibson.

UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATORS
AND OTHERS PRESENT:

System Administration:

President Donald R. Bobbitt, Vice President for Agriculture Mark Cochran, General Counsel JoAnn Maxey, Vice President for Academic Affairs Michael K. Moore, Vice President for University Relations Melissa Rust, Vice President and Chief Financial Officer Gina Terry, Associate Vice President for Finance Chaundra Hall, Senior Director of Policy and Public Affairs Ben Beaumont, Director of Communications Nate Hinkel, Associate Vice President for Benefits & Risk Management Services Steve Wood, Chief Audit Executive Laura Cheak, Chief Information Officer Steven Fulkerson, Assistant to the President Angela Hudson and Associate for Administration Sylvia White.

Campus Representatives:

UAF Chancellor Joe Steinmetz, Interim Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration Mike White, Chief of Staff Laura Jacobs, Managing Associate General Counsel Bill Kincaid, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Charles Robinson and Vice Provost of Academic Affairs Terry Martin; UAFS Chancellor Terisa Riley, Vice Chancellor for

Finance Brad Sheriff, Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Georgia Hale; UAMS Chancellor Cam Patterson, Provost and Chief Strategy Officer Stephanie Gardner, ICE Chief Clinical Officer Steppe Mette and Director of Institutional Research, Policy, and Accreditation Kristin Sterba; UAPB Chancellor Laurence Alexander, Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration Carla Martin, Chief of Staff Janet Broiles, Vice Chancellor, Enrollment Management Braque Talley, Provost/Vice Chancellor Academic Affairs Robert Z. Carr, Jr., Vice-Chancellor Elbert Bennett and Vice Chancellor, Research Innovation, Mansour Mortazavi; UAM Chancellor Peggy Doss, Vice Chancellor for Finance Administration Alex Becker, Interim Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs Crystal Halley, Vice Chancellor for Advancement Jeff Weaver and Vice Chancellor for Student Engagement Moses Goldmon; UALR Chancellor Christina Drale, Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration Steve McClellan, Chief of Government Relations Joni Lee, Athletic Director George Lee, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Cody Decker and Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Erin Finzer; UACCB Chancellor Deborah Frazier and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Brian Shonk; UACCH-T Chancellor Chris Thomason, Executive Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Brian Berry, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Laura Clark and Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration Cindy Lance; PCCUA Chancellor Keith Pinchback, Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration Stan Sullivant, Vice Chancellor for Instruction Debby King and Vice Chancellor for College Advancement and Resource Development Rhonda St. Columbia; CCCUA Chancellor

Steve Cole and Vice Chancellor for Academics Ashley Aylett; UACCM Chancellor Lisa Willenberg; UA-PTC Chancellor Margaret Ellibee and Director, Enrollment Services Zachary Perrine; UACCRM Chancellor Phillip Wilson; AAS Director George Sabo, III; CJI Director Cheryl May; UACS Dean Skip Rutherford; ASMSA Director Corey Alderdice and WRI Executive Director Marta Loyd.

Special Guests:

Michael Moyers, Friday Firm and Joshua McCoy and Stephen Murphy, PFM.

Members of the Press.

Chairman Goodson called the special meeting of the Board of Trustees of the University of Arkansas to order at 12:06 p.m. on Wednesday, June 17, 2020, in the Cammack Conference Room of the University of Arkansas System Administration Building in Little Rock, and via telephone and video conference. Upon motion by Trustee Harriman and second by Trustee Nelson, the Chair convened Executive Session for the purpose of considering the employment, appointment, promotion, demotion, disciplining or resignation of public officers or employees for the various campuses of the University of Arkansas System.

1. Executive Session:

Chairman Goodson reconvened the Regular Session of the Board at 1:18 p.m., and stated that the Board would consider the recommendation of President Bobbitt to name Laura Clark as the Interim Chancellor of the University of Arkansas Community College at Hope-Texarkana, effective July 6, 2020. Upon motion by Trustee Eichler and second by Trustee Harriman, the recommendation was approved. No further action was taken during Executive Session, and the meeting would continue with the regular agenda items.

2. COVID-19 Update Concerning UAMS:

University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences Chancellor Cam Patterson updated the Board on current matters concerning the pandemic, stating that UAMS has done 10% of the total testing in the state and has provided technology to other hospitals across the state. He briefed the Board on various statistics and said that modeling shows that Arkansas is currently expected to peak on September 30 with 150,000 active infections, 3,000 admitted patients and 500 patients on ventilators. He commended the excellent

scientific modeling work done by the researchers at the UAMS Fay W. Boozman College of Public Health.

3. Discussion Concerning Outstanding Bonds:

The Trustees had a lengthy discussion concerning bond issuances and the university's current outstanding bonds. Michael Moyers from the Friday Law Firm and Josh McCoy and Stephen Murphy of PFM answered questions and provided insight to the current market. Chief Financial Officer Gina Terry stated that extending the maturity for any bond issuances would need approval by the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board. It is anticipated that the Board will consider bond refundings at its July 15 meeting.

4. Approval of Academic Calendar Modifications:

Upon motion by Trustee Nelson and second by Trustee Dickey, the following resolution was approved:

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of the University of Arkansas recognizes the need to continue monitoring the impact of COVID-19 in Arkansas and to adhere to the public health guidelines and directives from the state and federal governments; and

WHEREAS, guidance from state and federal public health agencies advises that measures such as physical distancing and limiting the need to travel slows the spread of the virus; and

WHEREAS, the traditional academic calendar for campuses includes fall breaks and Thanksgiving breaks in which many students, faculty and staff traditionally choose to travel away from campus; and

WHEREAS, making adjustments to the traditional academic calendar and utilizing both face-to-face and remote instruction may help maximize instructional time while reducing the amount of travel for students, faculty and staff and thereby limiting exposure to others in keeping with public health guidance; and

WHEREAS, options for modifying the traditional academic calendar while maintaining necessary instructional time may include extending the class period or instructional day, the elimination of traditional non-class days, or the use of remote learning modalities; and

WHEREAS, UA System campus administrations and faculty governance bodies generally maintain the responsibility for setting the academic calendar for each semester;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS THAT the Board directs the Chancellors and chief

executives to work with appropriate campus constituencies to consider modifications or contingencies to the traditional academic calendar for the fall semester to limit the need for students, faculty and staff to travel and increase the risk of exposure to COVID-19 while maximizing instructional time.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT any modifications to the fall academic calendar be documented and preserved for purposes of accreditation.

5. Discussion Concerning Social Distancing and Face Coverings:

Following discussion concerning a proposed resolution regarding use of cloth face coverings in campus facilities when physical distancing is not possible, consideration was delayed in order to address issues concerning guests on campus and participation in athletics.

6. Campus Reports Concerning Reopening Preparations:

University of Arkansas Fayetteville Chancellor Joe Steinmetz, University of Arkansas-Pulaski Technical College Chancellor Margaret Ellibee, University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff Chancellor Laurence Alexander and Cossatot Community College of the University of Arkansas Chancellor Steve Cole each gave updates concerning plans and preparations for welcoming employees and students back on campus.

7. Lessons Learned from the COVID-19 Pivot:

Vice President for Academic Affairs Michael Moore presented an informative report on the lessons learned from the rapid pivot to remote learning, which occurred in March 2020 and continued through the end of the spring semester due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Dr. Moore summarized the campuses responses on what worked well that they would likely repeat, what did not work well, and what resources or tools would be helpful in the event another pivot takes place.

8. Update Regarding SmartResume Tool from iDatafy:

Vice President for Academic Affairs Michael Moore reminded the Board of Dave Wengel's presentation at the March meeting concerning SmartResumes. This very useful tool from iDatafy that has received national attention has been fully implemented by eVersity and UAFS and is in varying stages of use by most of the other UA System campuses.

9. Other Business:

Chairman Goodson announced the next scheduled Board meeting is July 15, 2020 via Zoom.

There being no further business to come before the Board, upon motion by Trustee Gibson and second by Trustee Fryar, the meeting adjourned at 4:03 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/

Kelly Eichler, Secretary