

MINUTES
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS FOR THE
UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA SYSTEM
June 13, 2024

A. **Call to Order/Roll Call**

On Thursday, June 13, 2024, the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System met in Room 100, The Louisiana Purchase Room, of the Claiborne Building, 1201 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. The meeting was called to order by Dr. Jimmy Clarke at 11:40 a.m.

The roll was called.

PRESENT

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|-------------------------------|----------------------|
| Mr. Drew Brown | Mr. Virgil Robinson |
| Dr. Jimmy Clarke | Mr. Mark Romero |
| Mr. Steve Davison | Ms. Kristine Russell |
| Dr. Jo'Quishia "Jo" Lethermon | Mr. Joe Salter |
| Mr. Alejandro "Al" Perkins | Mr. Brad Stevens |
| Mr. Dana Peterson | Ms. Julie Stokes |
| Ms. Elizabeth Pierre | |

ABSENT

Mr. Barry Busada
Ms. Lola Dunahoe
Dr. John Noble, Jr.

A quorum was established. Also present were System President Rick Gallot, System staff, University Presidents, and Attorneys Linda Clark, Brandon DeCuir, and Corey Pierce.

B. **Invocation**

Mr. Joe Salter opened the meeting with an invocation.

C. **Administration of Oath to Mr. Mark Romero, newly appointed Board Chair, and Mr. Drew Brown, newly elected Student Board Member**

Dr. Clarke introduced The Honorable Judge Roger Hamilton, Jr., District Court Judge, Division H of the 16th Judicial Court, to give the Oath of Office to Mr. Romero and Mr. Brown.

After the Oaths were administered, Mr. Romero thanked Dr. Clarke for his service as Board Chair. He commended him for his extraordinary leadership and knowledge. Mr. Romero indicated that Dr. Clarke will continue to be a valuable member of the team as the System moves forward. A token of appreciation was presented to Dr. Clarke.

Chair Romero thanked Governor Jeff Landry for his appointment and vision to elevate accountability and enrollment.

He also welcomed Mr. Drew Brown, who was recently elected by his peers to serve as the Student Board Member. He indicated that Drew attends McNeese State University.

D. **Approval of Minutes of April 25, 2024 Regular and Special Meetings**

Upon motion of Mr. Salter, seconded by Mr. Stevens, the Board unanimously approved the minutes of the April 25 Regular and Special Meetings.

Mr. Romero requested a motion to meet as a Committee of the Whole. On motion of Mr. Perkins, seconded by Mr. Peterson, the Board unanimously approved a motion to conduct business as a Committee of the Whole.

E. **Academic and Student Affairs Committee**

Mr. Peterson asked Dr. Claire Norris, in the absence of Dr. Jeannine O'Rourke, to present the items under consideration.

Dr. Norris and campus representatives discussed the Academic items listed on the agenda. Upon motion of Mr. Davison, seconded by Ms. Pierre, the Board unanimously approved Items E.1.-E.2.

E.1. **Nicholls State University and University of New Orleans' request for approval to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding to offer engineering courses on the campus of Nicholls State University.**

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves Nicholls State University and University of New Orleans' request to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding to offer engineering courses on the campus of Nicholls State University.*

E.2. **University of New Orleans' request for approval to revise its Mission Statement.**

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves the University of New Orleans' request to revise its Mission Statement.*

F. **Athletic Committee**

Mr. Al Perkins asked Mr. Bruce Janet, System Executive Director for Compliance and Risk Management, to present the items. Upon motion of Ms. Kristine Russell, seconded by Mr. Robinson, Items F.1.-F.12. were unanimously approved.

F.1. **Grambling State University's request for approval of a contract addendum with Mr. Donte Jackson, Head Men's Basketball Coach, effective April 1, 2024.**

***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 contract addendum with Mr. Donte Jackson, Head Men's Basketball Coach, effective April 1, 2024.*

- F.2. Louisiana Tech University's request for approval of a contract with Mr. Joshua Taylor, Women's Softball Head Coach, effective July 1, 2024.

***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 contract with Mr. Joshua Taylor, Women's Softball Head Coach, effective July 1, 2024.*

- F.3. Nicholls State University's request for approval of a contract with Mr. Jonathan Terrell, Vice President of Collegiate Athletics/Athletic Director, effective July 1, 2024.

***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, Vice President of Collegiate Athletics/Athletic Director, effective July 1, 2024.*

- F.4. Southeastern Louisiana University's request for approval of contractual agreements between various Associate/Assistant Coaches, Southeastern Louisiana University, and the Lion Athletics Association.

***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 of contracts the following Associate/Assistant Coaches: Taylor Dugas, Assistant Baseball Coach; Kenneth Lee, Jr., Associate Women's Basketball Coach; Charles Lenford, Assistant Track and Field Coach; and Destinee Jeanpierre, Assistant Track and Field Coach.*

- F.5. University of Louisiana at Lafayette's request for approval of a contract with Mr. Theo Sliman, Head Men's Golf Coach, effective July 1, 2024.

***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 contract with Mr. Theo Sliman, Head Men's Golf Coach, effective July 1, 2024.*

- F.6. University of Louisiana at Monroe's request for approval of a contract with Mr. Matt Kearns, Head Women's Volleyball Coach, effective May 23, 2024.

***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 of employment for Mr. Matt Kearns, Head Women's Volleyball Coach, effective May 23, 2024.*

- F.7. University of Louisiana at Monroe's request for approval of an amendment agreement to the contract for Ms. Missy Bilderback, Head Women's Basketball Coach, effective May 23, 2024.

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 an amendment agreement to the contract for Ms. Missy Bilderback, Head Women's Basketball Coach, effective May 23, 2024.

- F.8. University of Louisiana at Lafayette's request for approval of an amendment to the contract for Ms. Rachel Pollock, Head Women's Golf Coach, effective May 7, 2024.

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 an amendment to the contract for Ms. Rachel Pollock, Head Women's Golf Coach, effective May 7, 2024.

- F.9. University of Louisiana at Monroe's request for approval of a contract with Mr. Nathan Weant, Head Men's Golf Coach, effective May 7, 2024.

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 of employment for Mr. Nathan Weant, Head Men's Golf Coach, effective May 7, 2024.

- F.10. University of New Orleans' request for approval of a contract with Mr. Burzis Kanga, Head Men's and Women's Tennis Coach, effective July 1, 2024.

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 of a contract with Mr. Burzis Kanga, Head Men's and Women's Tennis Coach, effective July 1, 2024.

- F.11. University of New Orleans' request for approval of a contract with Ms. Ashley Preston, Head Coach and Director of Volleyball, effective July 1, 2024.

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 of a contract with Ms. Ashley Preston, Head Coach and Director of Volleyball, effective July 1, 2024.

- F.12. University of New Orleans' request for approval of a contract with Mr. Stacy Hollowell, Head Men's Basketball Coach, effective May 1, 2024.

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 of a contract with Mr. Stacy Hollowell, Head Men's Basketball Coach, effective May 1, 2024.

G. **Audit Committee**

Chair Julie Stokes asked Ms. Jennifer Oberthier, System Chief Audit Executive and Chief Compliance Officer, to discuss the items on the agenda. Upon motion of Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Salter, Item G.1. was unanimously approved.

- G.1. University of Louisiana System’s request for approval of the Board Operations and University of Louisiana System institutions’ Annual Internal Audit Plan for Fiscal Year 2024-25.

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves the Board Operations and System Universities’ Fiscal Year 2024-25 Internal Audit Plans.*

- G.2. University of Louisiana System’s report on internal and external audit activity for the period of April 13, 2024 through June 3, 2024.

This is a report only and no action by the Board is necessary.

H. **Facilities Planning Committee**

Committee Vice Chair Peterson asked Mr. Janet to present Items H.1.-H.10. Upon motion of Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Davison, the Board unanimously voted to approve the following items:

- H.1. Louisiana Tech University’s request to accept being a remainder beneficiary by bequest in a decedent’s will of three parcels of land, and to record its remainder interest in University records, the State Land Office, and all location that may be required by law.

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves Louisiana Tech University’s request to accept being a remainder beneficiary by bequest in a decedent’s will of three parcels of land, and to record its remainder interest in University records, the State Land Office, and all locations that may be required by law.*

***BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that Louisiana Tech 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 any documents.*

***BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the President of Louisiana Tech University and his or her designee are hereby designated and authorized to execute any and all documents associated with this bequest.*

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

- H.2. Louisiana Tech University’s request for approval to name the atrium at Tech Pointe the “Argent Financial Group Atrium.”

***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 the atrium at Tech Pointe the “Argent Financial Group Atrium.”*

- H.3. Nicholls State University's request for approval to name the 3rd Floor Auditorium located in Ayo Hall, Room 301, College of Nursing, the "Dr. Sue Westbrook Auditorium."

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 name the 3rd Floor Auditorium located in Ayo Hall, Room 301, College of Nursing, the "Dr. Sue Westbrook Auditorium."

- H.4. Nicholls State University's request for authorization into a Land Lease with the Nicholls State University Foundation to renovate a section of Hill Hall for the Bridge to Independence Program, as authorized by La. R.S. 17:3361.

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 enter into a Land Lease with the Nicholls State University Foundation to renovate a section of Hill Hall for the Bridge to Independence Program, as authorized by La. R.S. 17:3361.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Nicholls State University has obtained 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 Nicholls State University or his or her designee is hereby designated and authorized to execute any and all documents associated with said Land Lease.

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

- H.5. Northwestern State University's request for approval to enter into a Ground and Facility Lease with the Demons Unlimited Foundation for renovations to the NSU Softball Field, as authorized by La. R.S. 17:3361.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves Northwestern State University's request to enter into a Ground and Facility Lease with the Demons Unlimited Foundation for renovations to the NSU Softball Field, as authorized by La. R.S. 17:3361.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Northwestern State University has obtained 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 Northwestern State University or his or her designee is hereby designated and authorized to execute any and all documents associated with said Ground and Facility Lease.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the President of the University of Louisiana at Lafayette and/or his designee are hereby designated and authorized to execute any and all documents associated with said Ground and Facility Lease.

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

- H.6. Northwestern State University's request for approval to enter into a Ground and Facility Lease with the Demons Unlimited Foundation for renovations to the NSU Brown-Stroud Field, as authorized by La. R.S. 17:3361.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves Northwestern State University's request for approval to enter into a Ground and Facility Lease with the Demons Unlimited Foundation for renovations to the NSU Brown-Stroud Field, as authorized by La. R.S. 17:3361.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Northwestern State University has obtained 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 Northwestern State University or his or her designee is hereby designated and authorized to execute any and all documents associated with said Ground and Facility Lease.

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

- H.7. Southeastern Louisiana University's request for approval of three naming opportunities.

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 name the reception area in the Southeastern Foundation Center the "F.J. Guerin, Jr. 1952 Welcome Room," to name the conference room in the Southeastern Foundation Center the "Gaylord M. Bickham Conference Room," and to change the name of the Southeastern Inn to the "Southeastern Foundation Center."

- H.8. University of Louisiana at Lafayette's request for approval to increase the budget for self-managed Act 959 Project Facility Planning and Control delegated authority allowing the University to oversee and manage the NIH C06 Grant Construction Project of Building 29 Laboratories renovations to be located on the New Iberia Research Center campus of the University of Louisiana at Lafayette.

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 increase the budget limit for the previously approved NIH C06 Grant Construction Budget of Building 29 Laboratories Renovations not to exceed the \$10,000,000 limit for the Act 959 Project with Facility Planning and Control delegated authority to be located on the New Iberia Research Center campus of the University of Louisiana at Lafayette in New Iberia, Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that prior to execution of final documents the University of Louisiana at Lafayette shall: (a) Provide evidence to UL System staff 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 UL 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 the University of Louisiana at Lafayette and his or her designee are hereby designated and authorized to execute any and all documents necessary to manage the project.

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

- H.9. University of Louisiana at Lafayette's request for authorization to enter into Purchase and Sale Agreements for the acquisition of certain properties located in Lafayette from George Oscar Petro, and Agnes Hamilton LeBlanc.

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 authorization to enter into Purchase and Sale Agreements for the acquisition of certain properties located in Lafayette from George Oscar Petro, and Agnes Hamilton LeBlanc.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the University of Louisiana at Lafayette has obtained 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 the University of Louisiana at Lafayette and/or his designee are hereby designated and authorized to execute any and all documents necessary to execute the purchase of the Petro Property and the LeBlanc Property at such times as deemed appropriate to facilitate the purchase transaction.

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

- H.10. University of Louisiana at Lafayette’s request for approval to name the “Jennifer Ritter Guidry Memorial Gazebo” and “Jakelynn Ammons Student Life Center.”

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 name the “Jennifer Ritter Guidry Memorial Gazebo” and “Jakelynn Ammons Student Life Center.”

I. **Finance Committee**

Mr. Steve Davison asked Mr. Eddie Meche and Ms. Ashley McIntyre to present the campus requests. Upon motion of Mr. Robinson, seconded by Mr. Stevens, the Board voted to approve Items I.1.-I.9. while **Mr. Davison recused himself from I.1. through I.4.**

- I.1. Louisiana Tech University’s request for approval to replace the existing Affiliation Agreement with Innovative Student Facilities, Inc.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves Louisiana Tech University’s request to replace the existing Affiliation Agreement with Innovative Student Facilities, Inc.

- I.2. Louisiana Tech University’s request for approval to replace the Affiliation Agreement with the Louisiana Tech University Foundation, Inc.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves Louisiana Tech University’s request to replace the Affiliation Agreement with the Louisiana Tech University Foundation, Inc.

- I.3. Louisiana Tech University’s request for approval to replace the Funds Management Agreement with the Louisiana Tech University Foundation, Inc.

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 replace the Funds Management Agreement with the Louisiana Tech University Foundation, Inc.

- I.4. Louisiana Tech University’s request for approval to replace the Affiliation Agreement with the Louisiana Tech University Alumni Association, Inc.

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 replace the Affiliation Agreement with the Louisiana Tech University Alumni Association, Inc.

- I.5. McNeese State University’s request for approval to enter into a Lease Agreement with Sodexo Operations, LLC for the operation of Food Service Facilities.

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 ten- (10) year Lease Agreement with Sodexo Operations, LLC for the operation of Food Service Facilities on the campus of McNeese State University.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that McNeese State University shall obtain final review and approval from agencies/parties of processes, documents, and administrative requirements prior to the execution of documents.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Dr. Wade Rousse, Executive Vice President and incoming President of McNeese State University, is hereby designated and authorized to execute any and all documents necessary to execute this Agreement.

AND FURTHER, that McNeese State University will provide the UL System Office with copies of all final executed documents for UL System and Board Files.

- I.6. University of Louisiana at Monroe's request for approval of a Memorandum of Understanding between ULM and Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine to allow reduced tuition to VCOM employees.

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 a Memorandum of Understanding with Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine for a reduced tuition to VCOM employees.

- I.7. University of New Orleans' request for approval to convert the Edward G. Schlieder Endowed Chair in Urban Waste Management and Research into four Endowed Professorships: Edward G. Schlieder Educational Foundation Engineering Endowed Professorships I, II, III, and IV.

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 convert the Edward G. Schlieder Endowed Chair in Urban Waste Management and Research into four Endowed Professorships: Edward G. Schlieder Educational Foundation Engineering Endowed Professorships I, II, III, and IV.

- I.8. University of Louisiana System's recommendation to approve revised Campus Housing, Meal Plan and Auxiliary Rates for Academic Year 2024-25 for Nicholls State University and Southeastern Louisiana University.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves the University of Louisiana System's recommendation for the revisions submitted by Nicholls State University and Southeastern Louisiana University for Academic Year 2024-25.

- I.9. University of Louisiana System’s recommendation to approve a contract for professional legal services with DeCuir, Clark & Adams, L.L.P.

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves the System’s recommendation for approval of the contract with DeCuir, Clark & Adams, L.L.P.*

- I.10. University of Louisiana System’s discussion of Fiscal Year 2023-24 third quarter financial reports and ongoing assurances.

This is a report only and no action by the Board is necessary.

J. **Personnel Committee**

Mr. Peterson asked Ms. Kecia Neal, System Business Operations Director, to describe the campus requests. Upon motion of Ms. Stokes, seconded by Mr. Salter, the Board voted unanimously to approve Items J.1.-J.8.

- J.1. Louisiana Tech University’s request for approval to appoint Dr. Henrietta Pichon as Dean of the College of Education and Human Sciences effective June 1, 2024.

***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 Dr. Henrietta Pichon as Dean of the College of Education and Human Sciences effective June 1, 2024.*

- J.2. McNeese State University’s request for approval to appoint Dr. Kedrick Nicholas as Senior Vice President for Student Affairs effective July 1, 2024.

***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 Dr. Kedrick Nicholas as Senior Vice President for Student Affairs effective July 1, 2024.*

- J.3. McNeese State University’s request for approval to appoint Dr. Charles Stewart as Dean of the College of Science, Engineering and Mathematics effective July 1, 2024.

***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 Dr. Charles Stewart as Dean of the College of Science, Engineering and Mathematics effective July 1, 2024.*

- J.4. McNeese State University’s request for approval to appoint Dr. Michael Buckles as Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs effective July 1, 2024.

***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 Dr. Michael Buckles as Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs effective July 1, 2024.*

- J.5. McNeese State University's request for approval to appoint Ms. April Broussard as Interim Vice President of Business Affairs effective July 1, 2024.

***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 Ms. April Broussard as Interim Vice President of Business Affairs effective July 1, 2024.*

- J.6. McNeese State University's request for approval to appoint Dr. Keagan LeJeune as Interim Dean for the College of Liberal Arts effective July 1, 2024.

***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 Dr. Keagan LeJeune as Interim Dean for the College of Liberal Arts effective July 1, 2024.*

- J.7. Northwestern State University's request for approval to continue the appointment of Dr. Aimee Badeaux as Interim Dean of the College of Nursing and School of Allied Health effective July 1, 2024.

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves Northwestern State University's request for approval to continue the appointment of Dr. Aimee Badeaux as Interim Dean for the College of Nursing and School of Allied Health effective July 1, 2024.*

- J.8. Southeastern Louisiana University's request for approval to appoint Dr. Claire Procopio as Dean of the College of Honors and Excellence effective July 1, 2024.

***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 appoint Dr. Claire Procopio as Dean of the College of Honors and Excellence effective July 1, 2024.*

Dr. Kathy Johnson, President of University of New Orleans, introduced Dr. Randall Langston, who had been approved as Vice President for Enrollment Management at the April 25 meeting. Dr. Langston thanked the Board for his appointment and his support from the UNO community and said he will focus on student success.

Dr. Donna Thomas, Provost at Louisiana Tech University, introduced Dr. Henrietta Pichon as the Dean of the College of Education and Human Sciences. Dr. Pichon said she was excited for the appointment and thanked the Board for the opportunity to return to Louisiana.

Southeastern President William Wainwright introduced Dr. Claire Procopio, appointed as Dean of the College of Honors and Excellence. Dr. Procopio indicated that she proud of the College and will work to continue its success.

Dr. Wade Rousse, McNeese President, introduced four individuals. First was Ms. April Broussard, Interim Vice President of Business Affairs. Ms. Broussard said she was excited to join the executive leadership team. Dr. Michael Buckles, Interim Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs, expressed his appreciation for the knowledge and skills he had gained as a participant in the Management and Leadership Institute and was humbled to be selected to the interim position. Dr. Keagan LeJeune, Interim Dean of the College of Liberal Arts, said he was honored, as a McNeese graduate, to be approved as part of the management team. Dr. Rousse lastly introduced Dr. Kedrick Nicholas as Senior Vice President for Student Affairs. Dr. Nicholas thanked his wife, Tabitha, and two sons for supporting him. Also a past participant in the Management and Leadership Institute, Dr. Nicholas credited the experience as transformational. His focus is on servant leadership.

Chair Romero again welcomed Mr. Drew Brown. Mr. Brown said that he was grateful and honored to have been elected by the Student Body Presidents to serve as the Student Board Member. He said he will be focused on the needs of students. He said that is committed to strengthening the relationship between the students and the Board.

K. **System President's Business**

K.1. **Personnel Actions**

President Gallot said that System staff had reviewed the personnel action requests and summer school pay plans and recommends approval.

Upon motion of Dr. Clarke, seconded by Mr. Stevens, the Board unanimously voted to approve the System personnel actions and summer school pay plans.

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

Legislative Update

System President Gallot reported on significant legislation pertaining to higher education issues:

HB 940 – Representative Christopher Turner, to authorize the issuance of bonds to finance deferred maintenance projects included in the College and University Deferred Maintenance and Capital Improvement Program;

HB 1 and **HB 782** – to provide funding for higher education, including the University of Louisiana System; and

HB 862 – Representative Jason Hughes, to authorize public postsecondary education management boards to establish and increase student tuition and mandatory fees.

Proposed Board Rule Revision

President Gallot informed the Board that a revision to *Board Rule, Chapter II. Students, Section XXI, Safety and Security, A-D* is being proposed. The revision will be included for consideration on the August agenda.

M&LI Update

President Gallot reported that the participants in the Management and Leadership Institute (M&LI) had given the annual presentation earlier in the day. He commended Dr. James Henderson for establishing this initiative in 2017 and Dr. Caprice Ieyoub for her leadership since that time. He stated that the newest class will begin meeting in August.

Black Male Summit

President Gallot reminded the Board that the Black Male Summit is scheduled for June 17-18 at the Hilton New Orleans Riverside Hotel, and he encouraged them to attend. He thanked Dr. Claire Norris for her leadership.

Summer Programming

President Gallot said that the Bridging the Divide series will again be offered this summer:

June 24-28 – AI Intensive
July 8-26 – AI Micro Credential
August 5-9 – “Creating a Culture of Care”

In addition, he mentioned the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention which provides virtual training during the summer.

Grambling Update

Lastly, Grambling President Martin Lemelle and Dr. Edwin Litolff III, Vice President for Finance, provided a brief update on the status of the University’s new Digital Library. Dr. Lemelle said that the library is expected to open in early August 2024. Dr. Litolff reported on the past challenges that have delayed the opening of the building, and indicated that Facility Planning and Control (FP&C) is also involved in the final details to ensure the library’s opening soon.

L. **Board Chair’s Business**

L.1. **Board Chair’s Report**

Required Training

Chair Romero stated that an in-person Ethics Session is being scheduled in conjunction with the October 24 Board meeting. Also, for those who cannot be present at that time, Mr. Bruce Janet will email a link to access the online Ethics course and training regarding Preventing Sexual Harassment. These requirements must be completed by December 31 each year.

Northwestern State University Presidential Search Update

Mr. Romero indicated that he is finalizing the membership of the Search Committee, with President Rick Gallot as Chair, and the timeline and members will be announced soon. Mr. Romero also stated that, at the conclusion of the search process, a Special Meeting on July 18 is being scheduled. The meeting will be held in Baton Rouge to interview the finalists and name the next President for Northwestern.

L.2. Update on Pending Litigation

Mr. Romero said that the Board would receive a brief update on pending litigation, and it was necessary to discuss this in Executive Session.

On motion of Mr. Salter, seconded by Mr. Stevens, the Board unanimously voted to convene in Executive Session at 1:30 p.m. The following roll call vote was recorded:

Yeas: Drew Brown, Jimmy Clarke, Steve Davison, Jo Lethermon, Al Perkins, Dana Peterson, Elizabeth Pierre, Virgil Robinson, Mark Romero, Kristine Russell, Joe Salter, Brad Stevens, Julie Stokes

Nays: None

Absent: Barry Busada, Lola Dunahoe, John Noble, Jr.

At 2:25 p.m., upon motion of Mr. Perkins, seconded by Mr. Davison, the Board unanimously voted to reconvene in Open Session. Mr. Romero reported that the Board had met in Executive Session and no motions or votes had been made while in Executive Session.

M.-N. Other Business/Adjournment

Mr. Romero reminded members that the next regular meeting of the Board will be Thursday, August 22.

There being no other business, upon motion of Dr. Lethermon, and seconded by Mr. Stevens, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn at 2:27 p.m.