

**KENTUCKY STATE UNIVERSITY  
BOARD OF REGENTS**

**REGULAR MEETING**

**Meeting Was Conducted in Person and by Videoconference**

**Friday, February 13, 2026  
10:00 a.m. EDT**

**Board of Regents Room**

**Julian M. Carroll Academic Services Building  
2nd Floor, 400 East Main Street  
Frankfort, Kentucky  
40601**

**MINUTES**

\*\*\*\*\*

**1. Call to Order**

- The Board of Regent’s Chair, Regent Tammi Dukes, called the meeting to order at 10:09 a.m.

**2. Roll Call**

The Board’s Secretary, Nicole Sergent, called the roll:

Regent Tammi Dukes	Present
Regent Edward Fields	Present
Regent Matthew Grimshaw	Present
Regent Edward Hatchett	Present
Regent Jason Moseley	Present
Regent Charles Moyer	Present
Regent Jonathan Rabinowitz	Present
Regent Robert Ramsey	Present
Regent James Obielodan	Present

Regent Joan “Toni” Stringer	Present
Regent Cheyenne Rushing	Present

All eleven (11) Regents were in attendance and present at roll call. A quorum was therefore established.

### **3. Approval of the Agenda and Consent Agenda.**

- Regent Dukes said while the posted agenda will be followed, additional topics may be introduced as needed and some items were received in advance. One of the items is the FY24 audit report and the final approval of the interim policies.
- Motion to approve the consent agenda items made by Regent Fields and seconded by Regent Stringer. Motion Passed.
- Regent Dukes said they had received several meeting minutes over the past week and they are providing some edits to those but in totality the content is there. She asked for a motion to approve the meeting minutes from the December 5, 2025 regular meeting and committee minutes from December 4, 2025.
- Regent Stringer made the motion to approve the board meeting minutes for December 5, 2025 and committee meeting minutes for December 4, 2025 and Regent Fields seconded the motion. Motion Passed.

### **4. Information and Action Items.**

#### **A. University Senate Reports.**

##### **i. Faculty Senate Report by Dr. Patrese Nesbitt, Faculty Senate President.**

- The Command Certificate was discussed in Faculty Senate on December 4 and Senate President was missing a few signatures.
- It is in the possession of the Registrar’s Office and is currently being built.

##### **ii. Staff Senate Report by Mr. Delandual Conwell, Staff Senate President.**

- Mr. Conwell said Staff Senate continues to look for the many different ways they can influence and help with policy, procedure and permanent change on campus so that they can continue to inspire and encourage their employees.
- Last week the Staff Senate released their first official Staff newsletter.
- The Staff Senate established a monthly networking meal for lunchtime.
- The Staff Senate is in the midst of reviewing and helping out with their past sick leave sharing program.
- The Staff Senate is helping the security force write security grants and helping them with equipment.

- The Staff Senate would like to have students help the Staff Senate with their initiatives to give the students some experience as work and/or volunteers to help in their offices.
- Dr. Wendy Dixie helped put out a survey and the staff has been asked to come in and help with many different ideas to further enhance and assist the university.
- Regent Dukes had a question on shared sick leave, which Mr. Conwell expanded upon.

**iii. SGA Report by Ms. Cheyenne Rushing, SGA President.**

- She has updates from the safety committee, which is currently coordinating a student body meeting regarding safety protocol.
- The academic committee has met several times to discuss potential improvements within the classroom, including concerns about clarity of instruction and timely e-mail communication. Also developing solutions to present to administration to better support students in maintaining strong academic performance and improving overall GPA.
- The food committee met with Southern Foods to address concerns.
- The student government also met with Dr. Akakpo and Dr. Mayberry at the beginning of the semester to address campus wide concerns including delays in maintenance requests; re-occurring mold issues in residence halls; concerns about campus safety and the need for stronger administration.
- They have been actively planning for mini-homecoming with several events.
- They are also preparing for their upcoming election as well as other activities for senior week.
- They have collaborated with Dr. Freeman-Taylor and Dr. Dailey to ensure all graduation related information is communicated clearly, accurately and in a timely manner.

**B. Division of Finance and Administration by Dr. Heather Bigard, Vice President Finance and Administration/CFO, Board Treasurer.**

**i. Approve FY26 Budget Amendment (Action Item).**

- They are still working on the FY25 audit.
- She has been focusing on the current year budget before she starts working on the 26-27 budget, which will be kicked off next week.
- In her review, she has determined that she does need to seek the board's approval for an amendment to the budget – both in terms of refining revenue to include the higher projection of tuition fees as well as related increases in expenses.
- The original budget was based on net tuition and fees of \$12.4 million. The projected year end is closer to 16, and that's largely due to the inclusion of the online program, which was not originally included in the budget projection that the board approved last year. She has included that and the increase in

scholarships and waivers.

- They initially projected \$3.5 million, but it's going to come closer to \$5 million.
- For bad debt, a target of \$1 million was set, but they are still in the process of reviewing all of the collections so that they can determine how much needs to be written off.
- Net tuition and fees will need an amendment of \$3.4 million.
- The sales and services were projected at 1.2, but it will come closer to 1.7, which is an amendment of \$522,262.
- Total revenues overall will go from projection of \$34.7 to \$38 million.
- Expenses – salaries and wages were initially projected at \$13.7 and she thinks it will come in closer to \$16 million, a little higher than last year.
- Benefits track the same thing as it was projected a bit high in the original budget.
- Contracted services and operating will go from 1.3 to closer to 8.2 with about 5 million of that is initially expected to be the Magellan and Sway contracts for the online program, which was not in that original budget.
- Operating will go down from original projection.
- Utilities – they are going to try to maintain closer to original projection of 2.3, with a small adjustment down.
- Transfers and debt service – have removed the contingency that was originally planned, landing at 1.3 projected, which is a reduction of 2.3 overall.
- Regent Rushing asked if any sponsorships or partnerships are being looked for to help with the budget.
- Dr. Akakpo said they are seeking partnerships for the budget.
- Regent Rushing wanted particulars on partnerships.
- Dr. Akakpo said he has been talking to donors regarding scholarship money. He has been talking with philanthropists and was able to secure \$400,000 last year for nursing scholarship. Also has a partnership with St. Joseph, UK Healthcare, Norton's and Frankfort Regional Hospital.
- Regent Fields had a question on the jump in contracting services, which Dr. Bigard answered saying it shifted.
- Regent Moyer asked if she has an estimate on the revenue side of the \$38.712 of how much will represent cash actually collected at the end of the year.
- Dr. Bigard said she hasn't actually framed it quite like that, but they are in the process of doing those projections through the end of the year. She said after they get to the budget amendment, they can talk again about the uncollected.
- Auxiliary services budget – Projecting 7.1 compared to 7.4, which was the original budget.
- Dining – They budgeted 3.5 and it's likely to come in below that.
- Uncollected hasn't been parsed out yet in budget projection separate from tuition and fees so all bad debt is budgeted up high under the tuition and fees category.
- Bookstore revenue – budgeted at \$1.4, but will come in a bit higher because of agreement signed with Follett. The signing fee will be turned back over to the institution in April.

- Overall revenue shifts from 12.3 down to 12.2.
- She further went into detail on adjusting or realigning expenses to the revenue, salaries and wages. Also adjusting contracting services utilities and transfers.
- Projected year end of about 12.2 million.
- Accounts receivables – it's currently 11.5 million. Spring, after financial aid is posted, will be about 7.5 of that. Fall, carrying forward, students that continued, \$1.8 million.
- Discussed the amounts of accounts receivables for under 365 days at 1.1, and over 365 days at under a million.
- Debt over 730 days of \$21 million, which a lot has already been written off.
- Further discussion on writing off the debt, the amounts and term period and categories.
- At the end of January, the amount was 6.4 and January of last year it was 4.5, so they are higher in terms of overall receivable.
- 117 students on a payment plan and there should be far more students on a payment plan. As of next week, if students have not enrolled in a payment plan or paid off the remaining amount of their balance, they will be notified today that their meal plans will be turned off and their canvas will be turned off. They will also ask housing staff to assist them in advising the student that they will be removed from housing.
- The Scholar House is going to help with a campaign by calling all the students that owe a balance.
- They will begin sending out collection notices in March.
- Holds will be placed on student accounts that are \$499.
- Students will be communicated with via e-mail provided and Kentucky state e-mail.
- Regent Fields asked if parents are informed when they pass along to the students that they have a debt. Dr. Bigard said no because the obligation is between us and the student.
- Regents discussed that there is a legal obligation not to discuss it with the parents due to FERPA concerns. Pertains to grades also.
- Regent Grimshaw asked if they did a comparison of public institutions in the state of Kentucky on same data on unpaid balance, etc. if they are in line with anyone else.
- Dr. Bigard was not aware of how we might benchmark to other Kentucky institutions. She said our policy was in line with other institutions, but we're not enforcing our policy.
- Regent Rushing said she knows a lot of students wired accounts are not fully completed with getting their scholarships and financial aid in.
- Dr. Bigard said their wired account should show the estimate coming to them. She said they are talking about in terms of the balance is the balance after all scholarship and financial aid has been applied.
- Dr. Akakpo said they have many students who have done nothing. They have

balances and have not taken any action.

- Regent Obielodan said part of the challenge they had in the past was that canvas is turned off and somehow they are able to get in and then it's turned off again and it creates a problem towards the end of the semester.
- Regent Obielodan asked if they are going to come up with a policy moving on that if you haven't paid within a certain period of time that the student cannot come back to class.
- Dr. Akakpo commented on the question as well and said it is a little late and he wishes they had done this two weeks ago. He said they have to enforce their own policies.
- Regent Hatchett said he is trying to understand the relationship between the residential program and the online program payor and wants to know if one is easier to manager than the other and that it seems like we have almost immediately not charged or at least not collected what the students should be paying.
- Dr. Bigard said we don't have to turn on their access unless they have satisfied their payment arrangements for the term.
- Regent Moyer questioned if faculty members are expected to confront a student who has not paid a bill. Dr. Bigard said it has not been a part of their discussion to ask a faculty member to serve in that capacity and she doesn't think that's the faculty's role.
- Regent Moyer commented that he has never seen a balance sheet for the university. Dr. responded that up to this point, you would only see it through an audit. She further elaborated on this question.
- Regent Moyer discussed concerns on not knowing the financial condition of the university.
- Dr. Bigard responded that they will continue to work towards producing a standard set of financial statements.
- Dr. Akakpo said the system is not set up correctly and that makes the audit close to impossible. He said Regent Fields and Dr. Dixie and her team are doing a phenomenal job helping, but it's going to take a while to rebuild the system completely.
- Dr. Dailey responded to Moyer's question on not sharing information with parents and faculty on students. He said they need to come up with a process that says students are not allowed in the classroom and discussed a possible policy.
- Regent Moseley had a question on students being allowed to stay in the classes and asked if they are being stern with their decisions. Dr. Dailey responded to the question.
- Regent Dukes asked if there is one person responsible for setting/making the changes or is it multiple people. Dr. Dailey responded and said it depends on the circumstance and further discussed different circumstances and outlined the process of the offices being notified. Dr. Akakpo also responded to the question stating they will be making some minor changes next week that will help

strengthen the process.

- Regent Dukes also commented and said we serve a lot of underserved, but yet this is a business and you have to operate as a business. Dr. Akakpo also commented that he thought they took care of this.
- Regent Obielodan said if moving forward the new policy is applied, there may be a dip in enrollment.
- Dr. Dailey said there has been an increase in the number of students paying.
- Regent Rushing commented that she found more scholarships here freshman year and sophomore to senior year it was harder. Dr. Dailey said scholarships have a tendency to be loaded on the front end freshman year. He also talked about continuing student opportunities.
- Dr. Akakpo also commented on the number of students paying out of their pockets.
- Regent Moseley asked if students are going to get stuff from the student activity fees they are paying and are they providing intramurals for students. Also wanted to know if they are providing and making sure there's somebody in the weight room at Exum. Dr. Akakpo responded to the question and said when you look at the activity fee revenue, it's nothing. He said they are not collecting enough to cover the cost of all things that they are providing them.
- Regent Moseley wants to know if they are looking at hiring someone in Exum. Dr. Akakpo responded that they can try to make sure that even if they don't have a full-time person, at least they pay a work study student to be there.
  
- Regent Dukes asked if they wanted to approve the action item for the FY26 budget amendment and do they want to do Shauntee Hall first. She said there are a total of three action items.
- Regent Rushing asked what happens to the percentage that comes out of each student's account that goes into the SGA budget. Dr. Akakpo said he does not have the answer but they can talk about it. Dr. Bigard answered that they can take a closer look and discuss it.
- Regent Dukes said she would like to entertain a motion for the approval of the budget amendments to FY26. Regent Hackett made the motion and it was seconded by Regent Fields. Motion Passed.

**ii. Shauntee and Jackson Halls. (Action Items).**

- Dr. Bigard re-visited the approval of the Shauntee Hall renovation project. It was originally budgeted for \$6.6 million and needs to be \$9.6 million. Dr. Akakpo has identified \$3 million as a supplemental appropriation from their Title III grant.
- Regent Hatchett asked if they were not going to have funds for their Title III dollars when they do this. Dr. Akakpo said Title III is okay and this is additional appropriations that they got. He said it was a one-time appropriations and designed for this kind of activity.

- Motion was entertained for the approval of the additional \$3 million for Shauntee Hall. Motion made by Regent Grimshaw and seconded by Regent Fields. Motion Passed.
- Dr. Bigard discussed Jackson Hall easements/covenant and said they need board's approval. The amount is \$450,000. Motion made by Regent Hatchett and seconded by Regent Obielodan. Motion Passed.
- Dr. Obielodan commented that when feasible it would be nice to have an elevator.

**C. Division of Academic and Student Affairs by Dr. Michael Dailey.**

**i. Update on Academic Affairs and KYSU Global.**

- Dr. Dailey discussed that they want to make education accessible to everyone, which is why they have online space now called KYSU online or KYSU Global.
- He discussed the tremendous growth in the global campus.
- He discussed the two opportunities in the global environment of revenue sharing type agreement or revenue generation and the differences in the two opportunities. KYSU is using the second option of revenue generation and looked at an investment on the front end.
- KYSU started with three programs and it now has a ninth program with the last being the bachelor of social work.
- KYSU started with two graduate programs, but now has two other master's degree programs that are here. There will also be a Master's in Public Health in the Fall and a Master's in Exercise Science that will be added to the online offering for graduate studies.
- This year will be the first cohort of graduates after a year and a half.
- Have had an increase in the online space from 225 students in the spring of 2025 to 612 students currently.
- KYSU will have 31 undergraduate and/or associate degrees students and 16 graduate students from global.
- Dr. Bigard said financially there is a higher contributor to the overall bottom line.
- She said in 24-25, they did generate over \$2.2 million in tuition and fees but a significant portion or a fourth of that was coming through resident students. So net revenue was \$1.6 and Magellan and Sway expenses were \$5.5 payroll, resulting in deficit of \$4.6.
- In 25-26, they are at \$4.8 in net revenue; \$5 million to Magellan and Sway, resulting in net deficit of \$1 million. In total, generated \$6.1 million in revenue, but expenses at \$15.6 million. There was further discussion by Dr. Bigard of revenue and expenses.
- Dr. Dailey discussed the marketing space and investing.
- Dr. Akakpo asked if moving forward if all the services provided by Magellan would go away and use in house services for everything. Dr. Dailey said yes, there would be a transition to the university.
- Dr. Dailey said course development has been a shared responsibility. He said

course development is \$2,700 per course.

- Regent Moyer asked if once they get rid of the consulting group, what will be the cost next year for bringing those things in house. Dr. Akakpo said they have not done the full estimate at this point but they can manage it.
- Regent Dukes asked if once they have determined the cost structure going forward, can they do a proforma with revenue and expenses so that they can see that. Dr. Dailey said they could. He said Dr. McCoy-Summers is working on that transition plan.
- Regent Fields asked if they could create a chart to see how it's going to look. Dr. Dailey said he thinks it's out there, but they can do it.
- Regent Moyer asked if when he looked at the proforma or at the revenue line, would it be a correct assumption that all of the revenue line is cash. Dr. Bigard said it has not all been collected. She said the uncollected portion was \$2.2 million.
- Regent Moyer suggests that when they bring this in-house to make sure that they really do provide a concierge service experience for students who do online education at KSU. Dr. Akakpo responded.
- Regent Rushing said she saw a slide on the 24/7 tutoring access and asked if it was possible for students on campus to access that. Dr. Dailey responded that the 24/7 is available for students on campus as well through their Canvas. It is called Upswing. He discussed all the tutoring services and resources available to all students.
- Regent Hatchett asked if they have the statement of the finances of the online. Dr. Bigard said they can print it.
- Regent Grimshaw asked if there were five year projections. Dr. Akakpo said yes, the company shared it with them but the level of growth wasn't realistic. He said now they will be able to show the next 5 to 10 years.

**D. Approval of the Command College Certificate Program by Dr. Michael Dailey.**

- Dr. Dailey gave an overview of the program that focuses on law enforcement officers and is designed to give them additional training. He said it is very specific and very targeted.
- Regent Fields asked if the curriculum was designed by Kentucky State. Dr. Dailey said it is a collaborative design between Dr. Williams and officers in the field.
- Motion for the approval of the command college certificate program was made by Regent Fields and seconded by Regent Obielodan. Motion Passed.

**5. Closing Remarks/Adjournment by Regent Tammi Dukes.**

- Regent Dukes made closing remarks. Motion to adjourn by Regent Fields and seconded by Regent Stringer.
- Meeting adjourned at 11:44 a.m.

Submitted by:

Signed by:

*nicole.sergent*

EC9E515D666427...

---

Nicole Sergent, Secretary  
Board of Regents  
Kentucky State University

Signed by:



F9BD75AF4304448

---

Regent Tammi Dukes, Chair  
Board of Regents  
Kentucky State University

x

---

Approved with no corrections

---

Approved with corrections