

JACKSONVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES MINUTES

The Board of Trustees of JACKSONVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY held its Winter Quarterly Meeting in Jacksonville, Alabama, on Tuesday, January 25, 2022, commencing at 10:00 am. CDT.

CALL TO ORDER AND INVOCATION

Presiding Chair Jones officially called the meeting to order at 10:00 am. Trustee Smoke opened the meeting with an invocation.

ROLL CALL

The Chairman directed Dr. Killingsworth, Secretary to the Board, to call the roll. The following members were present:

Chairman Randall E. Jones Mr. Clarence Daugette, III Mr. Rusty Fuller Mr. Tony L. Ingram Mr. Drew Linn – via Zoom Mrs. Gale Saxon Main Mr. Randy Y. Owen Mr. Anthony Smoke

The Trustees listed above presently constituted a quorum for conducting business. Trustees Greg Brown, Vivian D. Figures, and Ex- officio member Governor Kay Ivey were absent. Others present included Dr. Paul Hathaway, Faculty Senate President, Ms. Brooke Robinson, Student Government Association President, university faculty, staff and students, members of the public, and media representatives.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairman Jones made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 19, 2021, Board of Trustees meeting.

Trustee Daugette seconded the motion. With all in favor, the minutes were approved. The Board was unanimously in favor of adopting the minutes as presented.

FACULTY SENATE REPORT

Reports of an increase in the freshman retention rate were encouraging to the faculty, according to Dr. Hathaway. He credits the increase to the Student Success Center. He informed the Board that Dr. King, VP for Student Success, attends most faculty senate meetings and discusses how faculty can refer students to the Center that may need extra help.

Dr. Hathaway shared that the support for the faculty development provided at Faculty Commons has demonstrated a commitment to support faculty.

The Senate is updating and revising the faculty handbook dealing with tenure and promotion. They are also finalizing a faculty survey to help identify areas of support that faculty utilize most and their level of satisfaction.

The faculty senate unanimously passed a resolution supporting the protection of academic freedom. Dr. Hathaway asked that the Board of Trustees and the administration endorse academic freedom on campus. The resolution was presented to the Board.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION REPORT

The SGA Executive Officers were introduced to the Trustees by Ms. Brooke Robinson, SGA President. She stated that they have put in a lot of time and effort this semester organizing 24 student events. The SGA has written over 30 bills and four resolutions, according to Ms. Robinson. She also reported that Ms. Kaylee Knight was crowned Miss JSU 2022. Kaylee will now advance to the Miss Alabama pageant.

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Trustee Owen, Chair of the Academic Affairs Committee, stated that the Committee had **no action items** to bring before the Board.

Dr. Shelton gave a brief recap of the information presented during the Academic Affairs Committee meeting. Dr. Brent Cunningham, interim Dean of Business and Industry, and Mica Mecham, Director of Faculty Commons, were introduced. She added that the SACSCOC planning is progressing thanks to the efforts of the Steering Committee and Mrs. Kim Presson.

ADVANCEMENT COMMITTEE

Trustee Main, Chair of the Advancement Committee, stated that the Committee met and reviewed five naming resolutions, which the Committee unanimously approved.

NAMING RESOLUTIONS

The Board of Trustees of Jacksonville State University declares that the loading dock at Mason Hall shall henceforth be named the "**Dr. Kelly and Karen Gregg Loading Dock.**"

The Board of Trustees of Jacksonville State University declares that the Practice Room 238 in Mason Hall shall henceforth be named the "**Evan Ledford Practice Room**."

The Board of Trustees of Jacksonville State University declares that an outdoor learning space at Houston Cole Library shall henceforth be named the "Dr. Claudia McDade Student Success Outdoor Learning Center."

The Board of Trustees of Jacksonville State University declares that the Advising Center in Merrill Hall shall henceforth be named the "Dr. Louise Clark Advising Center."

The Board of Trustees of Jacksonville State University declares that the Football Performance Center at JSU Stadium shall henceforth be named the "Loring and Debbie White Football Performance Center."

Trustee Main moved for their approval by the Board of Trustees, and the following Resolutions were unanimously adopted, separately and collectively:

Coming from the Advancement Committee, the motion did not require a second.

President Killingsworth announced that "Acting" has been removed from Dr. Emily Messer's title. She is now the VP of Advancement and Enrollment Management.

ATHLETIC COMMITTEE

Trustee Ingram, Chair of the Athletic Committee, stated that the Committee met, but had **no action items** to bring before the Board. Mr. Seitz gave a sport-by-sport report to the Committee and explained the transition to join Conference USA.

AUDIT, RISK, AND COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE

Trustee Smoke, Vice-Chair of the Audit, Risk and Compliance Committee, stated that the Committee had **one action item** to bring before the Board. The Committee recommends that the revisions to the Transaction Authorization Matrix be approved, understanding that the President's Cabinet would make certain amendments and report back to the Board of Trustees at the next meeting.

Coming from the Audit, Risk, and Compliance Committee, the motion did not require a second. The Board of Trustees unanimously approved the motion

BUILDING AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

Trustee Smoke, Chair of the Building and Finance Committee, reported that the Committee has **no action item** for the Board's approval.

As part of her presentation to the committee, Ms. Barker provided updates and information on the following projects: Angle, Merrill, Wallace Halls, The Randy Owen Performing Arts Center (ROC), the South Complex renovations, the Stadium expansion and Theron Montgomery Building (TMB). She reported that all projects are on schedule.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Killingsworth congratulated Dr. Christopher Probst, Associate Professor of Music, who directs the JSU Trumpet Ensemble. President Killingsworth announced that this student group made it to the quarterfinal and final round of the National Trumpet Competition. They will compete on March 31 and April 2 in Delaware against collegiate ensembles from all over the country.

Director of Bands, Dr. Ken Bodiford, his staff, and the JSU Marching Southerners also received congratulation from President Killingsworth, who announced that The John Phillip Sousa Foundation had awarded the Marching Southerners the prestigious Sudler Trophy for 2022. Dr. Bodiford shared a few words regarding the significance of receiving the trophy. The Sudler Trophy is considered the equivalent of winning the Heisman Trophy in football. JSU is the smallest University to receive this top honor.

President Killingsworth and Dr. Bodiford thanked Trustee Owen for his help in getting JSU students involved in the 2022 World Games. Students will perform at the opening and closing ceremonies. Mr. Rodney Baily, JSU Color Guard Coordinator and Instructor, will serve on the Creative Design Team.

President Killingsworth shared more exciting news regarding the Marching Southerners. The band has been invited to perform in Normandy, France, in June 2024 to observe the 80th Anniversary of D-Day. **The invitation reads:**

"On behalf of Historic Programs and the D-Day Committee, we congratulate the Jacksonville State University, Marching Southerners Band for your invitation as an official representative of The United States in Normandy France in June of 2024. This invitation is based on your University Band's outstanding reputation, professionalism, and standing in your community. The Jacksonville State University Marching Southerners Band has our highest respect for your dedication to our veterans. It is anticipated that the Jacksonville State University Band students will perform official ceremonial music at both scheduled ceremonies and join in a combined effort with other performing ensembles, choirs, and JROTC to memorialize all those who were laid to rest on the beaches of Normandy."

Dr. Bodiford said that big trips such as this are voluntary. Members of the band who want to go will have two years to raise the money. It will cost the student approximately \$3,400. All meals, air flights, and lodging are included in the cost. Dr. Bodiford respectfully requested the Board's permission to attend the event in France. **The Board unanimously agreed to allow Dr. Bodiford to accept the invitation.**

President Killingsworth announced that a committee would be formed and led by Dr. Messer. She has been tasked to coordinate the travel plans of those who will go to France to support the Southerners.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairman Jones made a motion to enter into an Executive Session for approximately fortyfive minutes to 1) discuss the general reputation and character of certain individuals, and 2) to discuss with the University counsel legal ramifications and options on certain matters as outlined in Alabama Code 36-25A-7(a)(3). A written opinion from counsel was secured for the University that such exception applies to the planned discussion. Trustee Brown seconded the motion. All were in favor. None opposed. The motion carried.

The Chairman called for a Roll Call vote. President Killingsworth called roll for voting to approve the executive session. The following persons voted:

Chairman Randall E. Jones	Yes
Mr. Clarence Daugette, III	Yes
Mr. Rusty Fuller	Yes
Mr. Tony L. Ingram	Yes
Mr. Drew Linn	Yes – via Zoom
Mrs. Gale Saxon Main	Yes
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Mr. Randy Y. Owen	Yes

Chairman Jones reported a unanimous vote for the Executive Session and stated that the Board members would return for a public vote on any actionable items.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

Upon returning from Executive Session, with a quorum present, Chairman Jones reported that the Board had several action items to consider.

Trustee Daugette made a motion to adopt the Strategic Plan Framework. Trustee Fuller seconded the motion. All were in favor. None opposed. The motion carried.

Trustee Smoke presented and recommended the following Resolution for approval by the Board of Trustees.

RESOLUTION 639

WHEREAS, the Owner of certain property located at 25 Roy Webb Road, NW, Jacksonville, Alabama 36265 (the "Property") has expressed a desire to sell the Property to Jacksonville State University;

WHEREAS, the University is currently leasing the property and would save considerable money over time by purchasing the property;

THEREFORE, be it resolved that the President of the University is authorized to enter into an agreement to purchase the property at a price not exceeding the appraised value and subject to the completion of necessary due diligence regarding the acquisition.

This Resolution presented this <u>25th</u> day of January 2022.

Don C Killingsworth, Jr., Ed.D President Jacksonville State University

Mr. Randall E. Jones

Chairman Board of Trustees

Trustee Daugette presented and recommended the following resolution for approval by the Board of Trustees.

RESOLUTION 640

WHEREAS, the University owns a parcel of undeveloped land located at 415 Castle Drive, Anniston, Alabama (the "Property");

WHEREAS, the University is not currently using the property and has no anticipated need for the property in the future;

WHEREAS, this Board has been presented with information showing that the sale of the property pursuant to sealed bid is in the best interest of the University;

THEREFORE, be it resolved: 1) that the University shall advertise the property for sale pursuant to sealed bid in a manner compliant with Alabama law; and 2) the University President shall be authorized to enter into a contract for the sale of the land with the highest bidder subject to Board Approval of the final sale.

This Resolution presented this <u>25th</u> day of January 2022.

Don C Killingsworth, Jr., Ed.D President Jacksonville State University

Mr. Randall E. Jones Chairman Board of Trustees

Trustee Fuller presented and recommended the following resolution for approval to by the Board of Trustees.

RESOLUTION REGARDING THE POTENTIAL DONATION OF REAL PROPERTY

WHEREAS, the Conservation Fund, Inc. ("The Fund") has expressed an interest in donating certain real property located in Addition 1, Block A of the Canyon View Forest subdivision in Cherokee County, Alabama (the "Property") to the University;

WHEREAS, the property is located in the Little River Canyon area and the University currently owns land which is in close proximity to the property;

WHEREAS, the University believes that the acquisition of the property would further enhance educational offerings it provides from Little River Canyon and further serve the University's overall mission;

WHEREAS, the parties contemplate that the donation of the property will be subject to the terms of a mutually agreeable gift agreement and the property will be subject to a conservation easement;

THEREFORE, be it Resolved, the University's President is hereby authorized to enter into discussions with the Fund regarding the donation of the property and is further authorized to enter into an agreement with the Fund accepting the property if he deems such agreement to be in the best interest of the University; provided, however, that any such agreement between the University and the Fund shall be conditioned on the completion of necessary University due diligence and the final approval of this Board.

This Resolution presented this <u>25th</u> day of January 2022.

Don C Killingsworth, Jr., Ed.D President Jacksonville State University

Mr. Randall E. Jones Chairman Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees unanimously adopted the Resolutions, separately and collectively.

HONORARY DEGREES AND RECOGINITION COMMITTEE REPORT

Trustee Owen made a motion to authorize the Chairman of the Board of Trustees to award an Honorary Doctorate to an outstanding individual associated with JSU at a later date. Trustee Main seconded the motion. **All were in favor. None opposed. The motion carried.** There was no further business to come before the Board of Trustees. Presiding Chair Jones declared that the meeting was adjourned and stated that the next meeting of the Board of Trustees will be held on Tuesday, April 19, 2022, 9:00 am at Stadium Tower on the 5th Floor.

Don C Killingsworth, Jr., Ed.I

President Jacksonville State University

Mr. Randall E. Jones Chairman Board of Trustees