

**KENTUCKY STATE UNIVERSITY**  
**Special Call Meeting of the Board of Regents**  
**6:00 p.m., May 31, 2017**  
**Academic Services Building, Board Conference Room**  
**Frankfort, Kentucky**  
**Regent Karen Bearden, Presiding**

MINUTES

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**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, May 31, 2017, at 6:00 p.m.

**II. Roll Call:**

Secretary Gordon Rowe conducted the roll call:

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

Nine Regents were in attendance and a quorum was established.

**III. Opening Remarks:**

Chairperson Bearden opened with brief, introductory remarks. She welcomed those in attendance and welcomed Dr. M. Christopher Brown II to his first Board meeting as President of the University.

**Action Item: Regent McFayden made a motion to limit discussion on each item presented to the Board to five minutes per Regent. Regent Gilmore seconded the motion. The motion passed on a vote of 6-0.**

**Action Item: Regent McFayden made a motion to approve the proposed agenda for the meeting. Regent Gilmore seconded the motion. Chairperson Bearden called for a vote on the motion and it passed on a vote of 6-0.**

Regent Farris asked for a rationale for the proposed time limits on discussion. Regent McFayden stated that he moved for time limits for reasons of efficiency. Regent Bearden stated that the practice was approved at the last meeting and worked well during that meeting. She also stated that such limitations are authorized by Robert's Rules of Order.

#### **IV. President's Remarks**

President M. Christopher Brown II discussed his strategic objectives for the coming year. He stated that he has reviewed many materials in preparation for his leadership role, including KSU's Strategic Plan and Management Plan.

He expressed concern in regard to tuition growth and stated it is important that KSU does not price itself out of the market.

Dr. Brown stated there is a huge amount of unused space on campus and has asked Dr. Kirk Pomper of Land Grant to work with him to decrease the amount of unassigned usable space.

Dr. Brown also provided the Board with an enrollment update. Year-over-year data shows KSU is essentially on pace with last year's enrollment in terms of projected enrollment for 2017-18. There were 2,683 completed applications for 2016 compared to 1,881 completed applications at the current time. 1,506 students were accepted to the University as of May 29, 2016. Eleven less have been accepted to date for 2017-18. At this time last year, 360 students had indicated they intended to enroll. KSU currently has 300 students who have indicated they intend to enroll. At this time last year, 96 students were registered for New Student Orientation, and currently 112 students are registered for New Student Orientation for 2017-18.

Dr. Brown informed the Board that shortly after his arrival on campus he hosted three days of open meetings for anyone interested in talking to him. He stated he learned a lot from those meetings.

He anticipates putting forth a budget by the June meeting and more realistic projections for enrollment and tuition changes.

Regent Banks asked that the President reconsider the Destiny Scholarship and other scholarship programs that were used in the past to increase recruitment and retention. Dr. Brown stated that he was open to listen to all ideas.

V. **Action Items:**

**Action Item: Regent McFayden moved to ratify the conferral of degrees on KSU graduates who met the requirements to graduate at the May 13, 2017 Spring Commencement ceremony. Regent Farris seconded the motion. Chairperson Bearden called for a vote and the motion was approved on a vote of 7-0.**

**Action Item: Regent Farris made a motion to ratify the conferral of honorary degrees on Dr. Herman Walston, long-time KSU professor and contributor, and on the graduation speaker, Dr. Otis Moss III. Regent McFayden seconded the motion. The motion was approved on a vote of 7-0.**

**Action Item: Regent Gilmore made a motion to approve the President's proposed revised holiday schedule, which includes additional paid holidays for KSU employees. Regent McFayden seconded the motion. Chairperson Bearden called for a vote on the motion and the motion passed 7-0.**

Regent Farris asked that future meetings be scheduled well in advance. She also asked that the date for the Student Regent to be sworn in be clarified.

**Action Item: Regent McFayden made a motion to cancel the June 16 meeting and to reschedule it for June 30. Regent Gilmore seconded the motion. Chairperson Bearden called for a vote and the motion passed 7-0.**

Dr. Brown discussed realigning management structure. He stated that he had reviewed the management structure at several sister institutions in the Commonwealth and at various HBCUs and the Strategic Plan. Based upon his review and evaluation of the current management structure, he determined several senior management positions should be realigned.

Dr. Brown explained his rationale for restructuring. He stated KSU needed a Vice President for Student Life and Engagement to enhance the brand and focus on increasing enrollment and retention.

He also emphasized the need to have a Vice President who can solely focus on development. He stated a comprehensive university should have an endowment of \$1 million for every year of existence. So, the University should have an endowment of \$130 million, which it does not have at the current time. This position should be separate from Alumni Affairs and developing brand identity.

**Action Item: Regent McFayden made a motion to realign job titles in the Cabinet and senior management structure, as requested by President Brown. Regent Gilmore seconded the motion. Chairperson Bearden called for a vote and the motion passed 8-0.**

**Action Item: Regent McFayden made a motion to approve ratification of the Investiture Resolution. Regent Farris seconded the motion. Chairperson Bearden called for a vote on the motion and the motion was approved 8-0.**

**VI. Closed Session:**

**Action Item: Regent McFayden made a motion to go into closed session to discuss the appointment of individual employees, pursuant to KRS 61.810(1)(f), and the proposed and pending litigation, pursuant to KRS 61.810(1)(c). The motion was seconded by Regent Farris. The motion passed 8-0 and the Board went into closed session at that time.**

**VII. Open Session:**

The Board returned to open session at 8:29 p.m.

**Action Item: Regent McFayden made a motion to ratify and approve appointments for five open Vice President-level positions:**

- A. Senior Vice President for Finance and Administration: Kevin Appleton, M.B.A., C.P.A.**
- B. Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs: Debbie G. Thomas, Ph.D.**
- C. Vice President for Student Life and Engagement: Thomas J. Calhoun, Jr., Ph.D.**
- D. Vice President for Enrollment Management and Brand Identity: Clara Ross Stamps, M.B.A.**
- E. Interim Vice President for Institutional Advancement and Development: Rick W. Smith, Sr., M.B.A.**

**Regent Gilmore seconded the motion. Chairperson Bearden called for a vote on the motion and the motion passed 8-0.**

Dr. Brown stated a comprehensive list of University contracts is being compiled and will be provided to the Board by the June Board meeting. Going forward, he assured the Board that any contract over \$50,000 would be ratified by the Board.

**VIII. Adjournment**

**Action Item: Regent McFayden made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Regent Farris. The motion passed on a vote of 8-0 and the meeting adjourned at 8:36 p.m.**