

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
UNIVERSITY OF NORTH ALABAMA
FLORENCE, ALABAMA
9:00 a.m., Friday December 4, 2020**

The Board of Trustees for the University of North Alabama met on Friday, December 4, 2020, in accordance with Section 6 of Act No. 773 of the 1967 Regular Session of the Legislature of Alabama (more commonly identified as Section 16-51 of the *Code of Alabama*). The meeting was conducted by videoconference based on provisions in Section III of a March 18, 2020, proclamation by Governor Kay Ivey concerning the state public health emergency due to the COVID-19 pandemic. A letter from three trustees (dated November 13, 2020) was sent via email to Governor Kay Ivey in care of her Director of Constituent Affairs, requesting that the Governor call a quarterly meeting for December 4. Proposed letters calling the Board to the meeting also were sent for the Governor's signature as per standard practice, and the same were mailed to Trustees from the Governor's office in advance of the meeting under the date of November 16, 2020. On November 23, Board members were advised via email that the agenda, proposed resolutions, and supporting documents for items of discussion were available for individual electronic access in the Canvas software system.

Board President Pro Tempore Simpson Russell called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

I. INVOCATION

Mr. Russell began the meeting by noting the loss of former Board member Joel Anderson (who passed away unexpectedly in October) and by recognizing his many contributions as a University trustee. Mr. Russell called for a moment of silence in memory of Mr. Anderson, and asked Trustee Will Trapp to then follow with the opening invocation.

II. ROLL CALL

President Ken D. Kitts called the roll, and the following members were in attendance:

Trustee Marty Broms	Trustee Steve Pierce	Trustee Gary Smith
Trustee Wendell Gunn	Trustee Simpson Russell	Trustee Will Trapp
Trustee Marc Vaples	Trustee Nancy Sanford	Trustee Anne Whitaker
Trustee Jim P.		

Therefore, a quorum was present. Ex officio member Governor Kay Ivey was absent.

Others present for all or part of the meeting:

- Dr. Ross Alexander, Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs
- Ms. Amber Dye-Morgan, General Counsel
- Dr. Kimberly Greenway, Vice President for Student Affairs
- Mr. Kevin Blam, Vice President for University Advancement
- Mr. Ron Peterson, Vice President for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
- Mr. Evan Tanton, Vice President for Business and Financial Affairs
- Mr. Bliss Anderson, President of Staff Senate

- Dr. Sara Lynn Fair
- Dr. Vince Brew
- Mr. Carson Brit
- Ms. Michelle E
- Mr. Brian Ford,
- Mr. Michael Ga
- Dr. Katie Kinne
- Mr. John McGe
- Dr. Vicki Pierce
- Ms. Regina She
- Mr. Todd Varda
- Dr. Laura Willie
- Dr. Chunsheng Z
- Mr. Bernie Delin

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Russell submitted the Board's meeting agenda for approval. Upon motion second by Mr. Trapp, the agenda was approved as presented by a unanimous vote.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 18, 2020, QUARTERLY BOARD MEETING

Mr. Russell submitted the minutes from the previously held quarterly meeting for approval. Upon motion second by Ms. Whitaker, the minutes were approved by a unanimous vote.

V. REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

From a prepared text, Dr. Witts gave a brief summary on the status of the University. His remarks included:

- Notes as to University's many successes while navigating the pandemic in the midst of a global health crisis
- An expectation that the total infusion of external dollars toward capital projects will exceed \$30 million this year
- The anticipated relocation of the Harrison Plaza signature facility
- A commendation on UNA's football program for presenting the University well during the 2020 season.

VI. ADVANCEMENT AND UNIVERSITY RELATION COMMITTEE MATTERS

Committee chair Whitaker noted that several topics were covered during this committee's December 3 meeting, including:

- Advancement office's development plans for this year;
- Need for trustee engagement in endowment activities to help the university to raise the donor base;
- Success to date of the Legacy Initiative campaign;
- Governmental relations/Project 2020 data and activities;
- Community engagement through "con/grow" activities.

Other information items from the previous day's meeting were discussed. The Board of Trustees meeting agenda for the December 3 meeting was reviewed. There were no questions, and the committee setting the previous day.

VI. CAMPUS LIFE, ATHLETICS, AND UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY COMMITTEE MATTERS

Committee chair Pierce reported on the various information items presented during the committee's meeting on December 3. A copy of his report was appended to the minutes per his request.

IX. FINANCE, FACILITIES, AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE MATTERS

Committee chair Abrams reported on topics covered during this committee's meeting on December 3 and that are covered today's meeting.

A. Review of Financial Information on Fiscal Year Ending September

The year-end financial reports were reviewed on the \$1.6 million surplus at the end of FY 2019-2020 will help to fund the current fiscal year. The committee will review the reports and determine if any budgetary action is required by the Board.

B. Budgeting of Additional Funds Requested During the 2019-2020 Fiscal Year

Mr. Abrams briefly reviewed this information and noted that there were no questions concerning the request.

Mr. Abrams also noted that included at the meeting materials from recent construction projects. Endowment funds may be used for a number of projects. Photos at the meeting.

C. Resolution Approving Revised Term to Initial Election of Board Members

Mr. Abrams submitted this resolution to the Board of Trustees and Personnel Committee. Upon motion by Mr. W. Page, the resolution was approved by unanimous vote.

X. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Board Compliance with SAC-COC Standards

Dr. Kitts noted that UNA's external review for 2023, and the University is involved in the accreditation process. Compliance with SAC-COC criteria deals with the accreditation standards of the institution. Section 4.2 regarding board officers to be required no action by the Board.

B. Reaffirmation of "Dismissal of Board Members" Protocol

As a related item, Dr. Kitts advised that the standards requires that a member may be dismissed. UNA's Board several years ago, and since that time, a Dismissal statement from 2011 has been used. Dr. Kitts asked that the Board reaffirm the statement by consensus.

C. Resolution in Memory of Joe Anderson

Upon motion by Mr. Page and second by Mr. Abrams, the resolution was approved by unanimous vote.

XI. MOTION FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Russell noted that the Board needed to enter into an executive session. As an attorney licensed to practice law, Mr. Morgan could affirm that the Board's discussion of these matters that allow for an executive session would be in compliance with the Open Meetings Act, second by Mr. Page, and a unanimous vote, the meeting ceases.

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