

**Alabama A&M University
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
CLYDE FOSTER MULTIPURPOSE ROOM
4900 Meridian Street
Huntsville, Alabama 35762
Friday, February 16, 2024
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 Ginger Harper
6. Trustee Scherrie Banks Pickett
7. Trustee Ralph Williams
8. Trustee Nichelle Gainey (Zoom)
9. Trustee Elizabeth Richardson (Zoom)
10. Trustee Jeanette Jones, Faculty Senate President
11. Mike Davis Jr., Student Government Association President

Members Not Present

Trustee John Hackett, Jr.

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 10:05 am by Trustee Wayne Watts, ND, President, Pro Tempore serving as the Presiding Officer per Article IV Section 3 of the Bylaws.

ECUMENICAL INVOCATION

- Athletic Director, 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 10:08 am. 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 Ginger Harper seconded the motion. The Motion passed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE MEETINGS OF October 25 and 26, 2023 (ATTACHMENT 3)

- Trustee Tiffany Cole moved that the Board adopt the minutes and recommendations of the last sub-committee meetings of October 25 and 26, 2023 as presented to the Board (Attachment 3). Trustee Ginger Harper seconded the motion. The motion passed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE MEETING June 23, 2022 (ATTACHMENT 4)

- Trustee Tiffany Cole moved that the Board approve the minutes of the last Board of Trustees Meeting of October 27, 2023, as presented to the Board (Attachment 4). Trustee Ginger Harper seconded the motion. The motion passed.

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

Chairman Wayne Watts requested to reserve his report until the end of the meeting.

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY

President Daniel K. Wims provided updated information on the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) reaffirmation and accreditations. President Wims discussed the details of the SACSCOC's phase II schedule, noting the committee visit to the University would occur February 26th through 29th and requested Dr. John Jones to expound.

President Wims requested details regarding the Marching Maroon and Whites participation in the 97th Macys Day Parade from Student Affairs, the annual Black-Tie Scholarship Gala from Marketing Communications and Advancement, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) updates from Research and Economic Development, and Fiscal Affairs and Athletics.

1. Provost and Vice President of Academics, Dr. John Jones and Assistant Vice President of Academics, Dr. Rhonda Moore Jackson noted the accreditation actions namely those accreditations received from the Planning Accreditation Board (PAB), the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET), and the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND)
2. Vice President of Student Affairs, Dr. Braque Talley provided the Board a summary of the Marching Maroon and Whites' (MMW) participation in the Macy's Day Parade, noting AAMU's band was the first HBCU to lead the parade since the parade's inception, garnering 3 million in attendance to watch as the MMW moved along the parade route. Dr. Braque Talley also noted the AAMU Dancing Divas performed with the Radio City Rockettes and the band expenses were in part funded through donations that were raised.
3. Vice President of Marketing, Communication and Advancement Mr. Jamal Ali announced to the Board the status and events for the upcoming 24th Annual Black-Tie Scholarship Gala. Mr. Jamal

Ali confirmed the date for the gala was Friday April 19th and the intent of the gala was to establish scholarships for deserving AAMU students.

4. Vice President for Research and Economic Development, Dr. Majed Dweik, provided an update on the collaborations underway with the U.S. Housing and Urban Development (HUD), noting HUDs commitment to AAMU to support disadvantaged communities. Dr. Majed Dweik also spoke about the work being accomplished with the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) and the Natural Resources Conservation Service grant to which AAMU was one of four, 1890 agroforestry consortium institutions, recipients of the grant.

REPORTS AND COMMITTEES

1. Permanent Committees

➤ Business and Finance

Chair: Trustee Richard Crunkleton

Committee Members: Trustees John Hackett, Kevin Ball, 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., Nichelle Gainey, Jeanette Jones

The Board of Trustees took the following action items as nominations from the Academic Affairs Sub-Committee therefore no seconds were needed.

A. Action Items

1. Enter into an MOU between AAMU and Somali National University. Trustee Scherrie Banks Pickett moved to approve the MOU between AAMU and Somali National University as presented by the committee. No second was needed. The motion passed.

B. Informational Items

1. None

➤ Research

a. Action Items

1. Trustee Scherrie Banks Pickett moved to approve the Intellectual Property Policy. Trustee Ginger Harper seconded the motion. The motion passed.
2. Trustee Scherrie Banks Pickett approved the Policies and Procedures for Research Misconduct Allegations. Trustee Ralph Williams seconded the motion. The motion passed.

3. Trustee Scherrie Banks Pickett moved to approve the Madison County Commission Community Garden MOU. Trustee Ginger Harper seconded the motion. The motion passed.
4. Trustee Scherrie Banks Pickett moved to approve the Huntsville - Madison County Chamber of Commerce MOU. Trustee Ginger Harper seconded the motion. The motion passed.

C. Report of Faculty Senate President – The Faculty Senate President, Trustee Jeanette Jones discussed the yearly review of the faculty handbook, a faculty Think Tank for sharing ideas, proposals, centers of excellence and memories on the “Hill” and faculty mentoring and development activities.

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

Chair: Trustee Wayne Watts

Committee Members: Trustees Kevin Ball, Richard Crunkleton

A. Actions Items

1. Amend the current Board policy for the Naming of Buildings, Structures, Streets, and other Geographical Areas. Trustee Scherrie Pickett moved to approve amending the current Board policy for the Naming of Buildings, Structures, Streets, and other Geographical Areas. Trustee Richard Crunkleton seconded the motion. The motion carried.
2. Approve establishing the Vivian Malone Endowed Chair in Business Excellence, in the School of Business. Trustee Scherrie Pickett moved to approve establishing the Vivian Malone Endowed Chair in Business Excellence, in the School of Business. Trustee Richard Crunkleton seconded the motion. The motion carried.

D. 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 Kevin Ball, Nichelle Gainey, Scherrie Banks Pickett, Mike Davis, Jr.

A. Action Items

1. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services MOU. Enter into an MOU between AAMU and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Trustee Tiffany Cole moved to approve the MOU between AAMU and Somali National University. Trustee Scherrie Banks Pickett seconded the motion. The motion passed.
2. Bishop State Community College MOU. Enter into an MOU between AAMU and Bishop State Community College. Trustee Tiffany Cole moved to approve the MOU between AAMU and Bishop State Community College. Trustee Scherrie Banks Pickett seconded the motion. The motion passed.
3. Washtenaw Community College MOU. Enter into an MOU between AAMU and Washtenaw Community College. Trustee Tiffany Cole moved to approve the MOU between AAMU and Washtenaw Community College. Trustee Scherrie Banks Pickett seconded the motion. The motion passed.
4. Policy on Tasers. Trustee Tiffany Cole moved to approve the Policy on Tasers. Trustee Scherrie Banks Pickett seconded the motion. The motion passed.
5. Policy on Lithium Batteries. Trustee Tiffany Cole moved to approve the Policy on Lithium Batteries. Trustee Scherrie Banks Pickett seconded the motion. The motion passed.

B. Informational Items

1. None

C. Student Government Association Report – The Student Government Association President, Trustee Mike Davis, Jr. announced the Leave a Legacy scholarship recipients and the Academic Affairs senators monthly internship list. Trustee Mike Davis, Jr. also discussed the International Student Association Senator Cultural Mixer, Welcome Back Day and the Campus Clean Initiative.

➤ **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. 3812 John F. Kennedy Circle Property Purchase. Trustee Richard Crunkleton moved to approve the purchase of the property at 3812 John F. Kennedy Circle. Trustee Ginger Harper seconded the motion. The motion passed.

2. Informational Items – None

➤ **Green Initiatives**

Chair: Trustee Ginger Harper

Committee Members: Mike Davis, Jr.

A. Action Items – None

B. Informational Items – None

➤ **International Initiatives and Affairs**

Chair: Trustee Nichelle Gainey

Committee Members: Trustee Tiffany Cole

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. Vehicle Use Policy. Trustee Tiffany Cole moved to approve the Vehicle Use Policy. Trustee Richard Crunkleton seconded the motion. The motion passed.

2. Assistant Vice President for Auxiliary Services Position. Trustee Tiffany Cole moved to approve the Assistant Vice President for Auxiliary Services Position. Trustee Richard Crunkleton seconded the motion. The motion passed.

B. Informational Items – None

COMMUNICATIONS, APPEALS, AND PETITIONS – None

OLD BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Board of Trustees Subcommittee and Formal Meetings for June 2024.** Chairman Wayne Watts will work with President Wims to determine dates for the June Subcommittee and Board meeting. Executive Orders and Executive Committee are empowered to change the date or location.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 10:45 a.m. Attorney Roderic Steakley announced that the Board of Trustees would go into Executive session for the purpose of advisement from Council within the Alabama law. The executive session ended at 12:06 p.m. and the Board of Trustees meeting resumed.

After deliberation and Executive session, Trustee Tiffany Cole brought forth a motion to give the executive committee authority to enter into a real estate sales transaction for the purchase of the property at 305 Winchester Rd. The motion was seconded by Trustee Richard Crunkleton. The motion passed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Pro Tempore, Trustee Wayne Watts, took the opportunity to address the members of the Board of Trustees and the Board meeting attendees.

ADJOURNMENT

President Pro Tempore Wayne Watts requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Tiffany Johnson Cole moved to adjourn the meeting and Trustee Elizabeth Richardson seconded the motion. A unanimous vote was received and the meeting was adjourned at 12:41 a.m.

AAMU Board of Trustees meeting minutes of October 27, 2023 were approved by the Board of Trustees on February 16, 2024.



Presiding officer per Bylaws- Trustee Wayne Watts



Secretary of the Board- Trustee Tiffany Johnson Cole

Attachments

1. AAMU BOT Attendance from October 27, 2023
2. AAMU BOT Meeting Agenda for October 27, 2023
3. AAMU BOT Subcommittee Meeting Minutes from October 25-26, 2023
4. AAMU BOT Meeting Minutes from October 27, 2023