

MINUTES

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA SYSTEM

**University of Louisiana at Monroe Presidential Search Committee
Bayou Pointe Cypress Hall Ballroom
1 Warhawk Way, Monroe, Louisiana
March 11, 2020**

The University of Louisiana at Monroe Presidential Search Committee met on Wednesday, March 11, 2020 at 1:14 p.m. in the Bayou Pointe Cypress Hall Ballroom on the campus of University of Louisiana at Monroe.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Dr. Jim Henderson, Chair (non-voting)
Ms. Lola Dunahoe
Ms. Rachel Lautigar
Ms. Mildred "Mimi" Methvin
Mr. Shawn Murphy
Dr. Janelle McDaniel
Mr. Alejandro "Al" Perkins
Ms. Elizabeth Pierre
Mr. Virgil Robinson
Mr. Mark Romero
Mr. Joe Salter
Mr. Carl Aron (non-voting)
Ms. Olivia Bailey (non-voting)
Mr. Dennis Blunt (non-voting)
Ms. Sara Brice (non-voting)
Ms. Alberta Green (non-voting)
Ms. Susan Hoffmann (non-voting)
Ms. Hannah Livingston (non-voting)
Mr. Jamie Mayo (non-voting)
Mr. James Moore III (non-voting)
Mr. Jeremy Tinnerello (non-voting)
Mr. James Wright (non-voting)

MEMBER ABSENT:

Mr. James Carter

I. Welcome/Roll Call/Introductions

The meeting was called to order by Board Chair Mark Romero, who welcomed Committee members and the audience. A roll call was taken, with a quorum of the Committee being present. Also in attendance were Ms. Linda Clark and Mr. Brandon DeCuir, legal counsel.

Mr. Romero reported that the Search Committee is comprised of 11 voting (10 Board members and one representative of the ULM faculty) and 11 non-voting members (constituents of the ULM community). He also indicated that Dr. Henderson as System President is the non-voting Chair. Mr. Romero asked that each member introduce himself to the Committee and the audience.

II. Charge to the Committee

Search Committee Chair Henderson directed attention to the Charge to the Committee located in their binders. He said that, if approved, the Charge includes:

- Recommending at least two names to the Board, who ultimately selects the President
- Defining a procedure and timeline
- Visiting the campus to obtain public input
- Screening applicants and checking references
- Interviewing qualified candidates (semifinalist interviews on ULM campus)

Upon motion of Mr. Murphy, seconded by Ms. Pierre, the Committee voted unanimously to accept the Charge to the Committee.

III. Discussion of Search Process and Tentative Timeline

Dr. Henderson listed the elements of the search process, including:

- Selecting a Search Committee
- Soliciting feedback from the campus
- Developing and publishing an advertisement for the vacancy
- Screening, selecting applicants for interview, and interviewing them on ULM campus
- Recommending at least two names to the Board for consideration

In addition, Chair Henderson described the Tentative Timeline as distributed. As amended, it includes:

- After publication of advertising, waiting for submission of applicant materials
- Meeting in Baton Rouge to select candidates for interview (April 22)
- Returning to the campus to interview semifinalists (Week of April 27)
- Meeting of Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System for a May 18 Special Board meeting to select President

Dr. Henderson said that, as each search is unique, this schedule may require revisions.

Upon motion of Ms. Pierre, seconded by Ms. Lautigar, the Committee voted unanimously to accept the Search Process and the Tentative Search Timeline as amended.

IV. Discussion of Advertisement

Dr. Henderson stated that the next topic for discussion was the Advertisement. He indicated that, if approved, it would be placed on the System website on March 12 as well as the following websites: *Inside Higher Ed, Diverse Issues in Higher Education, Women in Higher Education, The Journal of Blacks in Higher Education, and The Chronicle of Higher Education*. He also noted that the preferred date to receive completed applications is April 10.

Upon motion of Ms. Dunahoe, seconded by Mr. Robinson, the Committee unanimously voted to approve the Advertisement.

V. University of Louisiana at Monroe Overview

Chair Henderson introduced Ms. Erica Calais, System Vice President for Student Affairs and Governance, to give a brief overview of ULM. Ms. Calais described the University's history and demographics and reported on the excellent majors and programs, notably the Pharmacy program.

Before the Public Input portion of the meeting began, Dr. Henderson acknowledged two members of the audience: former Louisiana Senator Michael Walsworth and former Louisiana Representative Chris Broadwater, who is currently Interim Chancellor of Delta Community College. Dr. Henderson thanked them for their years of service and dedication to education.

VI. Public Input

Dr. Henderson indicated that members of the audience—students, faculty, staff, alumni, members of the business community—were invited to provide their thoughts and insight into desired qualities and potential challenges for the next President. He also said that comments will be accepted via the website at any time during the search process.

Ms. Calais gave a framework for the public input portion. She said she would call upon those who had submitted public comment cards and each person would be allotted two minutes for comment.

The following individuals spoke to the Search Committee:

Stewart Cathey – Alumnus

Donna Cathey – Alumna

Deborah Golemon – Faculty

Chris Broadwater – Interim Chancellor of Louisiana Delta Community College and former State Representative

Janet Durden – Community Member

Don Colegrove – Faculty Senate

Sue Nicholson – Monroe Chamber of Commerce

John Patrick – Alumnus

Michael Walsworth – Alumnus and former State Senator

Among the suggested qualities were the following:

- Must be a ULM graduate
- Must exhibit a vested interest in the university
- Must realize that athletics plays a role in enrollment
- Must have the ability to understand and motivate administrators and faculty
- Must be proactive and a strategic thinker
- Must be innovative and a proven leader
- Must continue strong partnership with Delta Community College
- Must continue the spirit of community engagement and volunteerism
- Must help support the economic engine of Northeast
- Must prioritize healthcare and research

VII. Adjournment

Dr. Henderson thanked the Committee and those in attendance who provided input to the Committee. He said that the comments will help shape future discussions as the search for the next President continues.

Upon motion of Mr. Murphy, seconded by Ms. Methvin, the meeting adjourned at 2:07 p.m.