

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF  
STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING  
July 16, 2015**

**BE IT REMEMBERED**, That the Mississippi Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning of the State of Mississippi met in a teleconference meeting held at the Board Office in Jackson, Mississippi, at 9:00 a.m. At the above-named place there were present the following members to wit: Mrs. Karen L. Cummins (by phone), Dr. Ford Dye (by phone), Mr. Tom Duff (by phone), Mr. Shane Hooper (by phone), Dr. Alfred E. McNair, Jr. (by phone), Mr. Chip Morgan (by phone), Mr. Hal Parker (by phone), Mr. Alan Perry, Dr. Douglas Rouse (by phone), and Mr. C.D. Smith (by phone). Ms. Christine Pickering and Dr. J. Walt Starr were absent. The meeting was called to order by Mr. Alan Perry, President.

**In accordance with Miss. Code Ann., §25-41-1, as amended, all votes taken during this teleconference meeting were recorded by name in a roll-call. The teleconference meeting was held to discuss regular monthly items submitted by the public universities.**

**CONSENT AGENDA**

On motion by Trustee Hooper, seconded by Trustee Cummins, with Trustees Pickering and Starr absent and not voting, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to approve the Consent Agenda.

**PERSONNEL REPORT**

1. **Employment**

**Jackson State University**

- Karyn S. Hollingsworth; Executive Director of Communications & Marketing; salary of \$97,500 per annum, pro rata; E&G funds; effective August 1, 2015
- Anthony L. Holloman; Vice President for Institutional Advancement; salary of \$170,000 per annum, pro rata; E&G funds; effective July 1, 2015

**Delta State University**

*Rehired retirees making more than \$20,000 who are on contract during FY 2016*

- Dr. E.E. “Butch” Caston; *former position:* Interim Vice President for Academic Affairs; *re-employment position;* Interim Vice President for Student Affairs; re-employment period – July 1, 2015 – December 31, 2015; salary of \$58,81

2. **Change of Status**

**University of Southern Mississippi**

- Steven R. Moser; from Dean of the College of Arts and Letters and Professor of Music; salary of \$170,000 per annum, pro rata; E&G funds; to Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs and Professor of Music; salary of \$260,000 per annum, pro rata; E&G funds; effective July 1, 2015

**FINANCE**

3. **DSU** – Approved the request to enter into an agreement with Tomlinson Avionics, Inc. to purchase avionic upgrade equipment for eleven (11) aircraft in order to bring the aircraft in line with the standards required by the Aviation Accreditation Board International. This agreement is

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF  
STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING  
July 16, 2015**

for the one time purchase of equipment. It is expected that the updating process for the aircraft will take approximately twelve (12) weeks. The total cost for removal of the outdated equipment and, the new equipment with installation is \$271,400. The agreement will be funded by state appropriated funds. The agreement which has been reviewed and approved by the Attorney General's Office is on file in the Board Office.

4. **USM** – Approved the request for the USM Gulf Coast Research Lab to enter into an agreement with Aqua Green, LLC for research services related to the advancement of oyster production in South Mississippi. Aqua Green and USM's Gulf Coast Research Lab plan to collaborate on a pilot research project to increase oyster production in the State. Under the agreement, Aqua Green will provide research expertise, facilities and equipment to create an inland oyster hatchery in Stone County, Mississippi. The term of the agreement is six (6) months – August 1, 2015 through January 30, 2016. The total cost for the six (6) month contract term is \$992,004. USM will pay \$165,334 per month for the services. The agreement will be funded by general funds. The agreement which has been reviewed and approved by the Attorney General's Office is on file in the Board Office.

**REAL ESTATE**

5. **USM** – Approved the request to sell +/- 6.9 acres of land known as the Elam Arms site to Midtown Developers, LLC for \$2,715,000. The land is located between 3000 and 3102 Hardy Street in Hattiesburg, MS. This area is referred to in USM's Master Plan as the Midtown Development. During the 2014 legislative session, the university sought and obtained legislative approval in House Bill 717 (Regular Session 2014) to sell the +/- 6.9 acres owned by the university. After the session ended, the university worked with the Mississippi Department of Finance and Administration to secure two appraisals from their pre-qualified list. The average of the two appraisals is \$2,715,000. In the fall of 2014, the university initiated a Request for Proposals (RFP) process to solicit proposals for the purchase and development of the property guided by a committee with broad representation. The committee evaluated the responses received based on criteria included in the RFP. From this evaluation, Midtown Developers, LLC was chosen. The consummation of the sale and purchase of the property pursuant to the terms of this Agreement (the "Closing") shall be consummated on or before Thirty (30) Days from the expiration of the Inspection Period. A copy of the property description and all legal documentation are on file with the IHL Office of Real Estate and Facilities. The Attorney General's Office has reviewed and approved this item.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

On motion by Trustee Hooper, seconded by Trustee Cummins, with Trustees Pickering and Starr absent and not voting, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to close the meeting to determine whether or not is should declare an Executive Session. On motion by Trustee Hooper, seconded by Trustee Smith, with Trustees Pickering and Starr absent and not voting, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously **to go into Executive Session** for the reasons reported to the public and stated in these minutes, as follows: Discussion of two personnel matters at a state university.

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF  
STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING  
July 16, 2015**

**During Executive Session, the following matters were discussed and/or voted upon:**

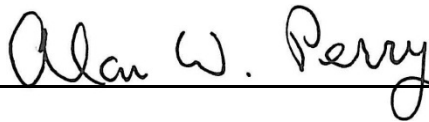
On motion by Trustee Rouse, seconded by Trustee McNair, with Trustees Pickering and Starr absent and not voting, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to approve a salary increase for Dr. Rodney Bennett, President of The University of Southern Mississippi, for a total salary of \$391,870 beginning July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2019. This amount includes a \$10,000 salary supplement increase from The University of Southern Mississippi Foundation to be effective July 1, 2015 through the remainder of his employment at the university.

The Board discussed a personnel matter at one of the state universities. **No action was taken.**

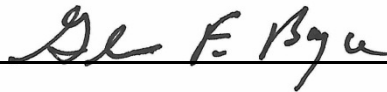
**On motion by Trustee Hooper, seconded by Trustee McNair, with Trustees Pickering and Starr absent and not voting, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to return to Open Session.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Board, on motion by Trustee Hooper, seconded by Trustee Smith, with Trustees Pickering and Starr absent and not voting, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting.



\_\_\_\_\_  
President, Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning



\_\_\_\_\_  
Commissioner, Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning