

**Tennessee State University Board of Trustees
Regular Meeting – June 18, 2020
Tennessee State University – Electronic**

MINUTES

Board Members Present: Trustee Deborah Cole, Obi McKenzie, Richard Lewis, Andre Johnson, Pam Martin, Dr. Ali Sekmen, Steve Corbeil; Joseph Walker III, and Braxton Simpson.

University Board Staff Present: President Glenda Glover; Laurence Pendleton, General Counsel and Board Secretary; Dr. Alisa Mosley, Interim Vice President for Academic Affairs; Dr. Curtis Johnson, Chief of Staff; Dean Frank Stevenson, Assoc. Vice President of Student Affairs; Horace Chase, Vice President of Business and Finance; Dr. Frances Williams, Assoc. Vice President of Research & Sponsored Programs; Terrence Izzard, Assoc. Vice President of Enrollment Management; Michael Harris; Robbie Melton.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Walker called the Board of Trustees meeting to order at 2:06 p.m., CST on June 18, 2020. Chair Walker moved to make certain findings on the record regarding the necessity for conducting the meeting electronically without a physical quorum present due to the coronavirus pandemic. The Board is scheduled to take up important and timely matters. Participation by electronic means is necessitated by the COVID-19 pandemic and accompanying guidance from the Center for Disease Control (“CDC”) and the State of Tennessee to limit face-to-face contact whenever possible. Electronic participation for the Board meeting is necessary for the safety of Board members, staff, and guests. Trustee Martin seconded and the motion carried.

II. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

The Board Chair welcomed the attendees. Dean Stevenson gave the invocation.

III. ROLL CALL/DECLARATION OF A QUORUM

Chair Walker asked the Board Secretary, Laurence Pendleton, to call the roll. The following Trustees were present during roll call: Trustee Deborah Cole, Obie McKenzie, Richard Lewis, Andre Johnson, Pam Martin, Dr. Ali Sekmen, Braxton Simpson, Steve Corbeil, and Joseph Walker III. Board Secretary Pendleton announced the presence of a quorum.

IV. ACTION ITEMS

A. APPROVAL OF THE MARCH 12, 2020, BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Chair Walker introduced the first action item – the approval of the minutes of the March 12, 2020 board meeting. Chair Walker moved to approve the board meeting minutes and Trustee Martin seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

B. APPROVAL OF REAPPOINTMENT OF AUDIT COMMITTEE CHAIR

Chair Walker introduced the second action item- the approval of the reappointment of Trustee Deborah Cole as Audit Committee Chair. Trustee Walker moved to approve, and Trustee Martin seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

C. APPROVAL OF THE STUDENT TRUSTEE

Chair Walker introduced the next action item- the approval of Tiara Thomas as the non-voting Student Trustee. Chair Walker explained the Student Trustee selection process and provided a brief biography of Tiara Thomas. Trustee Walker moved to approve, and Trustee Martin seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Chair Walker recognized Student Trustee Tiara Thomas who spoke a few words of encouragement. She thanked outgoing Trustee Simpson and President Glover and administration for the opportunity.

D. APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT OF BOARD POLICY 003 (DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY TO THE PRESIDENT)

Chair Walker introduced the next action item- the amendment of Board Policy No. 003, Delegation of Authority to the President. Chair Walker explained the required change to allow the President to approve policies required for accreditation purposes. Trustee Walker moved to approve the amendment to the Board Policy No. 003, as contained in the June 18, 2020 Board Meeting materials, and Trustee Martin seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

E. AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT

Trustee Cole informed the board that the audit committee met to take action on two items and received reports on three other items. The Audit Committee voted to recommend to the full Board the approval of the March 12, 2020, Audit Committee meeting minutes. The Audit Committee also voted to recommend to the full Board the approval of the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Audit Plan. Trustee Cole added that the Audit Committee heard reports from President Glover and her team, including Dr. Adrian Davis, on the annual report on the audit office's audit activities, the audit office's internal quality assessment, and the state audit sunset review process.

I. APPROVAL OF THE MARCH 12, 2020, AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Trustee Cole moved to approve the minutes of March 12, 2020, audit committee meeting as contained in the board materials for the June 18, 2020, board meeting. Trustee Lewis seconded the motion, which carried unanimously by roll call vote.

II. APPROVAL OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021 AUDIT PLAN

Trustee Cole moved to approve the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 audit plan as contained in the board materials for the June 18, 2020, board meeting. Trustee Martin seconded the motion, which carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Trustee Cole concluded the Audit Committee report.

Chair Walker thanked the Audit Committee for their work.

F. FINANCE AND BUDGET COMMITTEE REPORT

Trustee Lewis stated that the Finance and Budget Committee met this morning to take action on five items and received reports on four other items. The Finance and Budget Committee voted to recommend to the full Board the approval of the November 21, 2019 and March 12, 2020, Finance and Budget Committee meeting minutes; the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Non-Mandatory Fees/Fee Increase; the institutional estimated and proposed budgets; and the institution's Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Capital Construction Plan. The Finance and Budget Committee heard reports from President Glover and her team on COVID-19 financial issues, the composite financial index, finance and budget, and the enrollment, marketing and recruitment plan.

I. APPROVAL OF THE NOVEMBER 21, 2019 FINANCE AND BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Trustee Corbeil moved to approve the November 21, 2019 Finance and Budget Committee meeting minutes, as contained in the board materials for the June 18, 2020, board meeting. Trustee Martin seconded the motion, which carried unanimously by roll call vote.

II. APPROVAL OF THE MARCH 12, 2020 FINANCE AND BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Trustee Corbeil moved to approve the March 12, 2020 Finance and Budget Committee meeting minutes, as contained in the board materials for the June 18, 2020, board meeting. Trustee Cole seconded the motion, which carried unanimously by roll call vote.

III. APPROVAL OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021 NON-MANDATORY FEE INCREASE

Trustee Corbeil explained that the institution is not proposing an increase in tuition or mandatory fees. However, Trustee Corbeil moved to approve the fiscal year 2020-2021 non-mandatory fee increase as contained in the board materials for the June 18, 2020, board meeting. Trustee Martin seconded the motion, which carried unanimously by roll call vote.

IV. APPROVAL OF THE ESTIMATED AND PROPOSED INSTITUTIONAL BUDGETS

Trustee Corbeil moved to approve the estimated and proposed institutional budgets, as contained in the board materials for the June 18, 2020, board meeting. Trustee Martin seconded the motion, which carried unanimously by roll call vote.

V. APPROVAL OF THE INSTITUTION'S FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021 CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION PLAN

Trustee Corbeil moved to approve the institution's fiscal year 2020-2021 Capital Construction Plan, as contained in the board materials for the June 18, 2020, board meeting. Trustee Cole seconded the motion, which carried unanimously by roll call.

Trustee Corbeil concluded the Finance and Budget report.

Chair Walker thanked the Finance Committee for their work.

G. ACADEMIC AFFAIRS AND STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE REPORT

Trustee Johnson reported that the academic affairs and student affairs committee met to consider and vote on seven agenda items and to receive reports on five other agenda items.

Trustee Johnson stated that the Academic Affairs and Student Affairs Committee voted to recommend to the full Board the approval of the March 12, 2020, Academic Affairs and Student Affairs Committee meeting minutes; approval of the Academic Year 2019-2020 Tenure and Promotion Recommendations; the approval of the M.S. in Environmental Sciences, the Master of Music, and the M.S. in Data Science academic programs; the approval of nine off-campus academic program sites; and approval of the Student Conduct Rule.

Trustee Johnson added that the Academic Affairs and Student Affairs Committee received reports on COVID-19 Coronavirus Pandemic Academic and Student Issues, accreditation matters, the strategic plan, academic affairs, and student affairs.

I. APPROVAL OF THE MARCH 12, 2020, ACADEMIC AFFAIRS AND STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

On behalf of the Academic Affairs and Student Affairs Committee, Trustee Johnson moved to approve the minutes of the March 12, 2020, Academic Affairs and Student Affairs Committee meeting, as contained in the Board materials for the June 18, 2020, Board meeting. Trustee Corbeil seconded and the motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

II. APPROVAL OF THE 2019-2020 TENURE AND PROMOTIONS RECOMMENDATIONS

Trustee Johnson moved to approve the 2019-2020 tenure and promotions recommendations, as contained in the Board materials for the June 18, 2020, Board meeting, and along with the addition of Veronica Oates to full professor, Rakshit Sudipta receiving tenure and achieving Associate Professor; and Jeffrey Tackett earning tenure and promoted to Assistant Professor. Trustee Cole seconded and the motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

III. APPROVAL OF ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

a. APPROVAL OF THE MASTER OF SCIENCE IN ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

On behalf of the Academic Affairs and Student Affairs Committee, Trustee Johnson moved to approve the M.S. in Environmental Sciences, as contained in the Board materials for the June 18, 2020, Board meeting. Trustee Martin seconded, and the motion was approved unanimously by roll call vote.

b. APPROVAL OF THE MASTER OF MUSIC

Trustee Johnson moved to approve the Master of Music, as contained in the Board materials for the June 18, 2020, Board meeting. Trustee Martin seconded, and the motion was approved unanimously by roll call vote.

c. APPROVAL OF THE MASTER OF SCIENCE IN DATA SCIENCE

Trustee Johnson moved to approve the M.S. in Data Science, as contained in the Board materials for the June 18, 2020, Board meeting. Trustee Martin seconded, and the motion was approved unanimously by roll call vote.

IV. APPROVAL OF OFF-CAMPUS ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

Trustee Johnson moved to approve the following Off-Campus Academic Program Sites: Clarksville County Schools, Hamilton County Schools, Hardeman County Schools, Haywood County Schools, Jackson Madison County Schools, Metro Nashville Public Schools, Robertson County Schools, Shelby County Schools, and Tifton County Schools, as contained in the Board materials for the June 18, 2020, Board meeting. Trustee Martin seconded, and the motion was approved unanimously by roll call vote.

V. APPROVAL OF THE STUDENT CONDUCT RULE

Trustee Johnson moved to approve the new Student Conduct Rule, as contained in the Board materials for the Board's June 18, 2020, meeting, including authorizing the President and her designees to make any technical corrections to these rules, including changes required by the Attorney General's Office after review. Trustee Martin seconded, and the motion was approved unanimously by roll call vote: Trustees Cole, Corbeil, Johnson, Lewis, Martin, McKenzie, Sekmen, and Walker.

Trustee Johnson concluded the Academic and Student Affairs report.

Chair Walker thanked the Academic Affairs and Student Affairs Committee for their work.

H. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

Chair Walker stated that the Executive Committee met today to discuss and vote on specified committee agenda items. The Committee voted to recommend to the full Board the approval of the March 12, 2020, Executive Committee meeting minutes.

Chair Walker also stated that the Executive Committee heard an update from Vice Chair Cole on the President's Annual Performance Review, a report on the Board Self-assessment, and a report from Secretary Pendleton.

I. APPROVAL OF THE NOVEMBER 21, 2019, EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

On behalf of the Executive Committee, Chair Walker moved to approve the minutes of the March 12, 2020, Executive Committee meeting, as contained in the Board materials for the June 18, 2020, Board meeting. Trustee McKenzie seconded the motion and it was approved by roll call vote.

Chair Walker concluded the Executive Committee report.

V. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Chair Walker recognized President Glover to present the President's Report, including a COVID-19 report.

President Glover provided reports on various items contained in the board materials for the June 18, 2020, Board Meeting and her President's report powerpoint slides. She provided reports on: SACSCOC Update including recommended removal from probationary status after SACSCOC Committee visit on June 15, 2020 and the decennial review; Tornado Update; COVID-19 including Task Force, TSU with 6 student cases, and continuing virtual environment; Plans for Fall 2020 including regular start time if it is safe with additional safety procedures/precautions, but continuing to review other options; Online Learning; Student Refunds related to COVID-19 and grade policy changes to allow pass/fail; Cares Act Funding for higher education institutions and for HBCUs; Recruitment & Enrollment; and State Budget including no new funds for TSU; and President Glover and Chair Walker received a great call from Oprah Winfrey.

In summary, President Glover thanked everyone.

VI. BOARD CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair Walker thanked President Glover for her leadership and hard work. Chair Walker thanked Dr. Mosley for her work over the years now that she is leaving the institution.

On behalf of the Board, Chair Walker thanked Student Trustee Simpson for her service on the Board for two one year appointments. Student Trustee Simpson shared her appreciation and growth in serving in this Student Trustee position for two years.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Walker moved to adjourn which was seconded by Trustee Martin. The motioned carried by roll call vote. The meeting was adjourned at 3:09 p.m. CST.