

SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING

**Committee of the Whole
Friday, February 12, 2021**

9:00 a.m.
Virtual Meeting

Minutes

The meeting of the Southern University Board of Supervisors was called to order by Board Chairman Attorney Domoine Rutledge. The invocation was given by Rev. Gerard Robinson, pastor of McKowen Baptist Church, Baton Rouge, LA.

Roll Call by Dr. Ray Belton.

Present: Chairman Atty. Domoine Rutledge, Vice Chairman Atty. Edwin Shorty, Mr. John Barthelemy, Dr. Leroy Davis, Mr. Raymond Fondel, Jr., Mr. Bakari Garvey, Mr. Sam Gilliam, Mr. Richard Hilliard, Mr. Myron Lawson, Ms. Christy Reeves, Mrs. Ann Smith, Dr. Leon Tarver II, Rev. Samuel Tolbert, Dr. Rani Whitfield, and Ms. Arlanda Williams

Absent: Atty Jody Amedee

AGENDA ITEM 4: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Chairman Atty Rutledge mention that Items G - I will be deleted from the agenda and Item O #4 job position has to be updated to "Interim". Upon the motion by Ms. Christy Reeves and second by Ms. Arlanda Williams, the agenda was recommended for adoption with the deletion of Items G- I and update to Item O #4.

Motion Approved.

AGENDA ITEM 5: PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

AGENDA ITEM 6: ACTION ITEM(s):

There was a motion by Mr. Sam Gilliam and second by Mr. Myron Lawson to approve Action Item 6A.

Motion Approved

A. Request Approval of the Minutes from January 8, 2021 meeting of the Board of Supervisors

There was a motion by Dr. Leon Tarver and second by Mr. Sam Gilliam to approve in global (action items 6B – 6E)

Motion Passed

No additional comments from Dr. Ammons (SUNO) or Dr. Ellis (SUSLA) but both are available for any questions the board members may have. There were none.

Item 6E – Dr. Belton commended and acknowledged Dr. Leon Tarver for all his work. He mentioned the information Center was a project that Dr. Tarver initiated. Mr. Myron Lawson also acknowledged Dr. Tarver. Atty Edwin Shorty and Mr. Myron Lawson had questions in reference to the contract and asked for additional information. Dr. Belton and Mr. Eli Guillory responded to Atty Edwin Shorty and Mr. Myron Lawson question. Dr. Leroy Davis asked questions in reference to the architect firm and the fees and fee formula. Mr. Guillory responded to Dr. Davis.

- B. Request Approval of Intent to Develop a 100% Online Master of Arts in Teaching (M.A.T.) in special Education (SUNO)**
- C. Request Approval of MOU between Southern University at New Orleans and Education Farm to Establish a Tech Farm and Workforce Development Initiative (SUNO)**
- D. Request Approval of Partnership Agreement with Southern University at Shreveport Louisiana and Avance International University, Uganda to Establish a Study Abroad and Global Education Program (SUSLA)**
- E. Request Approval and Authority to Execute Information Center Contract between Southern University and A&M College and The Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (SUBR)**

There was a motion by Dr. Rani Whitfield and second by Dr. Leroy Davis to approve in global (action items 6F, 6J, 6K, and 6L)

Motion approved.

Items 6F, 6K and 6L - Chancellor Pierre provided brief comments on each and mentioned he is available for any questions. There were none.

Item 6J – Dr. Belton mentioned his request for consideration to launch an education awareness campaign to provide the stakeholders of this state with sufficient information that would enable them to make an informed decision about their health, particularly as it relates to the COVID- 19 virus. He introduced the individuals who are on the team that will represent the university and provide additional information and comments. Brief presentation on the curriculum were provided by team members, Mr. Alfred Harrell – SUS Foundation and Dr. Sandra Brown – Dean, College of Nursing and Allied Health. Dr. Rani Whitfield is also on the team, he provided information on the vaccination. He encouraged everyone to become a part of the initiative. Chairman Rutledge “thanked the team for responding positively to the appeal.” Dr. Belton thanked Chairman Rutledge and the team for their leadership. Dr. Leroy Davis commented on he and his family receiving the vaccination. He spoke about the African American community having trouble receiving the vaccination. He asked Southern University to get access to the vaccine. There were no additional comments. Chairman Rutledge mentioned to Dr. Brown and Dr. Whitfield that Ms. Reeves can be impactful as well with her work at Ochsner health system. Chairman Rutledge requested a report in the next 60 – 90 days from the team which detail how many people are actually taking the vaccine after being educated.

- F. Request Approval of Cooperative Endeavor Agreement (CEA) between the Acadiana Planning Commission, Inc. (APC) and the Southern University Law Center to Promote Economic Development Opportunities and Resiliency for Small Business (SULC)**

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~~G. Request Approval to Adjust the Tuition for the Executive PhD Program in Public Policy Effective Fall 2021 Cohort (SUBR)~~

~~H. Request to Approval of Revised Endowment Policy for Southern University at Baton Rouge (SUBR)~~

~~I. Request Approval of Graduate Council Policy for Southern University at Baton Rouge (SUBR)~~

J. Request Approval of Management Agreement of Black Health, a Statewide Initiative Related to COVID-19 Vaccine Education with Southern University System Foundation and Southern University A & M College (SUBR)

K. Request Approval of MOU between LexisNexis Rule of Law Foundation and the Southern University Law Center to provide Cooperative Opportunities for Global Advancement (SULC)

L. Request Approval of Proposed Amendment to the Southern University Law Center's Mission Statement (SULC)

M. Request Approval of SUSLA Market Salary Adjustments (SUSLA)

Chairman Atty Rutledge mentioned item 6M is a return item from last meeting. He thanked Mr. Sam Gilliam and others who did a lot of work on this item in the interim period between today and our last meeting. He believe Dr. Ellis did a very good job of justifying the reason behind the decisions made on this item. He recognized Dr. Rodney Ellis for any additional comments. Dr. Ellis thanked Mr. Sam Gilliam and others and he hope he was able to provide all information to satisfy their questions. Mr. Sam Gilliam commended Dr. Ellis for his cooperative spirit and making sure he provided the representation.

1.	Devonye Brown	Director of Outcomes Assessment and Quality Management Additional Responsibilities (SUSLA)	\$60,027.00	State
2.	JoAnn Brown	Dean & Associate Prof of Allied Health Additional Responsibilities (SUSLA)	\$74,390.50	State
3.	Stephanie Graham	Director of Grants and Sponsored Programs Additional Responsibilities (SUSLA)	\$71,300.00	State
4.	Barry Hester	Dean of BSTEM & Prof of Chemistry Additional responsibilities (SUSLA)	\$69,455.50	State
5.	Leslie R. McClellon	Chief of Staff and Executive Director for Strategic Initiatives Title Change (SUSLA)	\$88,248.00	State
6.	Lonnie McCray	Dean Arts, Humanities, Social Science & Education Additional Responsibilities (SUSLA)	\$61, 651.25	State

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7. Veloria Nanze	Director of Accounting Additional Responsibilities (SUSLA)	\$61,200.00	State
8. Jane O'Riley	Library Director Additional responsibilities (SUSLA)	\$61,405.00	State

There was a motion by Ms. Reeves and second by Mr. Myron Lawson to approve in global (action items 6N – 6O)

Motion approved.

**N. Request Approval of Personnel Action on Positions equal to or greater than \$60,000
Associated with the Title III Program (SUBR)**

1. Carmela Bethley	Associate Director & Budget Manager Additional Responsibilities (SUBR)	\$70,200.00	Federal Title III
2. Norma Frank	Ofc Sponsored Programs-Executive Director Title Change (SUBR)	\$82,000.00	Federal Title III
3. ValaRay Irvin	Executive Director & Senior Psychologist Additional Responsibilities (SUBR)	\$95,960.00	Federal Title III
4. Huey K. Lawson	Director Title III Additional Responsibilities (SUBR)	\$123,600.00	Federal Title III
5. Kresten Pitcher	Resource and Project Manager Additional Responsibilities (SUBR)	\$62,640.00	Federal Title III

O. Request Approval of Personnel Action on Positions equal to or greater than \$60,000

Name	Position/Campus	Salary	Funding Source
1. Shawn Charles	Associate VC for Administration and Finance & University Comptroller New Appointment (SUNO)	\$90,000.00	State
2. Marlon Ford	Research Assistant Professor and Urban Agricultural Specialist Additional Responsibilities (SUAREC)	\$75,000.00	Federal
3. Teresa Hardee	Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance Permanent Appointment (SUNO)	No Change	State
4. Eurmon Hervey	Interim Associate Vice-Chancellor of Academic Affairs New Appointment (SUNO)	\$85,000.00	State
5. LaKeeshia Lusk	Communications Coordinator Salary Adjustment (SUAREC)	\$65,000.00	State

6. Sanjay Palle	Network Admin/Web Administrator Salary Adjustment (SUAREC)	\$70,000.00	State
7. Christopher Rogers	Deputy CIO-Client Services Additional Responsibilities (SUAREC)	\$90,000.00	State
8. Bobbie Shujaa	SUBR LIGO Program Coordinator Office of Sponsored Programs Additional Responsibilities (SUBR)	\$65,400.00	Federal
9. Derrick Warren	Interim Associate Dean / MBA Director Interim Appointment (SUBR)	\$120,000.00	State
10. Ada Womack-Bell	Director LA Small Business Development Center Additional Responsibilities (SUBR)	\$88,500.00	Federal

P. Resolutions

Dr. Katara Williams, Chief of Staff read resolutions and commendations for the following:

- Dr. Mary Alice Gray Darby
- Mr. Jerry Morris Fultz
- Mr. Donald Delandro
- Mr. Lee Andrew Haynes
- Dr. Jaswant Rai Jindia
- Attorney Ed Larvadai n, Jr.
- Mr. Clarence Stewart
- Ms. Joyce Marie Huntsberry Turnley

There were additions:

- Angelo Corceone – SULC Student – Passed away on February 8, 2021
- Mr. Lonnie Hewitt – SU graduate – School of Architecture – Hewitt-Washington & Associates – passed away on January 25, 2021.

Commendations:

- Crystal Brumfield – SU graduate – Louisiana Native – has been recently named by President Biden as the chief acquisition officer and associate administrator for government wide policy at the GSA in Washington.

Upon Motion from Dr. Leon Tarver to approve the read resolutions and commendations with the additions and Mrs. Ann Smith second the motion.

Motion Approved.

AGENDA ITEM 9: INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Dr. Belton introduced everyone that were presenting Items 9 A-E.

A. Technology Update

An overview of Technology for Southern University system was provided by Dr. Gabriel Fagbeyiro. (Entire Transcribed Minutes in File) Dr. Fagbeyiro thanked the board for the opportunity to provide highlights on technology and asked if there were any questions. Mr. Sam Gilliam had questions in reference to NOLA being the only state that does not have the fiber optic network. Dr. Fagbeyiro responded. Chairman Rutledge thanked Dr. Fagbeyiro for his presentation.

B. SUS Online Learning Update

An update was provided by Atty Tracy Barley. Atty Barley thanked the board for the opportunity to update them today. She had a short presentation. She concluded her report and asked if there were any questions or concerns. There were none. Chairman Rutledge thanked Atty Barley for her presentation.

C. Medical Marijuana Update

An update was provided by Dr. McMeans who introduced Dr. Jana Snowden. Dr. Snowden made a presentation. She discussed the partnership with Alera; the products – there are a total of 11 products. The vape pen has approved and coming soon. She discussed the Sales Summary and showed before and after pictures of the new facility which has been restored. Chairman Rutledge questioned the sales summary which Dr. Snowden responded. Dr. Whitfield asked if the board members could tour the facility. Dr. Snowden says “yes the members can tour, she requested the member to call to schedule the tour to prevent social distance.” She mentioned she will work with Atty Blache. There was discussion around physicians writing prescriptions for patients and healthcare response. Dr. Whitfield responded that these products will not be covered, cash is required and they are not expensive. Chairman Rutledge thanked Dr. McMeans and Dr. Snowden for their presentation.

D. SUBR College of Education Update

An update of the SUBR College of Education was provided by Dr. VerJanis A. Peoples. Dr. Peoples had a power point presentation which provided information on the mission of the college, the admission requirements, completion requirements, certification information, accreditation information, etc. She concluded her presentation and asked if there were any questions or comments. Chairman Rutledge thanked Dr. Peoples for the presentation. Mrs. Ann Smith commended Dr. Peoples on the excellent presentation. She commented on the passing rate and made suggestions and commented on scholarships and funding for students entering the college. There were no additional comments.

E. Finance Update

1. Interim Financial Reports

The Financial report for Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2021 as of January 31, 2021 was provided by Mr. McClinton for all campuses. He mentioned “the detailed information is provided in the board packet for each campus. Based on the information provided that we have provided on the statement for the spring semester revenue will change because the campuses are continuing to register students as of January 31 so we are projecting revenue and we will be able to provide actuals at the meeting next month.” Mr. McClinton mentioned he had reviewed the statements from each of the campuses and had conversation with each campus CFO and they all have made the appropriate

adjustments in order to end up with a balanced budget for each campus.” Mr. McClinton will provide updates next month. That concludes his report. He addressed questions. There were no questions but Mr. Sam Gilliam had a comment. Mr. Sam Gilliam requested a copy of the Interim Financial Report. Ms. Taylor-Jarrell informed the board members that she will email the financial report to all board members again.

Mr. Sam Gilliam and Chairman Atty Domoine Rutledge thanked Mr. McClinton for the report and Mrs. Taylor-Jarrell for emailing the documents.

F. Facilities Planning Project Updates (SUS)

Dr. Belton introduced Mr. Eli Guillory who will give the project updates. Mr. Eli Guillory mentioned the detail and comprehensive list of projects for each campus is included in the packet. (refer to board packet for documentation) He gave brief description of the construction on the campuses and their expected completion dates. He concluded by mentioning, “he is looking forward to additional improvements for all campuses and this concludes his report.” He asked if there were any questions or comments? There were none.

AGENDA ITEM 10: OTHER BUSINESS

Chairman Rutledge announced “the Ray Smith Memorial Fund donated another medical mannequin to the School of Nursing. With that donation and the donation from November, it totals to over about \$28k. Chairman Rutledge thanked Mrs. Ann Smith who has been instrumental in soliciting support from the Ray Smith Memorial Fund family members. Grateful for her support and extend congratulations to Dr. Brown and the school of nursing and allied health.” Chairman Rutledge asked Mrs. Ann Smith if she had any comments. She did not have any comments.

Chairman Rutledge mentioned “the committee assignments are forthcoming. He discussed the March board meeting is scheduled to be an in person meeting on March 12th in Baton Rouge. He has heard from a number of board members who remain uncomfortable meeting in person. He mentioned looking at the CDC guidelines and working with Dr. Whitfield and in person meeting guidelines working with legal counsel.”

Chairman Rutledge called for any other business or matters to discuss from any of the members. There were none. Chairman Rutledge called for motion for adjournment.

AGENDA ITEM 11: ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Christy Reeves made a motion to adjourn, Mr. Bakari Garvey second the motion. Motion Approved.