

Southern University Board of Supervisors  
10:00 A.M.  
Saturday, January 26, 1991  
Board Room, J.S. Clark Administration Building  
Southern University - Baton Rouge

MINUTES

The meeting of the Southern University Board of Supervisors was convened by the Chairman, Mr. Willie T. Sensley.

The invocation was given by Rev. Joe R. Gant.

PRESENT

Mr. Willie T. Sensley, Chairman  
Mr. Mack Abraham  
Rev. Jesse B. Bilberry  
Atty. Edselle Cunningham  
Mr. Curley M. Dossman  
Mrs. Pearlle H. Elloie  
Mr. Patrick Fontenot  
Rev. Joe R. Gant

Mr. Allen J. Hamilton  
Dr. James Meza, Jr.  
Mr. Roscoe J. Moore  
Dr. Jenny D. Phillips  
Mr. Alaric Richard  
Dr. Jesse N. Stone, Jr.  
Mrs. Joyous Van Buskirk  
Mr. Frank Williams, Jr.

ABSENT

Mr. Bobby D. Higginbotham, Vice-Chairman  
Mr. John Graham

UNIVERSITY PERSONNEL ATTENDING

President/Chancellor Dolores R. Spikes, Secretary to the Board  
Vice-President Tolor E. White  
Chancellors B.K. Agnihotri, Robert Gex, and Robert Smith  
Interim Executive Vice-Chancellor Wilbur Clarke  
Vice-Chancellors C. Cunningham, S. Gilliam, J. Hoffman, W. Moore,  
J. Robinson, F. Williams, M. Yates  
Messrs. T. Butler, M. Casem, C. Lewis, and L. McGhee  
Dr. L. Williams

**AGENDA ITEM 4: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

On motion of Mr. Dossman, seconded by Rev. Bilberry, the agenda was adopted, as amended.

**AMENDMENTS:**

- Item 4a. Swearing in of new Board Members
- 7f. SUBR: Forms 54-65
- 7g. SUNO: Forms 66 and 67
- 7h. SUSBO: Form 68

- 7i. S.U. System: Forms 69 and 70
- 8. Add resolution recognizing Southern University students who are serving in the Persian Gulf War, along with their parents
- 9a. Joffre T. Whisenton lawsuit
- 9b. Personnel Matter re a Civil Service Employee, SUBR
- 10a. Appointment of Committee Chairmen and other appointments
- 10b. Meeting dates

**AGENDA ITEM 4a. SWEARING IN OF NEW BOARD MEMBERS**

The newly-appointed members of the Board were given the oath of office by Judge Freddie Pitcher. The names of the new members appear below.

Atty. Edselle Cunningham  
Mr. Patrick Fontenot  
Mr. Allen J. Hamilton

Dr. Jenny D. Phillips  
Dr. Jesse N. Stone, Jr.  
Mr. Frank Williams, Jr.

Mr. John Graham was absent due to a prior engagement.

**AGENDA ITEM 5: APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 24, 1990 BOARD MEETING**

On motion of Mr. Moore, seconded by Mr. Dossman, the minutes of the November 24, 1990 Board meeting were approved.

Motion carried unanimously.

**AGENDA ITEM 6: COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Academic and Faculty Affairs/Personnel Policy Committee

The Committee's report was presented by the Acting Chairman, Rev. Jesse B. Bilberry.

A Board resolution was presented to commend the Department of Biology at SUSBO in recognition of its exemplary programs in Biological Sciences. The programs are under the leadership of Mr. Leonard Wilmer and Dr. Emanuel Igbokwe.

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On motion of Rev. Bilberry, seconded by Rev. Gant, the Board approved the report of its Academic and Faculty Affairs/Personnel Policy Committee.

Motion carried unanimously.

Athletic Committee

The Committee's report was presented by the Chairman, Mr. Curley M. Dossman.

On motion of Mr. Dossman, seconded by Mrs. Elloie, the Board accepted the Committee's recommendation and authorized the Athletic Committee to meet with the Administration to arrive at variables that should be considered in negotiating the next Superdome contract for the Bayou Classic activities.

Other informational items in the Committee's report included:

- 1991 NCAA Convention
- 1990 Bayou Classic
- Condition of the Track Field
- Request to SUNO and SUSBO for a status report on athletic programs at future Board meetings.

On motion of Mr. Dossman, seconded by Mrs. Elloie, the Board approved the report of the Athletic Committee.

The motion carried. Mr. Moore cast a nay vote for that portion of the report relative to the condition of the track field, indicating his displeasure at the absence of a Committee recommendation on this item.

Finance and Business Affairs Committee

The Committee's report was presented by the Chairman, Mrs. Pearlle H. Elloie.

On motion of Mrs. Elloie, seconded by Mr. Dossman, the Board accepted the Committee's recommendation and approved the Schedule of 1990-91 Preventive Maintenance Projects for the Baton Rouge Campus.

The motion carried. Mr. Abraham voted nay. His objections are reflected in the Committee's report.

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On motion of Mrs. Pearlle H. Elloie, seconded by Mr. Moore, the Board accepted the Committee's recommendation and approved the Schedule of 1990-91 Preventive Maintenance Projects for the New Orleans campus.

Motion carried unanimously.

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On motion of Mrs. Elloie, seconded by Rev. Gant, the Board accepted the Committee's recommendation and approved the Schedule of 1990-91 Preventive Maintenance Projects for the Shreveport campus.

The motion carried. Mr. Abraham voted nay. His objections are reflected in the Committee's report.

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On motion of Mrs. Elloie, seconded by Mr. Abraham, the Board accepted the Committee's recommendation and approved the adjustments in salary increases for upper-level administrators at Southern University, as proposed by Dr. Sammie Cosper, Commissioner of Higher Education.

The motion carried. Mr. Moore voted nay.

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On motion of Mrs. Elloie, seconded by Rev. Bilberry, the Board accepted the Committee's recommendation and approved the 1991-92 Budget Requests for units of the S.U. System.

The motion carried. Mr. Abraham voted nay. His objections are reflected in the Committee's report.

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On motion of Mrs. Elloie, seconded by Rev. Bilberry, the Board approved the report of its Finance and Business Affairs Committee.

Motion carried unanimously.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 7: PERSONNEL RECOMMENDATIONS**

On motion of Rev. Bilberry, seconded by Mr. Dossman, the Board approved personnel recommendations, as reflected by forms listed below.

Mr. Abraham voted nay, indicating his objections to the late receipt of personnel action forms.

- S.U. System: Forms 1 - 3c; 69 & 70
- SUBR: Forms 4 - 35b; 54 - 65
- SUNO: Forms 37 - 51; 66 & 67
- SUSBO: Forms 52, 53, and 68



**AGENDA ITEM 8: RESOLUTIONS**

On motion of Dr. Meza, the Board approved a resolution of recognition to be forwarded to the parents of Southern University students who are involved in the Middle East Crisis, particularly, Desert Storm, expressing appreciation for their involvement. A copy of this resolution shall be sent to the affected students. The resolution is also to be sent to the family of Southern University employees on active duty because of this crisis.

Motion carried unanimously.

Condolences

By unanimous vote, the Board approved a resolution of condolences to the family of persons named below:

- Mrs. Lula Wilson
- Mrs. Hazel Bartley
- Mr. Lawrence Moch
- Mr. Joseph D. Rodney

Commendations to outgoing Board members and to Dr. Louis James were also approved.

**AGENDA ITEM 9A: REPORT ON THE JOFFRE T. WHISENTON LAWSUIT**

On motion of Mr. Moore, seconded by Rev. Gant, the Board convened into an executive session to discuss the Joffre T. Whisenton lawsuit.

Motion carried unanimously. Roll call vote; 16 yeas, 0 nays

**- RECONVENTION -**

On motion of Rev. Bilberry, seconded by Dr. Meza, the Board voted to return to open session.

Motion carried unanimously. Roll call vote: 16 yeas, 0 nays

Mr. Sensley announced that no action was taken during the session on the Joffre T. Whisenton lawsuit.

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On motion of Mr. Williams, seconded by Dr. Stone, the Board voted to hold a one-day retreat for the purpose of:

- a. establishing goals and objectives for the 1990-91 year

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- b. reviewing the Bylaws and Regulations for possible amendments and revisions
- c. reviewing the Board's administrative policies and guidelines.

Motion carried unanimously. Roll call vote: 16 yeas, 0 nays.

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On motion of Mr. Dossman, seconded by Dr. Stone, the Board selected Thursday, March 7, 1991 as the date of the retreat.

Motion carried unanimously.

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At the suggestion of Dr. Stone, the Board's Attorney was requested to provide the Board with instructions on how the retreat must be conducted in order not to violate the Open Meetings Law.

Dr. Meza suggested an open retreat with the press and other invited guests.

**AGENDA ITEM 9B: RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE TERMINATION OF MR. LARRY JOHNSON**

Based upon a recommendation from the Administration to terminate a civil service employee, the Chairman recognized Mr. Marvin Montgomery, Assistant Attorney General for the State of Louisiana, to discuss the need for Board Action relative to this termination.

Mr. Montgomery explained to the Board that there was a need for the Board act on the recommendation from the Administration to terminate Larry Johnson and to ratify the actions that had been taken by the Administration as a result of an incident on December 13, 1990. He stated that a recent ruling by a Civil Service referee declared that the Board did not have the authority to delegate its appointing power to the System President to hire and terminate civil service workers without the final approval of the action by the Board. He further stated that the Board needed to authorize the President to notify Mr. Johnson of the action it had taken in this regard.

On motion of Mr. Abraham, seconded by Dr. Stone, the Board unanimously voted to accept the Administration's recommendation and to terminate Larry Johnson as a civil service worker at SUBR.



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Through the acceptance of this recommendation, the Board approves the following:

1. The termination of Larry Johnson from his Civil Service position.
2. Authorization to the President to officially notify Mr. Johnson of the Board action in conformity to the law.
3. The ratification of the actions of the Administration in placing Mr. Johnson on enforced annual leave - December 14, 1990 - December 20, 1990, and in giving Mr. Johnson the choice of taking annual leave or being placed on leave without pay for the period December 21, 1990 - January 4, 1991.

**AGENDA ITEM 10: OTHER BUSINESS**

a. Appointment of Committee Chairmen and Others

Board Chairman Sensley announced the appointment of the 1991 Committee Chairmen and Board representatives to outside agencies. A copy is attached to these minutes.

Rev. Gant asked to have his name removed as Chair of the Desegregation Litigation Committee.

An Ad Hoc Committee on Financial Matters was established. Persons named to this Committee were:

Mr. Frank Williams, Chairman  
Mrs. Pearlle H. Elloie  
Mr. Patrick Fontenot  
Mr. Allen J. Hamilton  
Mr. Bobby D. Higginbotham

This Committee was charged with the responsibility of investigating means by which unappropriated Consent Decree funds may be obtained and used to fund the University's needs, as prioritized by the Administration and approved by the Board.

b. Meeting Dates

Regular Board meeting dates and locations for the period February to June 1991 were announced:

February 22- 23	Baton Rouge
March 22-23	Baton Rouge
April 26-27	Baton Rouge
May 24-25	New Orleans
June 21-22	Baton Rouge

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**AGENDA ITEM 11: ADJOURNMENT**

On motion of Rev. Gant, seconded by Mr. Dossman, the meeting was adjourned.

  
Secretary, S.U. Board of Supervisors

  
Chairman, S.U. Board of Supervisors