

**MINUTES**  
**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS FOR THE**  
**UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA SYSTEM**  
**January 9, 2018**

A. **Call to Order**

The Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System met on Tuesday, January 9, 2018 at 11:13 a.m. in Room 100, Louisiana Purchase Room, of the Claiborne Conference Center, 1201 North Third Street, in Baton Rouge, Louisiana

B. **Roll Call**

**PRESENT**

Ms. Lola Dunahoe	Ms. Elizabeth Pierre
Mr. Thomas Kitchen	Mr. Benjamin Rice
Mr. Johnny McFerren	Mr. Virgil Robinson
Mr. Shawn Murphy	Mr. Mark Romero
Mr. Alejandro Perkins	Mr. Winfred Sibille

**ABSENT**

Mr. James Carter	Dr. Pamela Egan
Dr. John Condos	Mr. Jimmie "Beau" Martin, Jr.
Mr. Edward Crawford III	Mr. Robert Shreve

Also present for the meeting were the following: System President Jim Henderson, System staff, administrators and faculty representatives from System campuses, Attorneys Linda Clark and Winston DeCuir, Jr., interested citizens, and representatives of the news media.

C. **Invocation**

Mr. Romero provided the invocation.

D. **Swearing In of 2018 Officers**

Judge Wilson Fields administered the Oath of Office to Mr. Alejandro Perkins as Board Chair and Mr. Mark Romero as Vice Chair.

Mr. Perkins said that he was honored to continue to serve along with the other 15 Board members. He voiced appreciation for their commitment over the past year to give of their time, talents, and treasure.

Mr. Romero also indicated that he was honored to serve as the Vice Chair of the Board for the second year and thanked Mr. Perkins and Dr. Henderson for their leadership. He particularly commended Mr. Winfred Sibille for mentoring him and all the Board members.

- E. University of Louisiana at Monroe's request that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System, on behalf of University of Louisiana at Monroe, initiate legal action against Turner Food Systems, LLC, seeking payment of all unpaid commissions due to the University for Fiscal Years 2015-17.

Ms. Linda Clark, Legal Counsel, explained the necessity for the University's request. She said that the Board must be the plaintiff in such legal action as it is not possible for a university to take that action. Mr. Perkins requested that the Board be updated on the progress of the litigation.

Upon motion of Mr. Kitchen, seconded by Mr. Sibille, the Board unanimously voted to approve the following resolution:

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves University of Louisiana at Monroe's request to initiate in the name of the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System, and on behalf of ULM, litigation seeking payment of past due commissions from Turner.*

***BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that University of Louisiana at Monroe shall obtain final review from UL System staff and legal counsel prior to filing suit.*

***BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the President of the University of Louisiana at Monroe and/or his designee is hereby designated and authorized to execute any and all documents associated with said litigation by the University of Louisiana System on behalf of University of Louisiana at Monroe.*

***AND FURTHER**, that the University of Louisiana at Monroe will keep System staff apprised of the actions taken and will provide the System office with copies of all executed documents for Board files.*

- F. Nicholls State University's request for approval to appoint Dr. Velma "Sue" Westbrook as Interim Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs effective January 4, 2018.

Dr. Jay Clune, President of Nicholls State University, presented the request to the Board.

Upon motion of Mr. Romero, seconded by Mr. Robinson, the Board unanimously voted to approve the following resolution:

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves Nicholls State University's request for approval to appoint Dr. Velma "Sue" Westbrook as Interim Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs effective January 4, 2018.*

- G. **SYSTEM PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

President Henderson asked Dr. Jay Clune to update the Board on his first days as President of Nicholls State University. Dr. Clune said that he received a warm welcome from administration, faculty, and staff. He also indicated that he made some leadership changes on campus.

### ***Personnel Actions***

Dr. Henderson reported that Nicholls State University and the System Office had submitted some personnel action forms, and these were included in their folders. He said that System staff had reviewed all personnel actions and staff recommends approval.

*Upon motion of Mr. Sibille, seconded by Mr. Murphy, the Board unanimously voted to approve the System personnel actions.*

President Henderson introduced Ms. Ashley Carter, J.D., who will soon be joining the System staff as Director of Governmental Affairs. Ms. Carter said that she is excited to join the team and help implement the Strategic Plan.

He also announced that Ms. Cami Geisman is being promoted to Vice President of Communications and Marketing. Ms. Geisman thanked Dr. Henderson and the Board and said that she values Dr. Henderson's focus on communications and branding.

### ***For Our Future Conference***

Dr. Henderson updated the Board with the plans for the February 1-2 *For Our Future* Conference to be held on the campus of Southeastern. He reported that close to 350 individuals have already registered to attend, with 36 presenters selected for the breakout sessions. He indicated that Board members and student leaders will also participate in panel discussions during the conference.

### ***ULS Day at the Capitol***

President Henderson said that the 2018 ULS Day at the Capitol is being set for April 11. He encouraged Board members to include the date on their calendars.

## **H. Board Chair's Report**

### ***Standing Committee Assignments***

Mr. Perkins shared that he had appointed the following Board members as Committee Chairs for 2018:

- Dr. Pamela Egan – Chair, Academic and Student Affairs
- Dr. John Condos – Chair, Athletic
- Mr. Mark Romero – Chair, Facilities Planning
- Mr. Winfred Sibille – Chair, Finance
- Ms. Lola Dunahoe – Chair, Grievance
- Mr. James Carter – Chair, Legislation
- Mr. Robert Shreve – Chair, Personnel
- Mr. Shawn Murphy – Chair, Strategy and Performance

*Next Meeting*

Chair Perkins announced that the location of the next meeting of the Board on Thursday, February 22 had been changed to Louisiana Tech University's campus in Ruston. He also stated that a Board Retreat is being planned for Friday, February 23, and Saturday, February 24, to conclude around noon. He encouraged all members to make every effort to attend.

Again, Mr. Perkins thanked President Maggio and Ms. Dunahoe for inviting the Board to enjoy holiday activities in Natchitoches for the December meeting.

I. **Other Business**

There was no other business to come before the Board.

J. **Adjournment**

Upon motion of Mr. Murphy, seconded by Mr. Romero, the Board voted to adjourn at 12:00 p.m.