

**ATHENS STATE UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
BOARD MEETING
October 20, 2023**

The Athens State University Board of Trustees (also referred herein as the Board) held a meeting at 2:30 p.m. on Friday, October 20, 2023 in the Sandridge Student Center Ballroom to consider University matters.

PRESIDING: Senator Arthur Orr

The Board of Trustees meeting was called to order at 2:30 p.m. by Senator Arthur Orr.

ROLL CALL

On roll call, the following Board members were present and constituted a quorum to conduct business:

Mr. Jim America
Ms. Cathy Dickens (2:35 pm)
Mr. Bill Dunnivant (electronically)
Mr. Mac McCutcheon
Senator Arthur Orr
Mr. Goodrich 'Dus' Rogers
Dr. Sandra Sims-deGraffenried (electronically)
Mrs. Missy Ming Smith
Mr. Mike Underwood

Also present were Dr. Catherine Wehlburg, Interim President of Athens State University and Mr. Shane Black, University Legal Counsel, and Ms. Jackie Gooch, Secretary to the Board. Governor Kay Ivey, and Chancellor Jimmy Baker were absent. Several faculty/staff attended in-person and electronically.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Senator Orr requested to amend the agenda to remove item 6 (Discussion regarding open position of University President) under New Business. To ensure deliberate and thorough consideration, the Senator asked each Board member to collect any additional information that is needed for future discussion and action. On a motion made by Mr. America and seconded by Ms. Dickens, the Board approved the amended agenda by the following roll-call vote:

Jim America – YES
Cathy Dickens - YES
Bill Dunnivant – YES
Mac McCutcheon – YES
Senator Arthur Orr - YES
Dus Rogers – YES
Sandra Sims-deGraffenried - YES
Missy Ming Smith - YES
Mike Underwood - YES

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion made by Mr. Rogers and seconded by Mr. America, the Board approved the minutes from the July 21, 2023 Board meeting by the following roll-call vote:

Jim America – YES
Cathy Dickens - YES
Bill Dunnavant – YES
Mac McCutcheon – YES
Senator Arthur Orr - YES
Dus Rogers – YES
Sandra Sims-deGraffenried - YES
Missy Ming Smith - YES
Mike Underwood - YES

PUBLIC COMMENT

No one officially registered for public comment.

OLD BUSINESS, PENDING MOTIONS AND RESOLUTION

The Board received the Executive Committee minutes from September 11, 2023 that was previously distributed electronically.

NEW BUSINESS, PENDING MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS

Reaffirmation: Athens State University Board of Trustees Conflict of Interest Notification and Disclosure (Attachment A)

On a motion made by Ms. Dickens and seconded by Mr. America, each individual Board member reaffirmed by signature, the Athens State University Board of Trustees Conflict of Interest Notification and Disclosure. This motion was approved by the following roll-call vote:

Jim America – YES
Cathy Dickens - YES
Bill Dunnavant – YES
Mac McCutcheon – YES
Senator Arthur Orr - YES

Dus Rogers – YES
Sandra Sims-deGraffenried - YES
Missy Ming Smith - YES
Mike Underwood - YES

**Reaffirmation: Athens State University Board of Trustees Roles and Responsibilities
(Attachment B)**

On a motion made by Mr. Rogers and seconded by Dr. Sims-deGraffenried, each individual Board member reaffirmed by signature, the Athens State University Board of Trustees Roles and Responsibilities. This motion was approved by the following roll-call vote:

Jim America – YES
Cathy Dickens - YES
Bill Dunnivant – YES
Mac McCutcheon – YES
Senator Arthur Orr - YES

Dus Rogers – YES
Sandra Sims-deGraffenried - YES
Missy Ming Smith - YES
Mike Underwood – YES

Board of Visitor Appointments (Attachment C)

On a motion made by Mr. Dunnivant and seconded by Mr. McCutcheon, the Board accepted the President’s recommendation and approved the appointment of the following individuals to the Board of Visitors for a 3-year term.

College of Arts and Sciences
Kenneth Lones

College of Education
Mr. Jake Johnson
Ms. Dena Mayfield
Dr. Richard Templeton

This motion was approved by the following roll-call vote:

Jim America – YES
Cathy Dickens - YES
Bill Dunnivant – YES
Mac McCutcheon – YES
Senator Arthur Orr - YES

Dus Rogers – YES
Sandra Sims-deGraffenried - YES
Missy Ming Smith - YES
Mike Underwood - YES

**New Academic Program: Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theatre (College of Arts and Sciences)
(Attachment D)**

On a motion made by Mr. Dunnivant and seconded by Mr. Underwood, the Board approved the Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theatre for the College of Arts and Sciences. The motion was approved by the following roll-call vote:

Jim America – YES
Cathy Dickens - YES
Bill Dunnivant – NO
Mac McCutcheon – YES
Senator Arthur Orr - YES

Dus Rogers – YES
Sandra Sims-deGraffenried - YES
Missy Ming Smith - YES
Mike Underwood - YES

**2021-2022 Horizon 2030 Report Card
(Attachment E)**

On a motion made by Mr. Rogers and seconded by Ms. Dickens, the Board accepted the 2021-2022 Horizon 2030 Report Card as presented. This motion was approved by the following roll-call vote:

Jim America – YES
Cathy Dickens - YES
Bill Dunnivant – YES
Mac McCutcheon – YES
Senator Arthur Orr - YES

Dus Rogers – YES
Sandra Sims-deGraffenried - YES
Missy Ming Smith - YES
Mike Underwood - YES

OTHER BUSINESS (No Action Required)

Quarterly Financial Update

The Board received the quarterly financial update.

Alabama Commission on Education (ACHE) Update

The Board received a handout on actions taken by the Commission.

Learning Partnerships

Dr. Keith Ferguson provided an update on Learning Partnerships.

Audit Engagement Letter

The Board received the audit engagement letter from Mauldin & Jenkins.

2022-2023 Men of Kennis Annual Report

The Board received a copy of the 2022-2023 Men of Kennis Annual Report.

Acting President's Report/Update

Dr. Wehlburg also provided a written report including but not limited to the following:

1. Overall credit hour production for Fall is up 2.15% over last year.
2. SACSCOC 5th Year Report Due 2027.
3. Guaranteed Admissions Partnership has been rolled out to several community colleges.
4. Giving Day rased \$79,802 with 102 donors participating.
5. Hosting small group meetings with faculty and staff to make connections across campus.
6. Reached 103.12% of our budget.
7. In process of updating the enterprise resource planning (ERP) system.
8. New commercials were also previewed.

Board Committee Updates and Report Acceptance

Finance and Facilities Committee – Mr. Rogers

Mr. Rogers provided the Finance and Facilities Committee update. In addition, Mr. Rogers commended the grounds crew on the beautiful grounds and facilities.

Enrollment and Student Affairs Committee – Mr. America

Mr. America provided the Enrollment and Student Affairs Committee update.

Academic Affairs Committee – Mr. Dunnivant

Mr. Dunnivant provided the Academic Affairs Committee update.

External Affairs Committee – Mrs. Smith

Mrs. Smith provided the External Affairs Committee update.

ADJOURNMENT

Senator Orr adjourned the Athens State University Board of Trustees meeting at 3:41 pm.