

**OKLAHOMA STATE REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION**

Research Park, Oklahoma City

MINUTES OF THE  
COMMITTEE-OF-THE-WHOLE  
Wednesday, September 6, 2017

- 1. ANNOUNCEMENT OF FILING OF MEETING NOTICE AND POSTING OF THE AGENDA IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE OPEN MEETING ACT.** The Committee-of-the-Whole met at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, September 6, 2017, in the Regents Conference Room at the State Regents' offices in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Notice of the meeting was filed with the Secretary of State on October 13, 2016 and revised on September 1, 2017. A copy of the agenda had been posted as required by the Open Meeting Act.
- 2. CALL TO ORDER.** Participating in the meeting were Regents Toney Stricklin, Ron White, Ann Holloway, Andy Lester, Jeff Hickman, Mike Turpen and John Massey. Regent Jay Helm joined the meeting at 10:37 a.m. Regent White called the meeting to order and presided.
- 3. RESEARCH.** Secretary of Science and Technology Dr. Kelvin Droegemeier gave a brief presentation on the University of Oklahoma's (OU) National Weather Center (NWC) and the role higher education plays in research. Dr. Droegemeier began by stating that in 1960 the OU Department of Physics received a grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF) to establish a Meteorology program and in 1962 the Weather Radar Laboratory was established at OU. Over the last 50 years, the NWC has become a confederation of 13 companies employing 800 people with over \$90 million in yearly research and is the largest meteorology program in the nation. The NWC's research strengths include the number of private companies on their campus, their advanced radars, the ability to predict forecasts and the use of OneNet providing networking services.

Dr. Droegemeier stated that computer models used to be the primary source of information for all weather forecasts but they could sometimes be very inaccurate. For instance, in March 2000 an F3 tornado hit Fort Worth, Texas but the computer model showed no precipitation or thunderstorms in the area. In 1989, OU created the Center for Analysis and Prediction of Storms with a grant from the NSF and set out to solve this problem. Using radar data, the NWC created ensemble forecasts, several forecasts merged together to predict the probability of precipitation. Today, the NWC is using ensemble forecasts nationally and can predict very specific storms, sometimes 24 hours ahead of time. Dr. Droegemeier finished by stating that the NWC has installed NEXRAD radar that helps them see what's happening at ground level, not just in the sky and they will also begin manufacturing their own radars in late 2017.

- 4. EXECUTIVE SESSION.** Regent Holloway made a motion, seconded by Regent Helm, to enter executive session for confidential communications between the board and its attorneys concerning pending investigations, claims, or actions. Voting for the motion were Regents White, Holloway, Lester, Hickman, Turpen, Massey, Helm and Stricklin. Voting against the motion were none.

Following executive session discussions, Regents returned to open session.

- 5. BUDGET REPORT AND REVENUE UPDATE.** Vice Chancellor for Budget and Finance Amanda Paliotta stated that the Oklahoma Supreme Court ruled the new cigarette tax to be unconstitutional and that may have an impact on the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education's budget. Additionally, she stated that she received a request from the Oklahoma Senate fiscal staff to submit an agency impact scenario for a 3.17 percent midyear budget

reduction.

6. **LEGISLATIVE UPDATE.** Vice Chancellor for Governmental Relations Todd Pauley gave a brief update on legislative activity. He stated that OneNet hosted a tour of their facilities, the Data Operating Center and the Oklahoma State University Center for Health Sciences mobile telemedicine unit for a group of legislators. He stated that the tour was very successful and left a positive impression with the attendees. Additionally, there are several interim studies coming up that will focus on higher education such as: agency consolidation, cyber technology, and concurrent enrollment.
7. **TASK FORCE REPORTS.**
  - a. **Online Education Task Force.** Vice Chancellor Blanke stated that the next meeting of the Online Education Task Force will be September 7, 2017 and they will have a year-end summary, discussion on the renewed contract with NextThought, and future plans.
  - b. **State Regents Safety and Security Task Force.** Associate Vice Chancellor Angela Caddell updated the Regents on the status of the Campus Safety and Security Task Force. She stated that the task force is currently working to ensure campuses have free or low cost training opportunities, creating a speakers bureau in coordination with the Council on Student Affairs, and beginning preparation for the Campus Safety and Security Summit next fall.
8. **“BEST OF HIGHER EDUCATION” REPORT.** Regents received the September 2017 update on institutional activities via e-mail.
9. **CALENDAR OF EVENTS.** Chancellor Glen D. Johnson discussed several upcoming events:
  - Tuesday, September 19, 2017 – Regents Education Program Annual Conference – 8:00 a.m. in the PHF Conference Center Colloquium Room.
  - Wednesday, October 18, 2017 – State Regents Meeting – 10:30 a.m. at the State Regents office in Oklahoma City.
  - Wednesday, October 18, 2017 – State Regents Task Force on the Future of Higher Education meeting – 1:00 p.m. in the PHF Conference Center Colloquium Room.
  - Wednesday, October 18, 2017 – State Regents Dinner – 6:00 p.m. – location TBA.
  - Thursday, October 19, 2017 – Higher Education Distinguished Service Award Reception for Representative Leslie Osborn – 8:30 a.m. at the State Regents office in Oklahoma City.
  - Thursday, October 19, 2017 – State Regents Meeting – 9 a.m. at the State Regents office in Oklahoma City.
  - Thursday, November 2, 2017 – Governor Fallin’s STEM and Entrepreneurship Summit – 8:00 a.m. at the Cox Convention Center in Oklahoma City.
  - Wednesday, November 15, 2017 – Legislative Forum – 8 a.m. at the Jim Thorpe Museum and Oklahoma Sports Hall of Fame in Oklahoma City.

- Wednesday, December 6, 2017 – State Regents Meeting – 10:30 a.m. at the State Regents office in Oklahoma City.
- Wednesday, December 6, 2017 – State Regents Task Force on the Future of Higher Education meeting – 1:00 p.m. in the PHF Conference Center Colloquium Room.
- Wednesday, December 6, 2017 – State Regents Dinner – 6:00 p.m. – Oklahoma City Golf and Country Club.
- Thursday, December 7, 2017 – State Regents Meeting – 9 a.m. at the State Regents office in Oklahoma City.

**10. ADJOURNMENT.** With no other items to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.

ATTEST

  
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Ron White, Chairman

  
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Jody Parker, Secretary