

**MINUTES  
SPECIAL MEETING  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS FOR THE  
UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA SYSTEM  
April 20, 2017**

Prior to convening the Special Meeting, Chair Perkins requested that newly appointed Board member, Johnny McFerren, be sworn in. Mr. Jeremy Evans, Clerk of Court for DeSoto Parish, administered the Oath of Office to Mr. McFerren.

Mr. McFerren said that he appreciated Governor John Bel Edwards for appointing him to the Board. Mr. McFerren represents the 4<sup>th</sup> Congressional District.

A. **Call to Order**

Mr. Alejandro “Al” Perkins, Chair, called to order the Special Meeting of the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System in Room 100, the “Louisiana Purchase Room,” Claiborne Conference Center, 1201 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, Louisiana at 9:10 a.m.

B. **Roll Call**

The roll was called.

**PRESENT**

Mr. James Carter	Mr. Shawn Murphy
Dr. John Condos	Mr. Alejandro “Al” Perkins
Ms. Lola Dunahoe	Ms. Elizabeth Pierre
Ms. Pamela Egan	Mr. Virgil Robinson
Mr. Thomas Kitchen	Mr. Mark Romero
Mr. Jimmie “Beau” Martin, Jr.	Mr. Winfred Sibille
Mr. Johnny McFerren	Mr. Antonio Torres

**ABSENT**

Mr. Edward Crawford III	Mr. Robert Shreve
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Also present for the meeting were the following: System President Jim Henderson, System staff, Winston DeCuir, Jr., interested citizens, and representatives of the news media.

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C. **Report of McNeese State University Presidential Search Committee**

Dr. Jim Henderson, Non-voting Chair of the Search Committee, reported that the Committee held its initial meeting in Baton Rouge in February. The second meeting was held on the McNeese campus with the purpose of seeking input from the campus community regarding desirable qualities in the next President.

He further stated that the Committee met on April 3 in Baton Rouge to review applications and at that time selected semifinalists to interview on campus. Dr. Neil Aspinwall, Dr. Daryl Burckel, Dr. Jeanne Daboval, and Dr. Mirta Martin were chosen as semifinalists.

Dr. Henderson said that on April 11 the Search Committee interviewed the four candidates on McNeese's campus and at that meeting recommended that the Board interview Dr. Aspinwall, Dr. Burckel, and Dr. Daboval as finalists.

Dr. Henderson thanked members of the Search Committee, including Board Members James Carter, John Condos, Thomas Kitchen, Al Perkins, Elizabeth Pierre, Virgil Robinson, Mark Romero, Robert Shreve, Winfred Sibille, and Antonio Torres, for their service. As well, Dr. Henderson commended additional individuals who served on the Committee, including Matthew Butkus, Kevin Caldwell, Willie Mount, Caleb Prince, and Vic Stelly. Dr. Henderson gave special thanks to the McNeese family for hosting the semifinalists, members of the Committee, and System staff.

D. **Overview of Interview Procedures**

Dr. Kahn, System Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, indicated that no requests for public comment had been received.

Dr. Henderson shared the framework for the interview process for the day. He said that each finalist would be offered the opportunity to make an opening statement, followed by questions by Board members. After each interview, he stated that the Board would convene in Executive Session for a dialogue with the candidate. Dr. Henderson indicated that, after reconvening in Open Session, the Board would interview the next finalist. He said that, after the third interview and Executive Session, the Board would remain in Executive Session to discuss any final personnel issues.

E. **Candidate Interviews**

*Dr. Neil Aspinwall*

Dr. Neil Aspinwall was escorted to the table for his interview. Dr. Henderson introduced him and indicated that Dr. Aspinwall received his bachelor's degree in education with a major in Technology Education from Georgia Southern University, as well as Masters and Specialist degrees in education with a major in School Administration and Supervision and a Doctorate in education with a major in Educational Administration. Dr. Aspinwall is currently Chancellor at SOWELA Technical Community College.

Dr. Aspinwall introduced his wife Theresa and provided an opening statement. Board members posed questions.

Upon motion of Mr. Romero, seconded by Dr. Condos, at 9:40 a.m. the Board convened to Executive Session with Dr. Aspinwall. The following roll call vote was recorded:

Yeas: Mr. Carter, Dr. Condos, Ms. Dunahoe, Ms. Egan, Mr. Kitchen, Mr. Martin, Mr. McFerren, Mr. Murphy, Mr. Perkins, Ms. Pierre, Mr. Robinson, Mr. Romero, Mr. Sibille, Mr. Torres

Nays: None

Absent: Mr. Crawford, Mr. Shreve

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Upon motion of Mr. Murphy, seconded by Mr. Carter, at 10:30 a.m., the Board reconvened in Open Session. While in Executive Session, no motions were made nor votes taken.

*Dr. Daryl Burckel*

Dr. Daryl Burckel was escorted into the Auditorium and introduced by Dr. Henderson. President Henderson said that Dr. Burckel received his Bachelor of Science in Accounting from McNeese State University as well as his Master's in Business Administration. He holds the Arthur Hollins III Professorship in Accounting in the McNeese State University College of Business as well as having been past head of the Department of Accounting, Finance, and Economics.

Dr. Burckel introduced his wife Mary and daughter Natalie and made an opening statement. Board members then posed questions to him.

Upon motion of Mr. Murphy, seconded by Mr. Torres, at 10:50 a.m. the Board convened to Executive Session with Dr. Burckel. The following roll call vote was recorded:

Yeas: Mr. Carter, Dr. Condos, Ms. Dunahoe, Ms. Egan, Mr. Kitchen, Mr. Martin, Mr. McFerren, Mr. Murphy, Mr. Perkins, Ms. Pierre, Mr. Robinson, Mr. Romero, Mr. Sibille, Mr. Torres

Nays: None

Absent: Mr. Crawford, Mr. Shreve

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Upon motion of Mr. Carter, seconded by Mr. Murphy, at 11:20 a.m., the Board reconvened in Open Session. While in Executive Session, no motions were made nor votes taken.

*Dr. Jeanne Daboval*

President Henderson introduced Dr. Jeanne Daboval as she was escorted into the Auditorium. Dr. Henderson stated that Dr. Daboval is currently the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs at McNeese. He indicated that she had earned her undergraduate degree in Business Education and Master's in Business Administration from McNeese State University. She later received her Doctorate in Business Administration in Human Resource Management from Nova Southeastern University.

Dr. Daboval introduced her brother Al and his wife along with other family members. She made her opening statement, after which the Board questioned her.

Upon motion of Mr. Sibille, seconded by Mr. Murphy, at 11:30 a.m. the Board convened to Executive Session with Dr. Daboval. The following roll call vote was recorded:

Yeas: Mr. Carter, Dr. Condos, Ms. Dunahoe, Ms. Egan, Mr. Kitchen, Mr. Martin, Mr. McFerren, Mr. Murphy, Mr. Perkins, Ms. Pierre, Mr. Robinson, Mr. Romero, Mr. Sibille, Mr. Torres

Nays: None

Absent: Mr. Crawford, Mr. Shreve

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Upon motion of Mr. Romero, seconded by Mr. Carter, at 12:35 a.m., the Board reconvened in Open Session. While in Executive Session, no motions were made nor votes taken.

F. **Deliberations**

After Mr. Perkins asked for comments from the Board, upon motion of Dr. Condos, seconded by Mr. Sibille, the following resolution was unanimously approved by the Board:

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Dr. Daryl Burckel be appointed as President of McNeese State University and that System President Jim Henderson and Board Chair Al Perkins negotiate the terms of appointment and execute an offer of employment on behalf of the Board.***

The following roll call vote was recorded:

Yeas: Mr. Carter, Dr. Condos, Ms. Dunahoe, Ms. Egan, Mr. Kitchen, Mr. Martin, Mr. McFerren, Mr. Murphy, Mr. Perkins, Ms. Pierre, Mr. Robinson, Mr. Romero, Mr. Sibille, Mr. Torres

Nays: None

Absent: Mr. Crawford, Mr. Shreve

G. **Introduction of President of McNeese State University**

Chair Perkins congratulated Dr. Burckel as the 7<sup>th</sup> President of McNeese State University. Mr. Perkins again gave thanks to Dr. Henderson, Search Committee members, Board members, and System staff for the time and energy that had been invested into the search process.

Dr. Burckel also thanked the Board and indicated that he was greatly honored to serve the University in this capacity.

H. **Other Business**

There was no other business to come before the Board.

I. **Adjournment**

Upon motion of Mr. Romero, seconded by Mr. Carter, the Board adjourned at 12:45 p.m.