

**SUMMARY REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE
ALABAMA A&M UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
HELD ON OCTOBER 23, 2020**

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Alabama A&M University took place beginning at 10:00 A.M., October 23, 2020, pursuant to Notice given in accordance with the requirements of the Open Meetings law set forth in section 36-25A-1 *et seq.* of the Code of Alabama as modified by the emergency proclamations of the Governor of the State of Alabama. The deliberations which were conducted, and the actions taken, expressly relate to matters which are necessary to perform essential minimum functions of the Board of Trustees on behalf of the University using communication equipment which allowed all persons participating in the meeting to hear one another at the same time, and which allowed the members of the public to listen to and observe the meeting contemporaneously with the conduct of the meeting.

The meeting proceeded as set forth on the agenda published in advance of the meeting in accordance with applicable legal requirements. This agenda was adopted and followed by the Board. Board members in attendance included: Dr. Jerome B. Williams (President Pro Tempore), Mr. Chris Robinson (Secretary), Mr. Kevin Ball, Dr. Scherrie Banks Pickett, Mr. Richard Crunkleton, Attorney Tiffany Johnson-Cole, Ms. Nichelle Gainey, Mr. John Hackett, Jr., Ms. Ginger Harper, Dr. Roderick (Wayne) Watts, Mr. Frank Williams and Ex-Officio Members, Dr. Jeanette Jones, and Mr. Japhe Jelks. University President Dr. Andrew Hugine, Jr. and members of his cabinet were also present and participated, including, Dr. Daniel Wims, Dr. Gary Crosby, Dr. Malinda Swoope, Mr. Clayton Gibson, Dr. Archie Tucker, Attorney Angela Debro, Dr. Damian Clark, Mr. Bryan Hicks, Attorney Rod Steakley and others. A quorum of the Board was declared present and the Board proceeded with its meeting.

Upon motions properly made and seconded, the Board approved Minutes and Recommendations of the Sub-Committee Meetings of June 25, 2020, and the Minutes of the

Meeting of the Board of Trustees held on June 26, 2020. The Board received the Report of the Executive Committee Meeting held on September 9, 2020, which had previously been published in compliance with the requirements of the Alabama Open Meetings Act. The Board also received the report of the Executive Committee concerning its annual review of the mission of the University and approved that it reaffirms without change the existing mission statement for the University in its present form.

The Board, following the requirements of applicable law and in accordance with its Bylaws, elected officers for the Board of Trustees for the 2020-2021 academic year as follows: President Pro Tempore – Dr. Jerome Williams; Vice President Pro Tempore – Dr. Roderick (Wayne) Watts; Secretary – Mr. Chris Robinson. Members of the Executive Committee of the Board were established and confirmed as follows: Dr. Jerome Williams, President Pro Tempore; Dr. Roderick (Wayne) Watts, Vice President Pro Tempore; Mr. Chris Robinson, Secretary of the Board; Mrs. Ginger Harper; and, Mr. Kevin Ball.

The Board took the following actions relating to the University based upon the review and recommendation of permanent and standing committees of the Board of Trustees (Business and Finance, Academic Affairs and Research, and Student Affairs, each of which met on October 22, 2020, and recommended the actions reported below), and, upon further motion properly made and seconded by Members of the Board at the meeting itself:

- A. Business and Finance: The Board unanimously:
 - (1.) approved the renewal of the line of credit for the University with Regions Bank; and
 - (2.) approval of the execution of a lease with the City of Huntsville to establish a Greenway on University property in the location and on the terms and conditions proposed to the University and recommended by the Business and Finance Committee of the Board.

B. Academic Affairs and Research: The Board unanimously:

- (1.) approved the deletion of the Minor in Family and Financial Planning;
- (2.) approved the addition of a Concentration in Family and Financial Planning;
- (3.) approved the addition of a Minor in Entrepreneurship for Business Majors only;
- (4.) approved the addition of an online MBA Program;
- (5.) approved the execution of the proposed Memorandum of Understanding between the University and Mississippi State University; and,
- (6.) approved a change to the Organizational Chart to Add an Assistant Vice-President of Distance & Continuing Education and Instructional Technology.

C. Student Affairs: The Board unanimously:

- (1.) approved the waiver of any requirement for the results of ACT and/or SAT testing results in connection with the consideration of admission of students to the University until such time as the Administration of the University recommends reinstatement of the utilization of such testing as an entrance requirement.

The following Board of Trustees Committees did not have action items nor did they provide information reports or updates: Marketing, Communications and Advancement; Athletics; Informational Technology Services; and Governance. The Board received an update from Dr. Gary Crosby, Vice President of Student Affairs, on AAMU's Fall 2020 Re-Opening Task Force and the University's planning and response to COVID-19, highlighting the steps, procedures and protocols in place to address these complex issues on an ongoing basis, including robust contact tracing, mass testing, accessibility to Flu Shots, mask enforcement, social distancing, and reviewing and assessing all protocols on a continuing basis. No action items were addressed by the Board within these areas.

In addition to taking the foregoing reports and actions, the Board received informational reports from the President Pro Tempore of the Board (Dr. Jerome Williams), the President of the University (Dr. Andrew Hugine, Jr.), the Faculty Senate President (Dr. Jeanette Jones), and the Student Government Association President (Mr. Japhe Jelks). The President Pro Tempore and the Board recognized the new National President of the Alabama A&M University Alumni Association Mrs. Mary Jones Moore and received brief comments from her. Various members of the Board complimented the President and the Administration for the manner in which the difficult problems created by extra-ordinary current affairs due to the pandemic are being addressed, and for the planning and foresight exhibited in the University's ongoing operations. All committed to working together to achieve the best results under difficult circumstances for our students, faculty and staff as well as all related constituencies of the University.

The Board approved and set the dates for its next meetings, establishing February 18, 2021, for the Board Committee meetings and February 19, 2021, for the February meeting of the Board subject to any executive orders issued by Governor Ivey, or different date, time and location deemed appropriate by the Executive Committee in the event of extenuating circumstances. Notice of these meetings will be published as required.