

Southern University Board of Supervisors

9:00 a.m.

Friday, January 9, 2015

Board of Supervisors' Meeting Room
2nd Floor, J.S. Clark Administration Building
Southern University and A&M College
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Minutes

The meeting of the Board of Supervisors was convened by Chairman, Dr. Leon R. Tarver II. The invocation was given by Rev. Joe R. Gant, Jr.

PRESENT

Dr. Leon R. Tarver II – Chairman
Mr. Calvin W. Braxton, Sr. – Vice-Chairman
Atty. Tony M. Clayton
Mr. Raymond M. Fondel, Jr.
Mr. Diangleo S. Frazer
Dr. Curman L. Gaines
Rev. Joe R. Gant, Jr.
Mr. Willie E. Hendricks
Rev. Donald R. Henry
Mr. Richard T. Hilliard
Dr. Eamon M. Kelly
Atty. Patrick D. Magee
Mr. Mike A. Small
Mrs. Ann A. Smith
Rev. Samuel C. Tolbert, Jr.
Dr. Rani G. Whitfield

ABSENT

None

UNIVERSITY PERSONNEL ATTENDING

System President Ronald Mason, Jr.
Chief of Staff Evola Bates
System Vice Presidents Kevin Appleton, Tony Moore and Monique Guillory-Winfield
Chancellors Victor Ukpolo (SUNO), Ray Belton (SUSLA), Freddie Pitcher (SULC), Interim Chancellor Flandus McClinton, Jr. (SUBR) and Vice Chancellor Adell Brown (representing Chancellor Leodrey Williams) (SUAREC)

BOARD COUNSEL

Atty. Winston DeCuir, Sr. and Tracie Woods

AGENDA ITEM 3: INSTALLATION OF BOARD OFFICERS FOR 2015

Dr. Leon R. Tarver II introduced his wife, Mrs. Cynthia Tarver who was in attendance at the Board meeting.

Atty. Winston DeCuir, Sr. administered the oath of office to Dr. Tarver, Chairman of the Board of Supervisors.

Rev. Tolbert introduced the family of Mr. Calvin W. Braxton, Sr., wife- Peggy Braxton, daughter- Brandy Braxton and son- Calvin, Jr.

Judge Lala Sylvester administered the oath of office to Mr. Braxton, Vice Chairman of the Board of Supervisors.

Newly appointed Board member, Dr. Curman L. Gaines, introduced his wife who was in attendance at the Board meeting.

Atty. Winston DeCuir, Sr. administered the oath of office to Dr. Gaines, representing 5th Congressional District.

Atty. Winston DeCuir, Sr. administered the oath of office to newly appointed Board member, Rev. Donald R. Henry, representing the 2nd Congressional District.

Newly appointed Board member, Richard T. Hilliard, introduced his son who was in attendance at the Board meeting.

Atty. Winston DeCuir, Sr. administered the oath of office to Mr. Hilliard, an At-large member.

Atty. Clayton administered the oath of office to newly appointed Board member, Atty. Patrick D. Magee, representing the 3rd Congressional District.

Newly appointed Board member, Dr. Rani G. Whitfield, introduced his father, Dr. George Whitfield who was in attendance at the Board meeting.

Atty. Winston DeCuir, Sr. administered the oath of office to Dr. Whitfield, representing the 6th Congressional District.

AGENDA ITEM 4: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

On motion of Mr. Hendricks, seconded by Rev. Gant, the agenda was adopted as printed.

Motion carried unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 5: PUBLIC COMMENTS

Dr. Thomas Miller- President, SUBR Faculty Senate, extended an invitation to Board members to get to know SUBR Faculty and Staff, and if they were interested he would arrange a college gathering.

Continuing, Dr. Miller encouraged the Board members to allow the SUBR Faculty and Staff to have input during the Southern University System Presidential Search.

AGENDA ITEM 6: SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Chairman Tarver stated that former members of the Board of Supervisors were not available to attend the Board meeting for special recognition and will be invited to attend the next Board meeting on February 20, 2015.

AGENDA ITEM 7: ACTION ITEMS

- A. Minutes of the December 12, 2014 regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors

On motion of Mr. Braxton, seconded by Rev. Gant, the following resolution was approved.

RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors for Southern University, that the minutes of the December 12, 2014 regular meeting of the Board, be and it is hereby approved.

Motion carried unanimously.

- B. Status on the Presidential Search Committee

Chairman Tarver stated prior to the suspension of the Southern University System Presidential Search at the November 28, 2014 Board meeting, no discussion was engaged regarding the merging of the SUS President and SUBR Chancellor positions or maintaining the current model.

Continuing, Dr. Tarver stated that at the February 20, 2015 Board meeting he would like to place on the agenda, the consideration of President/Chancellor model or maintaining the current model. He also stated that the public and SACS will be informed prior to the February Board meeting the intention of the structural changes within the Southern University System.

Rev. Gant posed the question of what are the intentions of the Board in filling the positions of the Southern University System President, the Chancellor of the Southern University – Law Center and the Chancellor of the Southern University Agricultural Center whom employment contracts expires on June 30, 2015.

Dr. Tarver stated it is all contingent upon the Southern University System President and the Southern University – Baton Rouge positions, but further discussion will be presented at the February Board meeting.

Atty. Woods provided an introduction of the Presidential Search process to inform the newly-appointed Board members.

Discussion ensued regarding the President/Chancellor model or maintaining the current model.

Atty. Clayton offered a motion, seconded by Mr. Braxton, to allow the original motion to take affect under the leadership of Chairman Tarver to continue the Southern University System Presidential Search Process with the mandates that were given by Chairman Tarver.

Motion carried unanimously.

C. Approval of Personnel Action on Positions greater than \$60,000

Dr. Kelly offered a motion, seconded by Mr. Fondel to vote on the Personnel Action positions greater than \$60,000 individually.

Motion carried unanimously.

On motion of Rev. Gant, seconded by Mr. Fondel to approve Personnel Action form for - Stephanie Graham, Director of Office of Sponsored Programs at Southern University – Shreveport in the amount of \$65,000.

Roll call vote: 9 yeas: Tarver, Fondel, Frazer, Gaines, Gant, Hilliard, Kelly, Small and Smith; 7 nays: Braxton, Clayton, Hendricks, Henry, Magee, Tolbert and Whitfield

Motion carried.

On motion of Rev. Gant, seconded by Mr. Braxton, to approve Personnel Action Form for Vanessa A. Cade, Director of Virtual School Programs at Southern University – Baton Rouge in the amount of \$65,000.

Roll call vote: 14 yeas: Tarver, Braxton, Clayton, Fondel, Frazer, Gaines, Gant, Henry, Hilliard, Kelly, Small, Smith, Tolbert and Whitfield; 2 nays: Hendricks and Magee
Motion carried.

On motion of Mr. Small, seconded by Mr. Fondel to approve Personnel Action Form for Christopher Odinet, Professor at Southern University Law Center.

Roll call vote: 9 yeas: Tarver, Fondel, Gaines, Gant, Henry, Hilliard, Kelly, Small, and Smith; 7 nays: Braxton, Clayton, Frazer, Hendricks, Magee, Tolbert and Whitfield

Motion carried.

D. Board Resolution for the Right-of-Way for Electrical Power lines and Cable Installation for Small Business Incubator Building, SUNO

On motion of Atty. Magee, seconded by Mr. Braxton, the following resolution was approved.

Motion carried unanimously.

RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors for Southern University, that the Administrator's request to approve the Right-of-Way for Electrical Power lines and Cable Installation for Small Business Incubator Building at Southern University at New Orleans be and it is hereby approved.

E. Resolutions

On motion of Rev. Gant, seconded by Atty. Clayton, the following resolutions were amended to the agenda and approved.

RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors for Southern University, that the resolutions of condolences to the families named below be and they are hereby approved.

-Mrs. Helen Walker Poydras
-Mrs. Patricia Ann Tolbert-Jasper

AGENDA ITEM 8: INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

A. Interim Financial Report as of November 30, 2014, SU System entities

Mr. Appleton provided an oral update on the Interim Financial Report for November 30, 2014, for the Southern University System.

Continuing, Mr. Appleton provided an update on the expected mid-year budget cut for the Southern University System for fiscal year 2014-2015.

B. Presentation on the 125th Year-Long Celebration of the signing of the Second Morrill Act Creating Black Land-Grant Colleges/University, SUAREC

Mr. Adell Brown, Vice Chancellor of Research at SUAREC presented a video to the Board, reflecting on the 125th Year-Long Celebration of the signing of the Second Morrill Act Creating Black Land-Grant Colleges/University.

Chairman Tarver, members of the Board of Supervisors and President Mason gave commendations to the staff at SUAREC for their participation in the SUAREC 125th year-long Celebration of the signing of the Second Morrill Act Creating Black Land-Grant Colleges/University.

C. Priority Projects Updates, by Campuses

Mr. Appleton provided a written and oral update on priority projects by campuses.

D. System President's Report

The System President provided an oral report to the Board.

Mrs. Smith posed the question on the status on the system wide salary feasibility study and SUBR enrollment for the 2015 Spring semester.

President Mason stated that Human Resources is researching companies that would assist in studying our salary structural throughout the Southern University System.

Atty. Patrick Magee took a point of personal privilege and introduced a former classmate from Law School, State Representative Ted James. Atty. Magee stated that the Southern University Board of Supervisors should continue a good relationship with the Louisiana Black Caucus.

E. Campus Report

Reports submitted by the Campus Chancellors are on file in the Board's Office and posted on the Board's website for review.

SUBR Athletic Director, Dr. William Broussard provided an update on the NCAA ban.

AGENDA ITEM 9: OTHER BUSINESS

Chairman Tarver thanked Atty. Woods and Ms. Dunn for their assistance during the absent of the staff of the Board Office.

President Mason thanked his Chief of Staff, Mrs. Evola Bates for her hard work and dedication.

Atty. Clayton took a point of personal privilege and acknowledged Mr. Edward Pratt, Assistant to the Chancellor (SUBR) for Media Relations for his outstanding performance as an editor with the Morning Advocate and his discussion of the Southern University System.

AGENDA ITEM 10: ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Rev. Gant, the meeting was adjourned.