

**Alabama A&M University
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
CLYDE FOSTER MULTIPURPOSE MEETING ROOM
4900 Meridian Street
Huntsville, Alabama 35762
Friday, February 24, 2023
10am**

MINUTES

Members Present (Attachment 1)

1. Trustee Wayne Watts, President Pro-Tempore
2. Trustee Kevin Ball, Vice President
3. Trustee Tiffany Johnson Cole, Secretary
4. Trustee Richard Crunkleton
5. Trustee Nichelle Gainey
6. Trustee Ginger Harper
7. Trustee Scherrie Banks Pickett
8. Trustee John Hackett Jr. (by VTC)
9. Trustee Jeanette Jones, Faculty Senate President
10. Trustee Jaila Green-Mascotti, Student Government Association President

Members Not Present

Trustee Frank Williams

University Officials

- Dr. Daniel K. Wims, President, Alabama A&M University ("AAMU")

Attorney for the Board of Trustees

- Attorney Rod Steakley

CALL TO ORDER

- The meeting of the Alabama A&M University Board of Trustees was called to order by Trustee Wayne Watts, PhD, President, Pro Tempore serving as the Presiding Officer per Article IV Section 3 of the Bylaws, at 10:08 am.

ECUMENICAL INVOCATION

- Trustee Wayne Watts, PhD gave the Ecumenical Invocation.

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

- Per Board of Trustees Bylaws, Trustee Tiffany Johnson Cole, Secretary of the Board of Trustees, called the Roll. A quorum was present.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

- Trustee Wayne Watts requested the adoption of the agenda (Attachment 2). Trustee Tiffany Cole moved for the adoption of the published agenda. Trustee Scherrie Banks Pickett seconded the motion. The Motion passed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE MEETINGS OF February 24, 2023 (ATTACHMENT 3)

- Trustee Wayne Watts moved that the Board adopt the minutes and recommendations of the last sub-committee meetings of October 28, 2022 as presented to the Board (Attachment 3). Trustee Ginger Harper seconded the Motion. The motion passed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE MEETING October 28, 2022 (ATTACHMENT 4)

- Trustee Wayne Watts moved that the Board approve the minutes of the last Board of Trustees Meeting of October 28, 2022, as presented to the Board (Attachment 4). Trustee Wayne Watts seconded the Motion. The Motion passed.

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

Chairman Watts thanked the President and his staff for exceeding expectations and getting positive responses when calling on the Board.

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY

President Daniel K. Wims provided updates on the following.

1. SACSCOC Reaffirmation
 - President Wims provided an update of the University's SACSCOC Reaffirmation to include schedule and timeline of the documents to be completed and submitted. President Wims called on Provost John Jones and accreditation liaison Dr. Rhonda Moore-Jackson to provide the SACSCOC set of standards. Dr. Jackson stated we only need to report on 40 of the standards as the prior 19 standards had already been written.
2. Retention Initiative
 - Provost John Jones then provided an update on the retention initiative. Dr. Jones spoke on the resources provided for a first-year experience including learning communities, a modified orientation course with integration with career services. President Wims stated retention will be reported every Fall and Spring as a priority.
3. Student Affairs Update
 - Admissions office relocated to Welcome Center, Chick fil A opening, Chief of Police official swearing in and naming of financial aid Director
 - Spring game and jamboree and spring week events and dates were announced
4. MCA Update
 - President Wims provided the Black-Tie Gala update and performing artist selection
5. Research and Economic Development
 - Met with Senator Tuberville to discuss 1890 funding
 - 1890 Formula Increase for 2023 for Research is 11.25% and Extension 10.8%

6. Academic Affairs

- Planning Accreditation Board (PAB) Site Visit was February 15th with B.S. in Urban Planning and Master of Urban and Regional Planning Programs Accredited by P.A.B.

7. Fiscal Affairs

- New Interim Chief Fiscal Officer, New Human Resources Director, and Examiners Visit/Review were announced
- Requested 8% increase in O&M to the house and senate and governor's office
- Requested budgetary requests to the supplemental special projects including major building renovations, new construction, and new Cybersecurity and AI degree

REPORTS AND COMMITTEES

1. **Permanent Committees**

➤ **Business and Finance**

Chair: Trustee Richard Crunkleton

Committee Members: Trustees John Hackett, Wayne Watts, Frank Williams and Ginger Harper

A. Action Items

1. None

B. Informational Items

1. None

➤ **Academic Affairs and Research**

Chair: Trustee Scherrie Banks Pickett

Committee Members: Trustees John Hackett Jr., Wayne Watts, Jeanette Jones

A. Action Items

1. None

B. Informational Items

1. None

a. Report of Faculty Senate (ATTACHMENT 5)

Discussion: Trustee Jeanette Jones (Faculty Senate President) gave thanks for the AKA bench dedication and reception in honor of AKA member Adrienne Pope Kelly and the pay increase December 2022. Continuing faculty engagement through meeting and Conversations with the President to include informal dialogue and lectures. Continuing to update the Faculty Senate Handbook.

➤ **Development, Marketing, Communications, Advancement and Technology**

Chair: Trustee Wayne Watts

Committee Members: Trustees Kevin Ball, Frank Williams, Richard Crunkleton

a. Actions Items –

1. Naming Honor

VP Jamal Ali made recommendation to dedicate a classroom in the Frank Lewis Gymnasium in honor of Captain Robert Milton King. Chairman Watts called for a motion to name a room in honor of Captain King. Trustee Cole made the motion and Trustee Hackett seconded the motion. Motion carried.

2. Operating Agreement

VP Ali made recommendation to amend the AAMU and AAMU Foundation Operating Agreement April 2013. Cole moved that we confirmed the operating agreement previously approved by the former Board of Trustees. Chairman Watts further explained the agreement was already an approved action. Trustee Pickett then second the motion. Motion carried.

Discussion

Trustee Nichelle Gainey asked for explanation of the honor for Captain King for audience clarification. At President Wims request, Trustee Jeanette Jones provided a place of honor summary for the dedication of the classroom in the name of Captain Robert Milton King.

b. Informational Items

1. NONE

➤ Information Technology Services

a. Action Items

1. NONE

b. Informational Items

1. NONE

➤ Athletics

Co-Chairs: Trustees Kevin Ball

Committee Members: Trustees Nichelle Gainey, John Hackett Jr., Tiffany Johnson Cole, Ginger Harper

A. Action Items

1. NONE

B. Informational Items

1. NONE

➤ Student Affairs

Chair: Trustee Tiffany Johnson Cole

Committee Members: Trustees Wayne Watts, Kevin Ball, Scherrie Banks Pickett, Jaila Green-Mascotti

A. Action Items

1. MOU with Calhoun Community College - Request to Approve MOU with Calhoun Community College. Motion: Recommendation to present to the full board for the approval of the AAMU-Calhoun Social Work 2+2+1BSW/MSW Pathway Program. Motion was made by Trustee Cole and seconded by Trustee Pickett and motion carried.

2. Adjustments to work-study program - Recommendation to present to the full board to increase work-study wages from \$8 to \$11 an hour and to transition work-study placement from Financial Aid to Career Development Services. The motion was made by Motion was made by Trustee Cole and seconded by Trustee Nichelle Gainey and carried.
3. Disciplinary Expungement Policy - Request to Approve Disciplinary Expungement Policy. Recommendation to present to the full board a policy that will allow students to request expungement of disciplinary records. The motion was made by Trustee Cole and seconded by Trustee Pickett and carried.
4. Naming of Career Closet Initiative - Request to name the Career Closet in honor of Diann H. Greer. Recommendation to present to the full board the naming of the Career Closet in honor of Ms. Diann H. Greer, immediate past Director of Student Activities and Leadership Development. The motion was made by Trustee Cole and seconded by Trustee Pickett and carried.
5. Expansion to Support Animal Policy - Request to Approve the expansion to Support Animal Policy. Recommendation to present to full board amendments to the Service and Support Animal Policy. The motion was made by Trustee Cole and seconded by Trustee Pickett and carried.

B. Informational Items

1. NONE

Student Government Association Report (**ATTACHMENT 6**)

Trustee Moscatti presented an Academic Year Summary of SGA activities including SGA training, townhalls, civic engagements, charity drives, Black History Month celebrations, and Maroon and White History event.

➤ **Audit and Investment**

Chair: Trustee Kevin Ball

Committee Members: Trustee Richard Crunkleton

A. Action Items

1. NONE

B. Informational Items

1. NONE

2. Special Committees

➤ **Buildings and Grounds**

Chair: Trustee John Hackett Jr.

Committee Members: Trustees Ginger Harper and Richard Crunkleton

A. Action Items –

1. Request to approve Master Plan Amendment - recommendation to full board to add Amendment 2 to the 2015-2025 Master Plan. The motion was made by Trustee Ricard Crunkleton and seconded by Ginger Harper and carried.

2. Request to approve Hillcrest Building Plan - recommendation to full board to approve the renovation for Hillcrest as stated building cost is \$2.7M -\$3.5M, the motion was made by Trustee Richard Crunkleton and seconded by Trustee Ginger Harper and carried.
3. Request to approve Thomas Hall Renovation consisting of 200+ beds, additional elevators will be added and 16 new single shared restroom suites.
Motion: Recommendation to full board to approve the renovation for Thomas Hall as stated building cost is \$8.0M -\$9.5M. Motion was made by Trustee Ginger Harper and seconded by Richard Crunkleton and carried.
4. Request to approve Grayson Hall Renovation consisting of 25+ additional beds, recommendation to full board to approve the renovation for Grayson Hall as stated. The motion was made by Trustee Ginger Harper and seconded by Trustee Richard Crunkleton and carried.
5. Request to approve Tailgate-Plaza Upgrades as proposed with new pavement, lights, and water and electrical. The motion was made by Trustee Ginger Harper and seconded by Trustee Richard Crunkleton and carried

B. Informational Items

2. NONE

➤ **Governance Committee**

Chair: Trustee Tiffany Johnson Cole

Committee Members: Trustees John Hackett Jr., Richard Crunkleton, Jeanette Jones

A. Action Items

1. NONE

B. Informational Items

1. NONE

COMMUNICATIONS, APPEALS, AND PETITIONS

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Board of Trustees Subcommittee and Formal Meetings for February 2023.** Trustee Kevin Ball moved that the Board accept the dates for the June formal Subcommittee and Board meetings based on the recommendation of the Pro Tempore. Trustee Hackett seconded the motion and the motion carried.
2. **Trustee Nomination Committee.** Trustee Cole moved the motion to approve Chairman Watts selection of the Trustee to the nominating committee. Trustee Crunkleton seconded the motion and the motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION-NONE

ANNOUNCEMENTS-NONE

ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Wayne Watts requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Tiffany Johnson Cole motioned to adjourn the meeting and Trustee Richard Crunkleton seconded the motion. A unanimous vote was received to adjourn the meeting and Trustee Watts adjourned the meeting at 11:32 a.m.

AAMU Board of Trustees meeting minutes of February 24, 2023 were approved by the Board of Trustees on June 23, 2023.



Presiding officer per Bylaws- Trustee Wayne Watts

Secretary of the Board- Trustee Tiffany Johnson Cole

Attachments

1. AAMU BOT Attendance from February 24, 2023
2. AAMU BOT Meeting Agenda for February 24, 2023
3. AAMU BOT Subcommittee Meeting Minutes from October 26-27, 2022
4. AAMU BOT Meeting Minutes from October 28, 2022
5. AAMU Faculty Senate President's Presentation for February 24, 2023
6. AAMU Student Government Association President's Presentation for February 24, 2023