

OKLAHOMA STATE REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

Research Park, Oklahoma City

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE-OF-THE-WHOLE Wednesday, January 23, 2019

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 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, January 23, 2019, 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 September 18, 2018 and amended January 14, 2019. 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, Jody Parker, Ann Holloway, Andy Lester and Michael C. Turpen. Regent Jeff Hickman joined the meeting at 10:42 a.m. Regents Jay Helm and John Massey were not present. Regent Parker called the meeting to order.
3. **MERCER HAMMOND.** Ms. Beth Johnson and Mr. Tim Westrich from Mercer were present to discuss the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education's current investments and market environment. Mr. Westrich stated that for the one-year period ending in November, the endowment performance was down four percent which is not bad considering how other markets performed. Additionally, Ms. Johnson stated that only one manager lost money because they are closing their investment firm.
4. **WORKFORCE.** Mr. Chad Richison, President and CEO of Paycom, gave a brief presentation on the importance of college graduates in the workforce. Mr. Richison began by stating he grew up in Tuttle, Oklahoma and his first endeavor was a hay-hauling business. He then went to the University of Central Oklahoma on a wrestling scholarship and after graduation took a job processing payroll for a company before starting his own business, Paycom. Paycom was a completely online business when no other businesses at that time were and has grown to locations in all 50 states with over 24,000 clients.

Mr. Richison stated that a college degree is priceless. He stated that teaching should be more experiential and innovative with needed enhancements to curriculum to get students into the right mental state of learning, and he is working with the University of Central Oklahoma to make these needed changes. Mr. Richison finished by thanking the board for having him.
5. **HIGHER EDUCATION DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD.** The State Regents presented a distinguished service award to Representative Kyle Hilbert. Chancellor Glen D. Johnson introduced Representative Hilbert and he gave a few brief remarks.
6. **EXECUTIVE SESSION.** Regent Parker made a motion, seconded by Regent White, 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, Parker, Holloway, Lester, Hickman, Turpen and Stricklin. Voting against the motion were none.
7. **SERVING SPECIAL STUDENT POPULATIONS.**
 - a. Mr. Justin Chase, Director of the RiverHawks Scholar Program, Northeastern State University (NSU), and Ms. Julie Lackey, Founder, LeadLearnLive, gave a brief overview of the NSU RiverHawks Scholar Program. Mr. Chase began by stating that that

RiverHawks program is for students with intellectual or developmental disabilities and is the first comprehensive inclusive transition program in Oklahoma. It is a four-year program and students will earn a certificate upon completion. Students live in campus housing, have a social mentor, and have gainful employment. Mr. Chase stated that 75 percent of RiverHawks scholars go on to live independently after completing the program and 80 percent remain gainfully employed. The students must complete three courses per semester, must choose a major, and have academic tutors and support services.

- b. Ms. Cathy Perri, Director of the Neill-Wint Center for Neurodiversity, University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma (USAO), gave a brief overview of the Neill-Wint Center for Neurodiversity at USAO. Ms. Perri stated that her son, Davis, has autism and when he graduated high school there were no college programs for students like him in Oklahoma, so she collaborated with USAO to create the Neill-Wint Center for Neurodiversity. Students in this program receive a bachelor's degree upon completion, they have peer mentors for their social life, they live on campus in four bedroom apartments with dedicated resident assistants to help with life skills, and they also can have an on-campus job. Mr. Perri stated that the program is privately funded with help from the Inasmuch Foundation and The Wint Family.

8. BUDGET REPORT AND REVENUE UPDATE. Ms. Amanda Paliotta, Vice Chancellor for Budget and Finance, gave a brief budget report. She stated that the Board of Equalization met in December and gave a preliminary estimate of a surplus of \$600 million for fiscal year 2020.

9. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE. Ms. LeeAnna McNally, Vice Chancellor for Governmental Relations, gave a brief legislative report. She began by stating that the legislative tours and distinguished service award presentations have been going very well, and the New Legislator Orientation held on January 7, 2019, was very well attended.

She also stated that she is monitoring higher education bills focusing on concurrent enrollment, tuition waivers and campus safety. Vice Chancellor McNally also noted the following dates:

- a. February 12, 2019 – Higher Education Day at the Capitol
- b. April 9, 2019 – Oklahoma Promise Day at the Capitol

10. TASK FORCE REPORTS.

- a. **Online Education Task Force.** Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs Debbie Blanke stated that the Online Education Task Force will meet on January 24, 2019 and will have an update from the Council on Online Learning Excellence and on the Academic Online Excellence Consortium.
- b. **State Regents' Function Change and Mission Expansion Subcommittee.** Chancellor Johnson stated that the subcommittee last met on January 17, 2019 and the proposed *Function of Public Institutions* policy recommendations will be posted at the January 24, 2019 State Regents meeting.
- c. **State Regents Campus 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 Campus Safety and Security Summit was held on November 1, 2018, at the Reed Center in Midwest City. The Summit was very well attended with 300 attendees and survey results show an overwhelmingly positive response.

11. **“BEST OF HIGHER EDUCATION” REPORT.** Regents received the January 2019 update on institutional activities via e-mail.

12. **CALENDAR OF EVENTS.** Chancellor Johnson discussed several upcoming events:


- Friday, January 25, 2019 – Northwest/North Central Region Higher Education Legislative Tour – 12:30 p.m. at Northern Oklahoma College in Stillwater.
- Tuesday, January 29, 2019 –Central Oklahoma Region Higher Education Legislative Tour – 12:30 p.m. at Rose State College Professional Training and Education Center.
- Wednesday, January 30, 2019 – Joint House A&B Committee and Senate Appropriations Committee Budget Hearing – 3:00 p.m. in the House Chamber at the State Capitol.
- Tuesday, February 12, 2019 –Higher Education Day at the State Capitol – program at 2:00 p.m. at in the House Chamber.
- Wednesday, March 27, 2019 - State Regents Meeting – 10:30 a.m. at a location to be announced in Tulsa.
- Wednesday, March 27, 2019 – State Regents Dinner – 6:00 p.m. – at a location to be announced in Tulsa.
- Thursday, March 28, 2019 – State Regents Meeting – 9:00 a.m. at a location to be announced in Tulsa.
- Tuesday, April 9, 2019 – Oklahoma’s Promise Day at the State Capitol – time TBA.
- Wednesday, April 24, 2019 - State Regents Meeting – 10:30 a.m. at the State Regents’ Office in Oklahoma City.
- Wednesday, April 24, 2019 – State Regents Dinner – 6:00 p.m. – TBA.
- Thursday, April 25, 2019 – Tuition Hearing – 9:00 a.m. at the State Regents’ Office in Oklahoma City.
- Thursday, April 25, 2019 – State Regents Meeting – 10:00 a.m. at the State Regents’ Office in Oklahoma City.

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

ATTEST:



Jay Helm, Chairman



Ann Holloway, Secretary