

**SPECIAL MEETING
SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

Tuesday, September 6, 2011

Board of Supervisors' Meeting Room
2nd Floor, J.S. Clark Administration Building
Southern University - Baton Rouge

Minutes

The Special Meeting of the Southern University Board of Supervisors was convened by the Chairman, Mr. Darren G. Mire. The invocation was given by Rev. S.C. Dixon, Pastor of the Greater Mount Olive Baptist Church in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

PRESENT

Mr. Darren G. Mire – Chair
Atty. Murphy F. Bell, Jr. – Vice Chair
Mr. Patrick W. Bell
Mr. Calvin W. Braxton, Sr.
Atty. Walter C. Dumas
Atty. Warren A. Forstall
Dr. Eamon M. Kelly
Mr. Myron K. Lawson
Atty. Patrick D. Magee
Mrs. Ann A. Smith
Mr. Demetrius Sumner, Student Member
Rev. Samuel C. Tolbert, Jr.

ABSENT

Atty. Tony M. Clayton
Atty. Randal L. Gaines
Mr. Willie E. Hendricks
Atty. Patrick O. Jefferson

UNIVERSITY PERSONNEL ATTENDING

System President Ronald Mason, Jr.
Evola Bates, Chief of Staff
System Vice Presidents Kevin Appleton, and Tony Moore
Chancellors Ray Belton (SUSLA), Freddie Pitcher (SULC),
James Llorens (SUBR), Victor Ukpole (SUNO), and
Leodrey Williams (SUAREC)

BOARD COUNSEL

Attys. Winston DeCuir, Jr., and Tracie Woods

AGENDA ITEM 3: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

On motion of Atty. Magee, seconded by Atty. Forstall, the agenda was adopted, as printed.

Motion carried unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 4: PUBLIC COMMENTS

Representatives and members of the SUBR Faculty, Staff, and Student body, Alumni, as well as community and religious leaders voiced opposition to a declaration of financial exigency by the Board of Supervisors for the Southern University Board of Supervisors.

SUBR Faculty Senate representatives reported that 61.5% of the tenured faculty signed the voluntary furlough agreements. However, this amount was short of the 90% required to avert a financial exigency declaration.

Ms. Toni Jackson, President of the SUBR Staff Senate, presented a resolution from that body which declared tentative support of Chancellor Llorens' recommendation for declaring financial exigency and the retrenchment plan, contingent upon the following:

- Receiving the Chancellor's actual Strategic Plan that will outline the short-term and long-term vision for SUBR, within one week, for review.
- Receiving legally binding proof that the Chancellor's Office and all levels of Administration are included in the 10% furlough throughout its existence at SUBR.
- Receiving a written and binding agreement that allows the Staff Senate to appoint equal staff representation to all Committees that relate to the restructuring and reorganization of SUBR.

Responding to an inquiry, the Chancellor reported on the composition of the SUBR Budget Committee and the procedures that were utilized to arrive at the Chancellor's request to the Board for a declaration of financial exigency. Chancellor Llorens also advised that legal counsel was sought in arriving at the decision and every option for balancing the budget was explored.

The current SUBR budget is based on an anticipated Fall 2011 student enrollment of 7,000; anticipated revenues and expenses, staff layoffs and faculty furloughs. The Chancellor stressed to the Board that financial exigency is the best option available to the SUBR campus in response to its current financial situation.

On a motion by Atty. Bell, seconded by Mr. Bell, the meeting was recessed.

Motion carried unanimously.

-RECESS-

-RECONVENTION-

On motion of Atty. Magee, seconded by Rev. Tolbert, the Board reconvened its meeting.

Motion carried unanimously.

Chancellor Llorens again presented his recommendation to the Board for the declaration of financial exigency on the Southern University – Baton Rouge Campus.

A motion was offered by Atty. Magee, seconded by Atty. Forstall, to accept the Administration's recommendation and to declare financial exigency for the Southern University – Baton Rouge Campus.

The motion failed. Roll call vote: 6 yeas: M. Bell, P. Bell, Forstall, Kelly, Magee, and Smith; 6 nays: Mire, Braxton, Dumas, Lawson, Sumner and Tolbert; 0 abstentions.

AGENDA ITEM 5B: APPROVAL OF THE 2011-2012 OPERATING BUDGET, SUBR

On motion of Mr. Lawson, seconded by Atty. Dumas, the Board approved the following resolution:

RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors for Southern University that the Chancellor of the Southern University – Baton Rouge campus be and he is hereby directed to utilize the authority vested upon his office by the State of Louisiana and the Bylaws of the Board of Supervisors, to balance the Campus' 2011-2012 operating budget by employing current and future furloughs signed by the faculty, possible consolidation of classes, energy conservation, and any other reductions as recorded in the SUBR Budget Reduction Plan and to submit the final document to the Louisiana Board of Regents.

AGENDA ITEM 7: ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Mr. Bell, the meeting was adjourned.

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