

**MINUTES
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS FOR THE
UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA SYSTEM
December 5, 2019**

A. **Call to Order**

The Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System met on Thursday, December 5, 2019, at 11:21 a.m. in Room 100, Louisiana Purchase Room, of the Claiborne Conference Center, 1201 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

B. **Roll Call**

PRESENT

Dr. Jimmy Clarke	Mr. Shawn Murphy
Mr. Edward Crawford III	Mr. Alejandro "Al" Perkins
Ms. Lola Dunahoe	Ms. Elizabeth Pierre
Dr. Pamela Egan	Mr. Virgil Robinson
Mr. Thomas Kitchen	Mr. Mark Romero
Ms. Rachel Lautigar	Ms. Kristine Russell
Ms. Mildred "Mimi" Methvin	Mr. Joe Salter

ABSENT

Mr. James Carter	Dr. John Condos
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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/Special Guest**

Mr. Joe Salter opened the meeting with an invocation.

Chair Mark Romero announced that Governor John Bel Edwards was present at the meeting and had graciously agreed to address the Board. System President Henderson welcomed him and expressed gratitude for his leadership over the past four years. He thanked him for his strong support of higher education and his commitment for the future.

Governor Edwards praised Dr. Henderson and the nine Institution Presidents for their leadership and their goal to educate an even larger percentage of the citizenry. He gave a brief overview of his first term and committed to prioritizing investment in higher education in his second term. He stated the importance of addressing deferred maintenance issues for campuses and encouraged dual enrollment, workforce development, and the goal of producing well-rounded graduates.

D. **Approval of Minutes of October 24 Board Meeting**

Upon motion of Mr. Salter, seconded by Dr. Egan, the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System unanimously approved the minutes of the October 24, 2019 Board Meeting.

Upon motion of Ms. Pierre, seconded by Mr. Murphy, the Board unanimously voted to suspend the rules and dispense with Committee deliberations to allow the Board to consider all items on the agenda.

E. **Academic and Student Affairs Committee**

Ms. Dunahoe asked Dr. Jeannine Kahn, System Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, to present all the items for consideration.

After Dr. Kahn described Items E.1.-E.10., upon motion of Mr. Murphy, seconded by Ms. Methvin, the following items were unanimously approved:

- E.1. Grambling State University's request for approval to award an Honorary Doctorate of Laws to Mr. James Carter.

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves Grambling State University's request for approval to award an Honorary Doctorate of Laws to Mr. James Carter.*

- E.2. Grambling State University's request for approval to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine.

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves Grambling State University's request for approval to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine.*

- E.3. Louisiana Tech University's request for approval to offer six (6) Undergraduate Certificates.

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves Louisiana Tech University's request to offer six (6) Undergraduate Certificates.*

- E.4. Louisiana Tech University's request for approval to offer a Graduate Certificate in Industrial-Organizational Psychology.

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves Louisiana Tech University's request for approval to offer a Graduate Certificate in Industrial-Organizational Psychology.*

- E.5. McNeese State University's request for approval to terminate the Master of Education in Educational Leadership.

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves McNeese State University's request for approval to terminate the Master of Education in Educational Leadership.*

- E.6. McNeese State University's request for approval to terminate the Education Specialist in Educational Leadership.

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves McNeese State University's request for approval to terminate the Education Specialist in Educational Leadership.*

- E.7. McNeese State University's request for approval of a transfer agreement with Lamar State College Orange.

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves McNeese State University's request for approval of a transfer agreement with Lamar State College Orange.*

- E.8. McNeese State University's request for approval to offer a Bachelor of Science in Chemical Engineering.

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves McNeese State University's request for approval to offer a Bachelor of Science in Chemical Engineering.*

- E.9. Nicholls State University's request for approval to award an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters to Senator Norbèrt "Norby" Chabert.

***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 award an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters to Senator Norbèrt "Norby" Chabert.*

- E.10. University of New Orleans' request for approval to offer a Bachelor of Science in Professional Pilot.

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves University of New Orleans' request for approval to offer a Bachelor of Science in Professional Pilot.*

F. **Athletic Committee**

Committee Chair Murphy asked Mr. Bruce Janet, System Director of Internal and External Audits, to describe the items for consideration.

Upon motion of Dr. Egan, seconded by Ms. Dunahoe, the Board unanimously voted to approve the following items (F.1.-F.3.):

- F.1. McNeese State University's request for approval to update the McNeese State University policy permitted under the NCAA Bylaw 11.3.2.3 relating to supplemental pay for coaches.

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves McNeese State University's request for approval to update the McNeese University policy permitted under the NCAA Bylaw 11.3.2.3 relating to supplemental pay for coaches.*

- F.2. University of Louisiana at Monroe's request for approval of a contract with Mr. Charles Olson, Director of Volleyball/Head Women's Indoor Volleyball Coach, effective August 7, 2019.

***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 for approval of a contract with Mr. Charles Olson, Director of Volleyball/Head Women's Indoor Volleyball Coach, effective August 7, 2019.*

- F.3. University of Louisiana at Lafayette's request for authorization for the System President to execute amendments to coaching contracts.

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby authorizes the System President to approve and execute contract amendments for UL-Lafayette football coaches on the terms recommended by the University's athletics staff as may be necessary during the period until the next regular Board meeting.*

G. **Facilities Planning Committee**

Mr. Al Perkins, Chair, asked Mr. Janet to present the items listed on the agenda of the Facilities Planning Committee.

Upon motion of Ms. Pierre, seconded by Mr. Murphy, the Board unanimously voted to approve the following items:

- G.1. McNeese State University's request for approval to enter into a Land Lease with the Eucharist J. Labry Revocable Trust for use of pastureland located near the McNeese State University Foundation Fuller Farm property.

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves McNeese State University's request for approval to enter into a Land Lease with the Eucharist J. Labry Revocable Trust for use of pastureland located near the McNeese State University Foundation Fuller Farm property.*

***BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that McNeese State University shall obtain final review from UL System staff, legal counsel, and shall secure all other appropriate approvals from agencies/parties of processes, documents, and administrative requirements prior to execution of documents.*

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the President of McNeese State University and his or her designee are hereby designated and authorized to execute any and all documents associated with said Land Lease.

AND FURTHER, that McNeese State University will provide the System office with copies of all final executed documents for Board files.

- G.2. McNeese State University's request for approval to enter into a Land Lease with the McNeese State University Foundation for thirty years which in turn will permit billboard construction and use through a sublease to Lamar during the term of the lease and fund future billboard replacement.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves McNeese State University's request to enter into a Land Lease with the McNeese State University Foundation for the purpose of executing a sublease to Lamar Advertising for placement of three billboards on leased property.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that McNeese State University shall obtain final review from UL System staff, legal counsel, and shall secure all other appropriate approvals from agencies/parties of processes, documents, and administrative requirements prior to execution of documents.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the President of McNeese State University and his or her designee are hereby designated and authorized to execute any and all documents associated with said lease by the University of Louisiana System on behalf of and for the use of McNeese State University.

AND FURTHER, that McNeese State University will provide the System office with copies of all final executed documents for Board files.

- G.3. University of Louisiana at Lafayette's request for approval to demolish the Beau Soleil Home facility.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves University of Louisiana at Lafayette's request to demolish the Beau Soleil Home facility.

AND FURTHER, that ULS staff and legal counsel ensure that all documents conform to statutory and administrative requirements.

- G.4. University of Louisiana at Monroe's request for approval to enter into a Grounds and Facilities Lease Agreement with ULM Facilities, Inc., a 501(c)3 not-for-profit corporation, to construct a new student dining facility pursuant to the authority vested in La. R.S. 17:3361.

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 for approval to enter into a Grounds and Facilities Lease Agreement with ULM Facilities, Inc., a 501(c)3 not-for-profit corporation, to construct a new dining facility pursuant to the authority vested in La. R.S. 17:3361.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that University of Louisiana at Monroe shall obtain final review from UL System staff, legal counsel, and shall secure all other appropriate approvals from agencies/parties of processes, documents, and administrative requirements prior to execution of documents.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the President of University of Louisiana at Monroe and his or her designee are hereby designated and authorized to execute any and all documents associated with said lease by the University of Louisiana System on behalf of and for the use of University of Louisiana at Monroe.

AND FURTHER, that University of Louisiana at Monroe will provide the System office with copies of all final executed documents for Board files.

H. **Finance Committee**

Mr. Kitchen invited staff to present the campus requests. Dr. Edwin Litolff, Mr. Charles Wendt, and Mr. Bruce Janet introduced the items.

Upon motion of Ms. Russell, seconded by Mr. Salter, the Board unanimously voted to approve items H.1., H.2., and H.3.:

H.1. Grambling State University's request for approval of a Memorandum of Understanding with Bossier Parish Community College for Consideration of Reduced Tuition.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves Grambling State University's request for approval of a Memorandum of Understanding with Bossier Parish Community College for Consideration of Reduced Tuition.

H.2. University of Louisiana at Lafayette's request for approval to see matching funds from the Louisiana Board of Regents for three Endowed Superior Graduate Student Scholarships.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves University of Louisiana at Lafayette's request for approval to seek matching funds from the Louisiana Board of Regents for three Endowed Superior Graduate Student Scholarships:

- a) Fanny Edith Winn Educational Trust/BORSF Endowed Superior Graduate Scholarship in Earth and Energy Science I
- b) Fanny Edith Winn Educational Trust/BORSF Endowed Superior Graduate Scholarship in Earth and Energy Science II
- c) Fanny Edith Winn Educational Trust/BORSF Endowed Superior Graduate Scholarship in Earth and Energy Science III

- H.3. University of Louisiana at Monroe's request for approval to seek matching funds from the Louisiana Board of Regents for four Endowed Superior Graduate Student Scholarships.

***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 for approval to seek matching funds from the Louisiana Board of Regents for four Endowed Superior Graduate Student Scholarships:*

- a) Bill and Marsha Bourn SGS in Pharmacy*
- b) LA Independent Pharmacy Assn SGS in Pharmacy*
- c) Lawrence Alton & Elizabeth Ann Robinson SGS in Healthcare Education*
- d) Michael C. Echols SGS Endowment (MBA)*

- H.4. University of Louisiana System's report on internal and external audit activity of the period of October 21 to December 1, 2019.

This was a report only, and no Board action was required.

Upon motion of Dr. Egan, seconded by Mr. Murphy, the Board unanimously voted to approve the following item:

- H.5. University of Louisiana at Monroe's request for approval to establish the Kim Sledge Endowed Chair in Risk Management and Insurance.

***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 for approval to establish the Kim Sledge Endowed Chair in Risk Management and Insurance.*

- H.6. University of Louisiana System's request for approval to approve fees pursuant to Act 293 of the 2017 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature.

Dr. Edwin Litolff, System Vice President for Business and Finance, described the campuses' requests. Dr. Clarke asked that each request be individually considered.

Louisiana Tech University President Les Guice, Ms. Lisa Cole, Dr. Dickie Crawford, and SGA President Abi Olsen provided input regarding Tech's request for an increase in an existing Student Center Fee.

*Upon motion of Mr. Murphy, seconded by Ms. Methvin, the Board unanimously voted to approve **Louisiana Tech University's** request to approve fees pursuant to Act 293 of the 2017 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature.*

University of Louisiana at Monroe President Nick Bruno and Dr. Bill Graves described the University's request for an increase in the facilities enhancement fee.

*Upon motion of Mr. Murphy, seconded by Mr. Salter, the Board unanimously voted to approve **University of Louisiana at Monroe's** request to approve fees pursuant to Act 293 of the 2017 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature.*

Considering the fact that the Act 293 provisions will expire June 30, 2020, Mr. Salter asked whether all institutions had taken advantage of the provisions of the legislation. Dr. Litolff indicated that they all had.

Dr. Litolff briefly described campus requests for excess credit hour charges (not to exceed \$150 per excess credit hour). There was Board discussion on this item.

Upon motion of Ms. Russell, seconded by Ms. Methvin, the Board voted to authorize the University of Louisiana System President to approve, per institution, the excess credit hour charge based upon analysis of the current fees in excess of the full-time rate (excluding certain extracurricular courses, i.e., honors seminars, leadership seminars, etc.). Ms. Dunahoe voted nay.

H.7. University of Louisiana System's discussion of Fiscal Year 2019-20 first quarter financial reports and ongoing assurances.

Mr. Charles Wendt gave the report. Mr. Crawford asked for a report regarding forced disbursement of excess capital gains re endowments.

No action by the Board is necessary as this is a report only.

I. Personnel Committee

Mr. Robinson asked Dr. Edwin Litolff, Vice President for Business and Finance, to present the two items.

Upon motion of Ms. Dunahoe, seconded by Mr. Murphy, the Board unanimously voted to approve the following items:

I.1. Grambling State University's request for approval to appoint Dr. Connie Walton as Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs effective December 1, 2019.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves Grambling State University's request for approval to appoint Dr. Connie Walton as Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs effective December 1, 2019.

I.2. Louisiana Tech University's request for approval to appoint Mr. Thomas Hoover as Chief Information Officer effective January 1, 2020.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves Louisiana Tech University's request for approval to appoint Mr. Thomas Hoover as Chief Information Officer effective January 1, 2020.

J. **System President's Business**

J.1. **Personnel Actions**

President Henderson said that System staff had reviewed all personnel actions from the campuses and recommends approval. He additionally noted that included in the requests was Nicholls State University's 2% increase for faculty and staff.

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

J.2. **System President's Report**

UL System Holiday Open House

Dr. Henderson indicated that the System Office is planning a December 12 open house for legislators and Board members. The event will be held in the System Office and is intended to familiarize state leaders with the UL System and to share our vision for the future.

2020 For Our Future Conference

President Henderson reminded Board members of the January 30-31 For Our Future Conference to be held on the campus of University of Louisiana at Monroe. He encouraged them to attend as much of the conference as possible. The three tracks will focus on Innovation, Integrity, and Inclusion.

J.3. **Consideration of Authorization for System President to Execute Uniform Appointment Letters for Campus Presidents** (*Executive Session may be required.*)

Dr. Henderson asked Mr. Romero for a motion to authorize him to execute uniform appointment letters for the Presidents. He also stated that the Presidents had been informed that they could be discussed in Executive Session.

At 2:15 p.m., upon motion of Mr. Murphy, seconded by Ms. Pierre, the Board unanimously voted to enter Executive Session to discuss personnel matters. The following roll call vote was recorded.

Yeas: Dr. Jimmy Clarke, Mr. Edward Crawford, Ms. Lola Dunahoe, Dr. Pamela Egan, Mr. Thomas Kitchen, Ms. Rachel Lautigar, Ms. Mimi Methvin, Mr. Shawn Murphy, Mr. Al Perkins, Ms. Elizabeth Pierre, Mr. Virgil Robinson, Mr. Mark Romero, Ms. Kristine Russell, Mr. Joe Salter

Nays: None

Absent: Mr. James Carter, Dr. John Condos

At 2:56 p.m., upon motion of Mr. Murphy, seconded by Dr. Clarke, the Board unanimously voted to reconvene in Open Session. Mr. Romero stated that, while in Executive Session, the Board did not make any motions or take any votes.

Upon motion of Ms. Lautigar, seconded by Ms. Methvin, the Board unanimously voted to authorize Dr. James Henderson as System President to execute uniform appointment letters for the Campus Presidents.

K. **Board Chair's Business**

K.1. **Board Chair's Report**

Thanks

Mr. Romero thanked Dr. Guice for hosting the lovely reception on Wednesday evening. He said that it was a good opportunity to enjoy each other's company and become better acquainted with alumni and staff.

Required Training

Chair Romero thanked Mr. Bruce Janet for scheduling live ethics training in conjunction with the Board meeting to help fulfill the annual requirement. He also reminded the Board that Preventing Sexual Harassment Training in the Workplace must be completed by December 31.

K.2. **Report of Nominating Committee and Election of 2020 Officers**

Mr. Romero asked Mr. Perkins, Chair of the Nominating Committee, to give his report.

Mr. Perkins reported that the Nominating Committee had met and recommended that Mr. Mark Romero be appointed as Chair of the Board and that Mr. James Carter be appointed as Vice Chair of the Board for 2020.

Upon motion of Mr. Murphy, seconded by Ms. Dunahoe, the Board unanimously approved a motion to vote on the slate of officers rather than individual votes.

Upon motion of Mr. Murphy, seconded by Ms. Dunahoe, the Board unanimously approved the following resolution:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves the re-election of Mr. Mark Romero and Mr. James Carter as Chair and Vice Chair, respectively, of the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System for the calendar year of 2020.

Mr. Romero thanked the Board for electing him as Chair for a second term. He said he anticipates another good year and commends the Board's willingness to work as a team. He also stated that he was appointing Ms. Elizabeth Pierre as Parliamentarian. Ms. Pierre thanked Mr. Romero for the appointment.

L. **Other Business**

Board Self-Evaluation

Mr. Romero reminded the Board that in June 2018 a Bylaw establishing a self-evaluation had been approved. The revision was made to comply with SACS/COC requirements. Mr. Romero advised the members that they would be receiving a self-assessment from the System Office to be completed and submitted.

Commencements

Mr. Romero encouraged Board members to participate in at least one commencement in the coming days and celebrate the accomplishments of students of UL System universities.

Calendar/Next Meeting

Chair Romero pointed out that the 2020 calendar of meetings was included in Board member folders. He reminded them that the next meeting would be held in Baton Rouge on January 10 for installation of officers. He also gave the dates of February 28-29 for the meeting and retreat in Natchitoches as well as March 31 for the next ULS Day at the Capitol.

M. **Adjournment**

Upon motion of Mr. Salter, seconded by Mr. Robinson, at 3:05 p.m., the Board voted to adjourn.