

KENTUCKY STATE UNIVERSITY
Special Call Meeting of the Board of Regents
5:00 p.m., February 22, 2017
Academic Services Building, Board Conference Room
Frankfort, Kentucky
Regent Karen Bearden, Presiding

MINUTES

I. Call to Order:

Chairperson Karen Bearden called the meeting of the Kentucky State University (“KSU” or the “University”) Board of Regents (the “Board”) to order on Wednesday, February 22, 2017, at 5:00 p.m.

II. Opening Remarks:

Chairperson Bearden opened with brief, introductory remarks. She welcomed those in attendance. She also stated that KSU students had comported themselves with dignity and excellence in regard to the Presidential Search process and had served as a good example for the whole campus community.

III. Roll Call:

Secretary Gordon Rowe conducted the roll call:

Regent Mindy Barfield	Present
Regent Karen Bearden	Present
Regent Elaine Farris	Present
Regent Ralph Williams	Present
Regent Paul Harnice	Present
Regent Dalton Jantzen	Present
Regent Ekumene Lysonge	Present
Regent Derrick Gilmore	Present
Regent Elgie McFayden	Present
Regent Syamala H.K. Reddy	Absent

Nine Regents were in attendance and a quorum was established.

Regent Lysonge discussed the purpose of the meeting. He introduced Academic Search Consultants, Inc. He also stated that he believed the presidential search process had been improperly maligned and he wanted everyone to know that the Search Committee dedicated a significant amount of time to finding the best possible choice to be the University’s next president.

Gordon Rowe gave remarks about the parameters of the questioning to Academic Search Consultants, Inc. and stated that no information would be disclosed during the questioning regarding individual unsuccessful candidates.

Dr. Mac Stewart and Dr. Wanda Bigham of Academic Search, Inc. presented to the Board on the search process. They stated that the process followed during the University's presidential search was typical for the state and for the region. It was essentially the same process that has been followed at multiple universities across the country and is very similar to the search processes used recently at Morehead St. University and Western Kentucky University in their presidential searches.

Dr. Bigham stated that Academic Search has followed the process outlined in its original proposal to the Presidential Search Committee.

She also described how the process worked. The process began with a review of the candidates' credentials by the Presidential Search Committee. That was followed by surveys across the campus, the results of which were used to prepare the profile for the University, which was used in national advertisements calling for nominations and submission of applications for the KSU presidency.

As candidates started to apply, they were required to provide references, CVs and other relevant information for the Presidential Search Committee to review. Academic Search recruited potential candidates, through advertisements and their own resources in the market, from November to January. Sixty-eight (68) applications were received by the "best date" in January. The Presidential Search Committee reviewed the credentials of all 68 candidates and narrowed the list to eight (8) semifinalists.

Interviews of the 8 semifinalists took place on February 5. Candidates were asked standardized questions at those interviews. Based on the interviews, three (3) finalists were selected by the Presidential Search Committee and that list was brought before the Board.

Dr. Bigham indicated that she believes the final candidates have excellent credentials and are very strong choices.

Regent Paul Harnice asked some questions of Academic Search. He first thanked the Search Committee for their service. He asked about the terms of Academic Search's contract with the University. He also inquired about the interviews of key stakeholders. Academic Search responded that they conducted both telephone and on-campus interviews of key stakeholders. Wanda Bigham stated that there was more feedback from stakeholders at Kentucky State University than what occurs at many institutions.

Regent Harnice stated that he believes absolutely in the integrity of the Search Committee members.

Regent Farris asked some questions about the charge to the Presidential Search Committee. She pointed out that the charge does not require a specific number of semifinal candidates or final candidates so the Board should not be limited in the number of finalists it chooses to accept.

IV. Closed Session:

Action: Regent Lysonge made a motion to go into closed session to discuss the appointment of a an individual employee, pursuant to KRS 61.810(1)(f). The motion was seconded by Regent McFayden. The motion passed 9-0.

V. Open Session

The Board reconvened in Open Session at 8:01 p.m. Chairperson Bearden announced that, in closed session, the Board took no action.

Regent Lysonge asked Academic Search to outline the next steps for the final stages of the presidential search process. Dr. Bigham stated that background checks were being conducted on all three finalists, as well as other electronic searches.

Dr. Bigham explained that Academic Search will continue to check references and thoroughly review the credentials of each of final three candidates. Academic Search will assist with use of Survey Monkey to assess feedback from interviews of final candidates.

Regent Lysonge yielded the floor to Christina Leath, who explained the final stage of the search process. She stated that each candidate was scheduled to visit the campus on a different day during the week of February 27, 2017. She stated that each candidate will participate in day-long forums with different stakeholder groups.

Ms. Leath stated that all forums will be recorded and that the video will be posted on the Presidential Search website. She also stated that at the end of each day of interviews, the Board will conduct its own interviews of the final three candidates.

Chairperson Bearden thanked the members of the Presidential Search Committee for their dedicated service and sacrifice to fulfill their charge.

VI. Adjournment

Action Item: Regent McFayden made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Regent Williams. The motion passed on a vote of 9-0 and the meeting adjourned at 8:13 p.m.

Submitted By:

Gordon A. Rowe, Jr., Secretary
Board of Regents
Kentucky State University

Karen W. Bearden, Chairperson
Board of Regents
Kentucky State University

_____ Approved with no corrections

_____ Approved with corrections