

**MINUTES**  
**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS FOR THE**  
**UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA SYSTEM**  
**SPECIAL MEETING**  
**May 19, 2025**

A. **Call to Order/Roll Call**

The Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System met for a Special Meeting on Monday, May 19, 2025 at 10:12 a.m. The meeting was held in the Louisiana Purchase Room of the Claiborne Building, 1201 North Third Street, Baton Rouge. Chair Mark Romero called the meeting to order.

**PRESENT**

Mr. Drew Brown	Ms. Elizabeth Pierre
Mr. Barry Busada	Mr. Mark Romero
Mr. Steve Davison	Ms. Kristine Russell
Mr. Lee Jackson, Jr.	Mr. Robert Salim
Dr. Jo Lethermon	Mr. Joe Salter
Mr. Keith Myers	Mr. Brad Stevens
Mr. Alejandro “Al” Perkins	Ms. Julie Stokes
Mr. Dana Peterson	

**ABSENT**

Dr. John Noble, Jr.

Also present were the following: System President Rick Gallot, System staff, and Attorneys Brandon DeCuir and Linda Clark.

B. **Invocation/Pledge of Allegiance**

Mr. Joe Salter gave an invocation, and Mr. Keith Myers led the members in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Salim asked for a point of personal privilege to commend Drew Brown for his exceptional service as Student Board member. He said that Drew had provided depth to the discussion as well as thoughtful insights. Mr. Salim graciously presented Mr. Brown with the briefcase he had used over his career as an attorney. Mr. Romero also took the opportunity to thank Drew for his tenure, which was ending in May. As a token of appreciation from the Board and System, he was presented with a crystal award as a memento of the past year.

Mr. Brown thanked the Board and System Staff for welcoming him and mentoring him.

C. **Report of University of Louisiana at Monroe Presidential Search Committee**

President Gallot reported that the Search Committee held its first meeting, including a public forum, on March 11 on the campus of the University. On April 23, the Committee met in Baton Rouge

for its next meeting with the purpose to review applications and choose semifinalists for interview on campus. The three selected for interview were Dr. Jonathan Ambrose, Mr. Chris Broadwater, and Dr. Carrie Castille.

President Gallot indicated that on April 29 the three semifinalists met on campus with faculty, staff, students, alumni, and community members. On April 30, each semifinalist was interviewed by the Search Committee. After discussion, the Committee unanimously recommended Mr. Chris Broadwater and Dr. Carrie Castille as finalists to be interviewed by the full Board.

President Gallot thanked the University for the hospitality extended to all while on campus. Secondly, he expressed appreciation to all who had given their time and talent to serve on the Search Committee:

***Board Members***

Mr. Drew Brown	Ms. Elizabeth Pierre
Mr. Barry Busada	Mr. Mark Romero
Mr. Steve Davison	Mr. Joe Salter
Dr. Jo Lethermon	

***Constituent Members***

Dr. Jeffrey Anderson	Mr. Jeff Laudenheimer
Mr. Paul Coburn	Ms. Jady Maloney
Mr. Lee Denny	Mr. Todd Perry
Mr. Friday Ellis	Mr. Dan Robertson
Ms. Dana Etier-Mejia	Mr. Anthony "Tag" Rome
Ms. Shelia Grayson	Ms. Lynnel Ruckert
Mr. Roy Heatherly	Mr. Jamie Shelton
Mr. Charles Jackson	Ms. Patience Talley

President Gallot also made special thanks to Dr. Nick Bruno for agreeing to lead the University as Acting President during the transition period.

**D. Overview of Interview Procedures**

Board Chair Romero asked for comments from the public. Dr. Erica Calais indicated that there were no requests to speak.

Mr. Romero said that the first interview would be with Dr. Carrie Castille. After her opening statement, the Board would pose questions to her. The Board will enter Executive Session to further dialogue with her after questioning.

**E. Candidate Interview – Dr. Carrie Castille**

Mr. Romero welcomed Dr. Castille and asked Board members to introduce themselves. She introduced her husband, Dr. Robert Robichaux.

Questions were posed regarding student retention, graduation rates, building strong relationships to advance the mission of the University, shared governance, academic excellence, priorities and leadership style, and progress in the midst of budgetary constraints.

At 10:51 a.m. upon motion of Mr. Stevens, seconded by Mr. Salter, the Board unanimously voted to meet in Executive Session with Dr. Castille. The following vote was recorded:

Yeas: Mr. Drew Brown, Mr. Barry Busada, Mr. Steve Davison, Mr. Lee Jackson, Jr., Dr. Jo Lethermon, Mr. Keith Myers, Mr. Al Perkins, Mr. Dana Peterson, Ms. Elizabeth Pierre, Mr. Mark Romero, Ms. Kristine Russell, Mr. Robert Salim, Mr. Joe Salter, Mr. Brad Stevens, Ms. Julie Stokes

Nays: None

Absent: Dr. John Noble, Jr.

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Upon motion of Mr. Jackson, seconded by Mr. Salter, at 11:50 a.m., the Board unanimously voted to reconvene in Open Session.

E. **Candidate Interview – Mr. Chris Broadwater**

Chair Romero welcomed Mr. Broadwater and asked the Board members to introduce themselves. Mr. Broadwater introduced his wife Hilaria Broadwater and other close family members.

Questions were posed regarding student retention, graduation rates, building strong relationships to advance the mission of the University, shared governance, academic excellence, priorities and leadership style, and progress in the midst of budgetary constraints.

At 12:19 p.m., upon motion of Mr. Stevens, seconded by Mr. Brown, the Board unanimously voted to meet in Executive Session with Mr. Broadwater. The following vote was recorded:

Yeas: Mr. Drew Brown, Mr. Barry Busada, Mr. Steve Davison, Mr. Lee Jackson, Jr., Dr. Jo Lethermon, Mr. Keith Myers, Mr. Al Perkins, Mr. Dana Peterson, Ms. Elizabeth Pierre, Mr. Mark Romero, Ms. Kristine Russell, Mr. Robert Salim, Mr. Joe Salter, Mr. Brad Stevens, Ms. Julie Stokes

Nays: None

Absent: Dr. John Noble, Jr.

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F. **Deliberations\***

After the Executive Session with Mr. Broadwater, the Board remained in Executive Session to discuss both finalists.

At 3:05 p.m., upon motion of Mr. Salter, seconded by Mr. Peterson, the Board unanimously voted to reconvene in Open Session.

G. **Introduction of President of University of Louisiana at Monroe**

Mr. Romero asked if there were any comments from Board members. Mr. Drew Brown made the following motion:

“I move that we appoint Dr. Carrie Castille as President of University of Louisiana at Monroe and authorize University of Louisiana System President Rick Gallot and Board Chair Mark Romero to negotiate the terms of appointment and execute an offer of employment on behalf of the Board.”

Mr. Robert Salim seconded the motion. The following roll call vote was recorded:

Yeas: Mr. Drew Brown, Mr. Barry Busada, Mr. Steve Davison, Mr. Lee Jackson, Jr., Dr. Jo Lethermon, Mr. Keith Myers, Mr. Al Perkins, Mr. Dana Peterson, Ms. Elizabeth Pierre, Mr. Mark Romero, Ms. Kristine Russell, Mr. Robert Salim, Mr. Joe Salter, Mr. Brad Stevens, Ms. Julie Stokes

Nays: None

Absent: Dr. John Noble, Jr.

The motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Sandra Green escorted Dr. Castille and her husband into the auditorium to a standing ovation. Mr. Romero congratulated her for being selected and stated that the System and the Board looked forward to supporting her.

Dr. Castille thanked the Board, and said she was grateful for being selected and looked forward to her time with the System, working with the Board, the campus, and the community.

H. **Other Business**

Chair Romero again thanked President Gallot, Dr. Erica Calais and Dr. Jeannine O’Rourke, System staff, members of the Committee, and the Board for a successful search process.

He reminded Board members that the next meeting of the Board is scheduled for June 26 on the campus of Southeastern Louisiana University in Hammond.

I. **Adjournment**

Upon unanimous motion, the Board voted to adjourn at 3:15 p.m.