

**MINUTES
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS FOR THE
UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA SYSTEM
September 3, 2020**

A. Call to Order/Roll Call

On Thursday, September 3, 2020, The Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System met in Room 136A-B of the Claiborne Building, 1201 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, with an option to participate virtually. The meeting was called to order by Mr. Mark Romero at 5:57 p.m. A quorum was established.

**PRESENT
(In-Person)**

Ms. Olivia Bailey	Mr. Shawn Murphy
Mr. James Carter	Mr. Al Perkins
Ms. Lola Dunahoe	Ms. Elizabeth Pierre
Mr. Thomas Kitchen	Mr. Mark Romero
Ms. Mildred “Mimi” Methvin	Mr. Joe Salter

**PRESENT
(Zoom)**

Dr. Jimmy Clarke	Ms. Kristine Russell
Mr. Edward Crawford	

ABSENT

Dr. John Condos	Mr. Virgil Robinson
Dr. Pamela Egan	

Also onsite or on the call were System President Jim Henderson, System staff, and Attorneys Brandon DeCuir and Linda Clark.

B. Certification of Inability to Operate due to Lack of Quorum

Upon motion of Mr. Murphy, seconded by Ms. Pierre, the Board voted by roll call vote to approve the Certification of Inability to Operate due to Lack of Quorum. The following members voted aye: Ms. Bailey, Mr. Carter, Dr. Clarke, Mr. Crawford, Ms. Dunahoe, Mr. Kitchen, Ms. Methvin, Mr. Murphy, Mr. Perkins, Ms. Pierre, Mr. Romero, Ms. Russell, and Mr. Salter. There were no opposing votes.

C. Invocation

Board Member Joe Salter opened the meeting with an invocation.

Due to the lateness of the hour, Mr. Romero asked Mr. Marcus Jones to discuss two agenda items out of order as they were time-sensitive and required approval. Mr. Jones discussed Items G.3. and H.1.

Facilities Planning Committee

- G.3. University of Louisiana at Lafayette's request for approval of a Land Lease and Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the Louisiana Army National Guard (LANG) to expand collaborative research and development opportunities in the area of Cybersecurity, as authorized by La. R.S. 17:3361.

Finance Committee

- H.1. Grambling State University's request to approve and authorize the University to accept the offered deferment of the principal and interest payments for the Future and Advance Project Bonds Series 2016-4 offered by the United States Department of Education (DOE) and to authorize President Rick Gallot to execute all necessary documents to do so.

Upon motion of Dr. Clarke, seconded by Ms. Bailey, the following resolutions were approved unanimously by the Board:

- G.3. ***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 of a Land Lease and Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the Louisiana Army National Guard (LANG) to expand collaborative research and development opportunities in the area of Cybersecurity, as authorized by La. R.S. 17:3361.*

***BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the President of the University or his designee be authorized to execute the CEA and forward to all external entities necessary for approval and that, contingent on approvals from UL System staff and legal counsel, CEA may be modified to obtain these approvals.*

***BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the University of Louisiana at Lafayette shall develop a lease between the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System and the Louisiana Army National Guard for a period of 55 years for 19.936 acres of land located at the University's Research Park. The President of the University or his designee shall be authorized to execute the lease contingent on approvals from UL System staff and legal counsel.*

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

- H.1. ***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves Grambling State University's request to accept the offered deferment of the principal and interest payments for the Future and Advance Project Funding Bonds Series 2016-4 offered by the United States Department of Education (DOE) and to authorize President Rick Gallot to execute all necessary documents to do so.*

At 6:10 p.m., upon motion of Mr. Perkins, seconded by Mr. Kitchen, the Board voted to recess until 3:00 p.m. on Friday, September 4, to reconvene electronically. The following Board members voted aye: Ms. Bailey, Mr. Carter, Dr. Clarke, Mr. Crawford, Ms. Dunahoe, Mr. Kitchen, Ms. Methvin, Mr. Murphy, Mr. Perkins, Ms. Pierre, Mr. Romero, Ms. Russell, and Mr. Salter.

At 3:02 p.m. on Friday, September 4, upon motion of Ms. Dunahoe, seconded by Dr. Clarke, the Board voted unanimously to reconvene. The following Board members were present on the call:

Ms. Olivia Bailey	Mr. Mimi Methvin
Mr. James Carter	Mr. Shawn Murphy
Dr. Jimmy Clarke	Mr. Al Perkins*
Mr. Edward Crawford*	Mr. Mark Romero
Ms. Dunahoe	Ms. Kristine Russell
Mr. Thomas Kitchen	

**arrived after roll call*

Attorneys Brandon DeCuir and Linda Clark were also on the call.

D. **Approval of Minutes of June 25, 2020 Board Meeting**

Upon motion of Dr. Clarke, seconded by Ms. Dunahoe, the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System approved the minutes of the June 25, 2020 meeting by roll call vote. The following members voted aye: Ms. Bailey, Mr. Carter, Dr. Clarke, Ms. Dunahoe, Mr. Kitchen, Ms. Methvin, Mr. Murphy, Mr. Perkins, Mr. Romero, and Ms. Russell. There were no opposing votes.

E. **Academic and Student Affairs Committee**

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

Dr. Kahn described Items E.1.-E.5. and, upon motion of Dr. Clarke, seconded by Mr. Murphy, the items were unanimously approved.

E.1. **Grambling State University's request for approval of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Charles A. Tindley Accelerated Schools.**

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 (MOU) with the Charles A. Tindley Accelerated Schools.

- E.2. Grambling State University's request for approval to enter into a Call Me MISTER License Agreement with Clemson University Research Foundation.

***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 Call Me MISTER License Agreement with Clemson University Research Foundation.*

- E.3. Southeastern Louisiana University's request for approval to offer a Master of Science (M.S.) in Population Health Management.

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves Southeastern Louisiana University's request to offer a Master of Science (M.S.) in Population Health Management.*

- E.4. University of Louisiana at Monroe's request for approval of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Louisiana Delta Community College.

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves the University of Louisiana at Monroe's request for approval of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Louisiana Delta Community College.*

- E.5. University of Louisiana System's request for approval of System Universities' 2020-21 Promotions in Faculty Rank and Promotions for Tenure.

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves System Universities' 2020-21 Promotions in Faculty Rank and Recommendations for Tenure.*

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 Ms. Dunahoe, seconded by Mr. Carter, the Board unanimously voted to approve Items F.1.-F.6.

- F.1. Louisiana Tech University's request for approval of a contractual agreement between Head Football Coach Louis L. Holtz, Jr., Louisiana Tech University, and Louisiana Tech University Foundation, effective July 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 of a contractual agreement between Head Football Coach Louis L. Holtz, Jr., Louisiana Tech University, and Louisiana Tech University Foundation, effective July 1, 2020.*

- F.2. Louisiana Tech University's request for approval of a contractual agreement between Mr. Eric Konkol, Head Men's Basketball Coach, Louisiana Tech University, and Louisiana Tech University Foundation, effective April 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 of a contractual agreement between Mr. Eric Konkol, Head Men's Basketball Coach, Louisiana Tech University, and Louisiana Tech University Foundation, effective April 1, 2020.*

- F.3. Louisiana Tech University's request for approval of contracts for various assistant football coaches, between Louisiana Tech University and Louisiana Tech University Foundation, effective March 1, 2020 to February 28, 2021.

***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 of the contracts for John Allen, David Blackwell, Jeffrey Burriss, Anthony Camp, Brian Gamble, Brock Hays, Robert McFarland, Joseph Sloan, and Dennis Smith.*

- F.4. McNeese State University's request for approval of a contractual agreement with Mr. Andrew Fitzgerald, Head Women's Soccer Coach, effective July 1, 2020.

***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 contractual agreement with Mr. Andrew Fitzgerald, Head Women's Soccer Coach, effective July 1, 2020.*

- F.5. Nicholls State University's request for approval of a contract with Mr. Jonathan Terrell, Director of Athletics, effective July 6, 2020.

***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 of a contract with Mr. Jonathan Terrell, Director of Athletics, effective July 6, 2020.*

- F.6. University of Louisiana at Lafayette's request for approval of amended Contracts for Employment for various coaches.

***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 of amended Contracts for Employment for various coaches.*

***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 of the amendments to the contracts of Matt Deggs, Head Baseball Coach; Garry P. Brodhead, Head Women's Basketball Coach; William H. Napier, Head Football Coach; Robert Marlin, Head Men's Basketball Coach; Gerald Glasco, Jr., Head Softball Coach; and Heather Fontenot-Mazeitis, Head Volleyball Coach.*

G. **Facilities Planning Committee**

Dr. Clarke asked Mr. Janet to present the items included on the Facilities Planning Committee agenda.

Upon motion of Mr. Kitchen, seconded by Ms. Dunahoe, the Board unanimously voted to approve items G.1. and G.2. (*Item G.3. had already been approved on September 3.*)

G.1. Louisiana Tech University's request for approval to name rooms in the College of Education's Woodard Hall.

***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 name rooms in the College of Education's Woodard Hall: Room 135 - "Boulevard SciTEC Learning Lab" and Rooms 140 and 141 - "Boulevard IDEA Place."*

G.2. McNeese State University's request for approval to enter into a facilities lease agreement with the Southwest Louisiana Charter Academy Foundation, Inc. to further the services currently being provided in the Educational Services Agreement.

***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 a facilities lease agreement with the Southwest Louisiana Charter Academy Foundation, Inc.*

***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 is 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.4. University of Louisiana System's request for approval of the Fiscal Year 2021-22 Capital Outlay Budget Request and Institutions' Five-Year Capital Outlay Plans.

Upon motion of Mr. Carter, seconded by Mr. Murphy, Item G.4. was unanimously approved by the Board. Following is the resolution that was adopted:

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves the Fiscal Year 2021-22 Capital Outlay Budget Request and Institutions' Five-Year Capital Outlay Plans.*

Mr. Janet gave a brief presentation of some of the capital projects completed within the past year.

H. **Finance Committee**

Mr. Kitchen asked staff to present the campus requests. Mr. Charles Wendt, System Director of Accounting and Financial Analysis, and Mr. Bruce Janet introduced the items. (Item H.1. had been approved on September 3.)

Upon motion of Ms. Dunahoe, seconded by Mr. Carter, the Board voted unanimously to approve Items H.2.-H.8.

H.2. McNeese State University's request for approval of a reduction in the Per Credit Hour Charge for its electronic learning fee assessment.

***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 reduction in the Per Credit Hour Charge for its electronic learning fee assessment.*

H.3. McNeese State University's request for approval for the execution of leases between the Board, on behalf of the University, and Cowboy Facilities, Inc., a private 501(c)3 non-profit corporation, in connection with the lease and leaseback of a portion of the University's campus to finance cost of acquiring immovable property, and financing the construction, renovation, and equipping of a new student union.

***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 the form of and authorization to execute and to enter into Ground Lease Agreements and Facilities Leases, each between the Board, acting on behalf of the University, and Cowboy Facilities, Inc., in connection with the issuance of the Bonds and the Note described herein to finance the Project.*

***BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that McNeese State University shall obtain final review from University of Louisiana System staff and legal counsel to the Board, 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 authorized and directed to execute the leases described herein and any and all documents necessary in connection with the issuance of the bonds described herein.*

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

- H.4. Southeastern Louisiana University's request for approval to implement a Per Credit Hour Tuition Rate for Online Programs.

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves Southeastern Louisiana University's request for approval to implement a Per Credit Hour Tuition Rate for Online Programs.*

- H.5. University of Louisiana at Lafayette's request for approval of an updated Internal Audit Charter.

***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 of a revised Internal Audit Charter.*

- H.6. University of New Orleans' request for approval of a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with Model Content, LLC.

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves the University of New Orleans' request for approval to enter into a cooperative endeavor agreement with Model Content, LLC (Model Content) for training and support for the University's Advanced Materials Research Institute (AMRI) to develop projects for the entrepreneurial development programs (NSF I-Corp).*

- H.7. University of Louisiana System's request for acceptance of Fiscal Year 2019-20 Financial and Compliance and Federal Award Programs Representation Letters for (a) Louisiana Tech University, (b) McNeese State University, (c) Southeastern Louisiana University, (d) University of Louisiana at Lafayette, (e) University of Louisiana at Monroe, and (f) University of New Orleans.

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby accepts Fiscal Year 2019-20 Financial and Compliance and Federal Award Programs Representation Letters for (a) Louisiana Tech University, (b) McNeese State University, (c) Southeastern Louisiana University, (d) University of Louisiana at Lafayette, (e) University of Louisiana at Monroe, and (f) University of New Orleans.*

- H.8. University of Louisiana System's request for approval of Fiscal Year 2020-21 Operating Budgets, including organizational charts, undergraduate/graduate mandatory attendance fees, scholarships, and System Shared Costs.

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves Fiscal Year 2020-21 Operating Budgets, including organizational charts, undergraduate/graduate mandatory attendance fees, scholarships, and System Shared Costs.*

- H.9. University of Louisiana System's report on internal and external audit activity for the period of June 22 to August 23, 2020.

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

I. **Personnel Committee**

Ms. Methvin asked Mr. Marcus Jones to present the campus requests.

Upon motion of Dr. Clarke, seconded by Mr. Kitchen, the Board voted unanimously to approve Items I.1.-I.2. below.

- I.1. McNeese State University's request for approval to appoint Mr. Heath Schroyer as Interim Director of Athletics effective July 1, 2020.

***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 appoint Mr. Heath Schroyer as Interim Director of Athletics effective July 1, 2020.*

- I.2. University of Louisiana at Lafayette's request for approval to appoint Dr. Ahmed Khattab as Dean of the College of Engineering effective July 1, 2020.

***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 appoint Dr. Ahmed Khattab as Dean of the College of Engineering effective July 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.

Upon motion of Dr. Clarke, seconded by Mr. Carter, the Board voted by roll call to approve the System personnel actions.

The following members voted aye: Ms. Bailey, Mr. Carter, Dr. Clarke, Ms. Dunahoe, Mr. Kitchen, Ms. Methvin, Mr. Murphy, Mr. Perkins, Mr. Romero, and Ms. Russell. There were no opposing votes.

- J.2. System President's Report

Presidential Evaluations

Dr. Henderson said that evaluations for the Presidents will be reviewed at the October Board meeting.

LAEP Resolution

Dr. Henderson asked for a motion to approve a resolution that authorizes him to request an Attorney General's Opinion to clarify the "Opt-in" provision in the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with LA Energy Partners. Upon motion of Ms. Dunahoe, seconded by Ms. Methvin, the Board unanimously approved the following resolution:

WHEREAS, *The State of Louisiana through the Division of Administration, Office of State Buildings (“State”) entered into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement (“CEA”) with Louisiana Energy Partners (“LAEP”) to provide the State with comprehensive benefits that result from a turnkey relationship with LAEP to operate, improve, and maintain the energy and infrastructure services;*

WHEREAS, *The CEA provided for a certain “Opt-in” by other State Entities including but not limited to institutions of higher education;*

WHEREAS, *The University of Louisiana System and its member institutions have actively reviewed its current energy infrastructure and has determined a need to improve, replace and repair certain facilities;*

WHEREAS, *The University of Louisiana System on behalf of its member institutions desires to explore exercising the “Opt-in” provision contained in the CEA by and between the State and LAEP to determine if it may be of benefit to member institutions;*

WHEREAS, *A legal opinion request to the Louisiana Attorney General’s office is needed for clarity on “Opting-in” to the CEA for purpose of structuring a contract that would be of benefit to the institutions.*

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, *That the President of the University of Louisiana System and/or his designee, and with guidance from System’s General Counsel, is authorized to seek an opinion from the Louisiana Attorney General’s office regarding the viability of exercising the “Opt-in” provision of that certain CEA entered into by and between the State and LAEP as regard to the following non-exclusive items or as may be determined, to wit: the legality of prepaid rent; the allocation of repair and replacement obligations; the inclusion of combined heating and power (“CHP”) and the utilization of a non-profit support foundation as a benefit to the University in the transaction.*

Bridging the Divide

Dr. Henderson reported that the System had developed and offered a seven-week summer training series titled *Bridging the Divide*. With 70 professional development courses, the series addressed improved digital and technological literacy and skills and expanded online support through training. At the conclusion of the series, a virtual two-day conference was held.

Management and Leadership Institute Update

Dr. Henderson informed the Board that the fourth class of the Management and Leadership Institute (M&LI) has been nominated and will participate in its first meeting in early October. Also, the third class anticipates rescheduling its final two meetings that had been postponed due to the coronavirus outbreak.

Dr. Henderson additionally mentioned the M&LI Book Club, which was created to offer a setting for meaningful discussion. The first book explored was Toni Morrison’s *The Bluest Eye*, and the current selection is Beverly Daniel Tatum’s *Why Are all the Black Kids Sitting Together in the Cafeteria*.

COVID-19

President Henderson updated the Board on the coronavirus challenge. He stated that there have been significant outbreaks on campuses across the nation. He reminded them that the Board has been updated on the campus reopening strategies after campus leadership worked tirelessly to develop them. He reported that the System institutions have reopened with limited incident and said that transparency is vital for the safety of campus communities.

Hurricane Laura

Dr. Henderson said that all nine campuses had been closed due to the same weather event, Hurricane Laura. He informed the Board that Grambling, Louisiana Tech, McNeese, UL-Lafayette, and UL-Monroe experienced damage from the storm, with McNeese suffering substantial damage.

Dr. Henderson announced that the System launched the Cowboy Relief Effort, an initiative to give the System institutions the ability to support McNeese as it recovers from the effects of the storm. In addition, the McNeese Foundation also is accepting monetary donations.

K. Board Chair's Business

K.1. Board Chair's Report

Chair Romero especially thanked the Board for committing their time the previous day as they brought the ULM Presidential search to a successful conclusion.

For Our Future Awards

Mr. Romero thanked Ms. Anne McKisson for her work in the distribution of the *For Our Future Awards* for the academic year. One hundred awards were given, which provided more than \$75,000 to students in System institutions as they complete their degrees.

L. Other Business

Next Meeting

Mr. Romero indicated that the next regular meeting of the Board is scheduled for Thursday, October 22.

There was no other business to come before the Board.

M. Adjournment

Upon motion of Ms. Russell, seconded by Ms. Bailey, at 4:37 p.m., the Board voted to adjourn.