

**MINUTES
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS FOR THE
UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA SYSTEM
January 13, 2022**

A. **Call to Order**

On Thursday, January 13, 2022, the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System met virtually. The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair Pierre at 11:00 a.m.

B. **Roll Call**

PRESENT

Mr. Barry Busada	Ms. Elizabeth Pierre
Dr. Jimmy Clarke	Mr. Mark Romero
Mr. Steve Davison	Mr. Joe Salter
Ms. Lola Dunahoe	Mr. Brad Stevens
Ms. Mildred “Mimi” Methvin	Ms. Julie Stokes
Mr. Dana Peterson*	Ms. L’Oreal Williams

**Arrived shortly after roll call*

ABSENT

Dr. John Condos	Mr. Virgil Robinson
Mr. Alejandro “Al” Perkins	Ms. Kristine Russell

The roll was called, and a quorum was present. Also present were System President Jim Henderson, System staff, University Presidents, and Attorney Brandon DeCuir.

C. **Invocation**

Mr. Salter opened the meeting with an invocation.

D. **Certification**

Ms. Pierre asked for a motion to accept the Certification to operate virtually. Upon motion of Mr. Romero, seconded by Mr. Davison, the Board unanimously voted to approve the motion.

E. **Approval of Minutes of December 9, 2021 Board Meeting**

Upon motion of Ms. Dunahoe, seconded by Ms. Methvin, the Board unanimously approved the minutes of the December 9, 2021 Board Meeting.

F. **Installation of 2022 Board Officers**

Mr. Brandon DeCuir, System Attorney, individually administered the Oath of Office to the newly elected officers: Ms. Elizabeth Pierre as Chair; Dr. Jimmy Clarke as Vice Chair; and Mr. Brad Stevens as Parliamentarian.

Dr. Clarke commented that his focus will continue to be on student success. Mr. Stevens said he looks forward to advancing the System initiatives. Ms. Pierre said she appreciated the Board for electing her as Chair and thanked Dr. Henderson and the staff for their leadership.

G. Nicholls State University's request for approval to negotiate and purchase a commercial building located at 203 West Second Street, Thibodaux, Louisiana, formerly occupied by Capital One Bank.

Chair Pierre asked Mr. Bruce Janet, System Director of Internal and External Audit, to present the agenda item. Upon motion of Mr. Salter, seconded by Ms. Dunahoe, the Board unanimously voted to approve Item G.

***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 negotiate and purchase a commercial building located at 203 West Second Street, Thibodaux, Louisiana, formerly occupied by Capital One Bank.*

***BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that prior to execution of final documents Nicholls State University shall: (a) provide evidence to the System office and legal counsel from agencies/parties with transaction process oversight that all transactional and administrative requirements have been satisfied; (b) obtain final review and approval from System staff; and (c) obtain approval from legal counsel that all necessary actions and approvals have been obtained and that documents are in appropriate order for execution.*

***BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the President of Nicholls State University and his or her designee is hereby designated and authorized to execute any and all documents necessary to execute the purchase of the property.*

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

H. System President's Report

Dr. Henderson asked Chair Pierre for a motion to approve Personnel Actions that had been requested by the System Office. Upon motion of Dr. Clarke, seconded by Mr. Busada, the Board unanimously voted to approve the System Personnel Actions.

He said that included in the Personnel Actions was a recurring salary adjustment for System office staff.

Dr. Henderson also updated the Board with promotions and/or staff title changes:

Ms. Cami Geisman – Vice President for External Affairs and Chief of Staff
Ms. Sandra Green – Director of Programs and Strategic Engagement
Ms. Kecia Neal – Business Operations Director
Dr. Claire Norris – Vice President for Advancement
Ms. Katelyn Wilkerson – Communications Director and Executive Assistant to the President

Dr. Henderson congratulated Ms. Joy Samuel and Ms. Katelyn Wilkerson for recently attaining their master's degrees.

Reginald F. Lewis Scholars

Dr. Henderson recognized two organizations that are committing their support to the Reginald F. Lewis Scholars program. He introduced Mr. Chris Hilliard from Blue Cross Blue Shield of Louisiana, which has committed a \$5,000 donation as well as additional support through mentorship and other opportunities.

Also Dr. Henderson stated that Verizon is providing \$25,000 for the program. He introduced Verizon representative, Ms. Tandra Lemay, who referenced the donation and announced the investment of human capital as well.

Further, Raising Cane's has partnered with the program on the "Carrying on the Dream" Martin Luther King, Jr. Traveling Exhibit. The tour will visit Ruston, Natchitoches, Lake Charles, and Lafayette. One of the Scholars, Mr. Robert Hill, has produced a piece of art that will accompany the exhibit and another Scholar, Mr. Isaiah Farrell, will play the piano for an opening reception.

100 Black Men

President Henderson said that the System was recently honored by 100 Black Men of Baton Rouge at its annual gala, where the System was recognized for engagement in programming for high school students.

COVID Update

Dr. Henderson stated that the institutions continue to operate under the System guidance produced before Fall 2021. He indicated that the institutions continue to work to produce safe environments for faculty, students and communities.

Future Dates

Dr. Henderson stated that the date of the 2022 For Our Future Conference has been changed to March 10 and 11 and will be held in Natchitoches. He also asked that the Board Members save the date of April 5 for this year's UL System Day at the Capitol. He encouraged them to make plans to attend both events.

I. **Board Chair's Report**

Chair Pierre said that the next Board meeting will be held on the campus of Louisiana Tech University in Ruston on Thursday, February 17, and details will be disseminated as soon as these are available.

J. **Other Business/Adjournment**

Upon motion of Mr. Stevens, seconded by Mr. Busada, at 11:32 a.m., the Board voted to adjourn.