

**Alabama A&M University
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
THE WESTIN BIRMINGHAM – Ballrooms A&B
2221 Richard Arrington Blvd N.
Birmingham, Alabama 35203
Friday, October 25, 2024
8am**

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 Ginger Harper
6. Trustee Scherrie Banks Pickett
7. Trustee John Hackett, Jr. (Zoom)
8. Trustee Ralph Williams
9. Trustee Elizabeth Richardson
10. Trustee Robert Cramer, Jr. (Zoom)
11. Trustee Reggie Sylvain
12. Trustee Jeanette Jones, Faculty Senate President
13. Trustee Mya Gibbs, Student Government Association President

Members Absent

None

Members Not Present

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 at 08:00 am by Trustee Wayne Watts, President, Pro Tempore serving as the Presiding Officer per Article IV Section 3 of the Bylaws.

ECUMENICAL INVOCATION

- The Director of Athletics, Dr. Paul Bryant 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 at 08:14 am. A quorum was present.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

- Trustee Wayne Watts requested the adoption of the agenda (Attachment 2). Trustee Tiffany Cole made a motion to adopt the agenda with a move of the Presidential Review to the end of the agenda. Trustee Elizabeth Richardson seconded the motion. The Motion passed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE MEETINGS OF June 13, 2024 (ATTACHMENT 3)

- Trustee Ginger Harper moved that the Board adopt the minutes and recommendations of the last sub-committee meetings of June 13, 2024 as presented to the Board (Attachment 3). Trustee Reggie Sylvain seconded the motion. The motion passed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE MEETING June 14, 2024 (ATTACHMENT 4)

- Trustee Scherrie Pickett moved that the Board approve the minutes of the last Board of Trustees Meeting of June 14, 2024, as presented to the Board (Attachment 4). Trustee Elizabeth Richardson seconded the motion. The motion passed.

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

Chairman Wayne Watts thanked everyone for the support, participation, and vision. Chairman Watts stated, the vision was given and we are at a great place. Chairman Watts also acknowledged the efforts of the Director of Alumni Affairs, Mrs. Sandra Stubbs, Vice President for Student Affairs Braque Talley and Vice President of Budget and Finance Carlton Spellman as they went above and beyond and now Alabama A&M has become a destination.

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY

1. President Daniel K. Wims thanked the staff for all their hard work. He noted that he was proud of the new metric by an independent survey ranking Alabama A&M number three in STEM programs of all Historically Black Colleges and Universities. President Wims further noted Research.com recognized Alabama A&M's social work program as one of the best.
2. President Wims acknowledged that Dr. Tonya Perry will be adding to the University's graduate offerings, a doctorate degree program in social work and highlighted the work by Vice President Carlton Spellman and the Aramark team in making Alabama A&M one of the most beautiful university campuses in the state.
3. President Wims gave accolades to Dr. Braque Talley, Vice President of Student Affairs for the overall enrollment at Alabama A&M and recognized that our students were selected for the U.S. Department of Agriculture National Scholarship. President Wims also noted the university's Information Technology Services received funding to increase the infrastructure bandwidth.

REPORTS AND COMMITTEES

1. Permanent Committees

➤ Audit and Investment

Chair: Trustee Kevin Ball

Committee Members: Trustees Richard Crunkleton, Trustee Robert Cramer

A. Action Items

1. Trustee Kevin Ball moved to accept the external audit by Banks, Finely & White. Ginger Harper seconded the motion. The motion passed.

B. Informational Items

1. None

➤ Business and Finance

Chair: Trustee Richard Crunkleton

Committee Members: Trustees John Hackett, Kevin Ball, Beth Richardson, Ginger Harper

A. Action Items

1. Trustee Richard Crunkleton moved to approve renewing the Regions Line of Credit. Trustee Tiffany Cole seconded the motion. The motion passed.

B. Informational Items

1. None

➤ Academic Affairs and Research

Chair: Trustee Scherrie Banks Pickett

Committee Members: Trustees John Hackett Jr., Ralph Williams, Reggie Sylvain, Jeanette Jones

The Board of Trustees took the following action items as nominations from the Academic Affairs Sub-Committee.

A. Action Items

1. Trustee Reggie Sylvain moved to approve the following six memorandums as read by Dr. John Jones, Vice President of Academic Affairs. Trustee Scherrie Banks Pickett seconded the motion. The motion passed.
 1. MOU between AAMU and The University of Zambia
 2. MOU between AAMU and Bauleni United Ports Academy
 3. MOU between AAMU and Chande Baptist Orphanage
 4. MOU between AAMU and Faith Orphanage Foundation
 5. MOU between AAMU and University of Lay Adventists of Kigali, Rwanda
 6. MOA between AAMU and the School of Agricultural Sciences Malla Reddy University Telangana State India
2. Trustee Scherrie Banks Pickett moved to approve the addition of a Distance Education policy. Trustee Reggie Sylvain seconded the motion. The motion passed.

3. Trustee Scherrie Banks Pickett moved to approve the following twenty-two curriculum revisions as read by Dr. John Jones, Vice President of Academic Affairs. Trustee Reggie Sylvain seconded the motion. The motion passed.
 1. Request to add New Concentrations - Plant and Soil Sciences (PhD)
 2. Request to add Specializations – MS Plant and Soil Sciences
 3. Request to add a Minor in African American Studies
 4. Request to add a Concentration in MBA Accounting Analytics
 5. Request to inactive Minor in Visual Art
 6. Request to add Non-Degree Certificate in Special Ed-Collab Teaching Elementary K-6 (SPE-CTE)
 7. Request to add Non-Degree Certificate in Secondary Ed-General Social Studies, Alt 5th yr (SED-GSSt-Alt-A)
 8. Request to add Non-Degree Certificate in Special Ed-Music, Choral, & Instrument, Alt 5th yr
 9. Request to add Non-Degree Certificate in Secondary Education-English Language Arts, Alt 5th yr (SED-ELA-Alt-A)
 10. Request to add Non-Degree Certificate in Secondary Ed-General Science, Alt 5th yr (SED-GSC-Alt-A)
 11. Request to add Non-Degree Certificate in Secondary Ed-Mathematics, Alt 5th yr (SED-MTH-Alt-A)
 12. Request to add Non-Degree Certificate in Secondary Ed-Family and Consumer Sciences, Alt 5th yr (SED-FCS-Alt-A)
 13. Request to add Non-Degree Certificate in Kinesiology-Physical Ed, Alt 5th yr (KIN-PED-Alt-A)
 14. Request to add a New Track in BA Psychology-Sports Psychology
 15. Request to add a New Track in Clinical Psychology-BA Psychology
 16. Request to add a New Track in BA Forensic Psychology
 17. Request to add a New Specialization in Clinical Mental Health Counseling- MS Counseling
 18. Request to add a New Mathematics Specialization to the Doctoral Degree in Curriculum Instruction
 19. Request to end a Non-Academic Certificate in ME.D Instructional Leadership (INL)
 20. Request to revise the program title of Pre-Elementary to Early Childhood Education (P-3)
 21. Request to add: Physics Minor
 22. Request to add a Minor in Data Science

B. Informational Items

1. None

➤ **Research**

a. Action Items

1. Trustee Scherrie Banks Pickett moved to approve establishing a Center of Nuclear Science and Engineering (CNSE). Trustee Reggie Sylvain seconded the motion. The motion passed.

b. Informational Items

1. None

C. Report of Faculty Senate President – The Faculty Senate President, Trustee Jeanette Jones was appointed as a member of the Provost Council and participated in the orientation for new faculty of the university. Trustee Jones noted the faculty senate is planning a review of items in the faculty handbook submitted by Senators to include clarification and modification of timelines and procedures. The Faculty Senate President also provided perspectives on shared governance on higher education to the newly appointed members of the Board of Trustees, noting the goal of shared governance is to foster a culture of collaboration, and shared responsibility that supports the institution's mission and values.

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

Chair: Trustee Wayne Watts

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

A. Actions Items

1. Trustee Tiffany Cole moved to approve establishing a John Stallworth Hall of Fame Statue as part of the 150th Anniversary Fundraising effort. Trustee Elizabeth Richardson seconded the motion. The motion carried.

B. Informational Items

1. None

➤ **Information Technology Services**

a. Action Items

1. None

b. Informational Items

1. None

➤ **Athletics**

Chair: Trustee Kevin Ball

Committee Members: Trustees Tiffany Cole, John Hackett, Jr., Ginger Harper, Reggie Sylvain

A. Action Items

1. None

B. Informational Items

1. None

➤ **Student Affairs**

Chair: Trustee Tiffany Johnson Cole

Committee Members: Trustees Kevin Ball, Reggie Sylvain, Scherrie Banks Pickett, Mya Gibbs

A. Action Items

1. None

B. Informational Items

1. None

C. Student Government Association Report – The Student Government Association President, Trustee Mya Gibbs gave a report and update on student government activities, bulldog challenge, and selecting freshman students to serve and encourage voting.

➤ **Audit and Investment**

Chair: Trustee Kevin Ball

Committee Members: Trustee Richard Crunkleton

A. Action Items

1. None

B. Informational Items

1. None

2. Ad Hoc Committees

➤ **Buildings and Grounds**

Chair: Trustee John Hackett Jr.

Committee Members: Trustees Ginger Harper and Richard Crunkleton

A. Action Items

1. Trustee Tiffany Cole moved to approve negotiation of a property lease and call a meeting of approval by the Executive Committee if necessary. Trustee Ginger Harper seconded the motion. The motion carried.

2. Informational Items – None

➤ **Green Initiatives**

Chair: Trustee Ginger Harper

Committee Members: Mya Gibbs

A. Action Items – None

B. Informational Items – None

➤ **International Initiatives and Affairs**

Chair: Trustee Wayne Watts

Committee Members: Trustees Tiffany Cole, Scherrie Banks Pickett

A. Action Items – None

B. Informational Items – None

➤ **Governance Committee**

Chair: Trustee Tiffany Johnson Cole

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

A. Action Items

1. Trustee Tiffany Cole moved to approve eliminating Buildings and Grounds Ad Hoc committee and move to Business and Finance Subcommittee. Trustee Ginger Harper seconded the motion. The motion carried.
2. Trustee Tiffany Cole moved to approve eliminating the Assistant Vice President for Distance Education, Extended Studies, and Instructional Technology position. Trustee Scherrie Banks Pickett seconded the motion. The motion carried.
3. Trustee Tiffany Cole move to approve creating an Associate Vice President for Distance Education, Extended Studies, and Instructional Technology position. Trustee Elizabeth Richardson seconded the motion. The motion carried.
4. Trustee Tiffany Cole moved to approve creating an Assistant Vice President in Academic Affairs for Student Success, Retention, and Persistence position. Trustee Elizabeth Richardson seconded the motion. The motion carried.
5. Trustee Tiffany Cole moved to approve renewing the Magic City Classic Trademark. Trustee Ginger Harper seconded the motion. The motion carried.

B. Informational Items – None

COMMUNICATIONS, APPEALS, AND PETITIONS – None

OLD BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Board of Trustees Subcommittee and Formal Meetings for February 2025.** Trustee Tiffany Cole moved to accept the dates for the Subcommittee and Formal meetings of the Board of Trustees scheduled for February 20 and 21. Trustee Scherrie Pickett seconded the motion. The motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – None

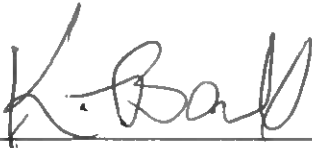
ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Vice President Jamal Ali requested to show the new Alabama A&M commercials for the Board of Trustees meeting attendees. The commercials were shown.

ADJOURNMENT

President Pro Tempore Wayne Watts requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Ginger Harper moved to adjourn the meeting and Trustee Richard Crunkleton seconded the motion. A unanimous vote was received and the meeting was adjourned at 9:35 a.m.

AAMU Board of Trustees meeting minutes of June 14, 2024 were approved by the Board of Trustees on October 25, 2024.



Presiding officer per Bylaws- Trustee Wayne Watts



Secretary of the Board- Trustee Tiffany Johnson Cole

Attachments

1. AAMU BOT Attendance from October 25, 2024
2. AAMU BOT Meeting Agenda for October 25, 2024
3. AAMU BOT Subcommittee Meeting Minutes from June 13, 2024
4. AAMU BOT Meeting Minutes from June 14, 2024