

OKLAHOMA STATE REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION
655 Research Parkway, Oklahoma City

MINUTES OF THE
COMMITTEE-OF-THE-WHOLE
Wednesday, June 23, 2021

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 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, June 23, 2021 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 June 21, 2021. 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 Jack Sherry, Jody Parker, Ann Holloway, Dennis Casey, Jeff Hickman, Michael C. Turpen, and Steven Taylor. Regent Holloway called the meeting to order. Regent Courtney Warmington joined the meeting in progress. Regent Helm joined the meeting in progress.
3. **STATE REGENTS' PERFORMANCE FUNDING FORMULA.** This item was deleted.
4. **TUITION.**
 - a. **TUITION AND MANDATORY FEES REVIEW.** This item was taken out of order after the Task Force Reports. Chancellor Johnson began by highlighting that the State Regents have made college affordability a top priority, and that since 2009, the average annual increase has been 4.4%. He noted that this ranks Oklahoma Higher Education eleventh in the nation in terms of***student debt ***. He stated that if the numbers that have been submitted by the institutions are approved, the state system of higher education will have an average increase of only 1.3 in tuition and mandatory fees for the 2021-2022 academic year. Chancellor Johnson noted that thirteen of the twenty-five institutions have asked for no fee request.
 - b. **PRESIDENTS' PRESENTATIONS.** The Presidents of the State System institutions were invited to provide Regents with a summary of their tuition, mandatory fees, and academic service fees requests for the 2021-2022 academic year. The schedule of speakers is shown as an attachment to these minutes.
5. **PROPOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION.**
 - a. Possible discussion and vote to enter into executive session pursuant to Title 25, Oklahoma Statutes, Section 307(B)(4) for confidential communications between the board and its attorneys concerning a pending investigation, claim, or action if the board, with advice of its attorney, determines that disclosure will seriously impair the ability of the board to process the claim or conduct a pending investigation, litigation, or proceeding in the public interest. Regent Taylor made a motion, seconded by Regent Parker, 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 Sherry, Warmington, Helm, Parker, Holloway, Casey, Hickman, Turpen, and Taylor. Voting against the motion were none.

- b. Enter into executive session.
 - c. Open session resumes.
 - d. Vote to exit executive session. Regent Parker made a motion, seconded by Regent Helm, to exit executive session. Voting for the motion were Regents Sherry, Warmington, Helm, Parker, Holloway, Casey, Hickman, Turpen, and Taylor. Voting against the motion were none.
6. **BUDGET REPORT AND REVENUE UPDATE.** This item was taken out of order after the Call to Order. Interim Vice Chancellor for Budget and Finance Sheri Mauck provided Regents with a budget and revenue update. Ms. Mauck began by stating that the May 31 General Revenue Allocation numbers were good and that the collections for May were \$623.6 million, which is 24.1 percent above the estimates, and was driven primarily by income taxes and sales tax. She stated that due to the shift in deadline for income taxes, it could be possible to see an impact on the June collections as well. Ms. Mauck stated that individual income tax collections were up \$70.3 million or 43.7 percent above the estimate for May, and sales tax collections up \$22.8 million or 12.6 percent above the estimate for May. She stated that the gross production collections were still down around 2.6 percent below the estimate. She added that they have seen an increase in natural gas tax collections over the last several months so that has outpaced the estimates for May, but that the oil gross production is still drawing the total gross production collection down. Ms. Mauck noted that the cumulative FY21 collections of general revenue, which represent July 2020 through May of 2021, were above the estimates by \$64.7 million or 1.1 percent of the estimates. She stated that state officials have noted that they are hopeful that June collections will continue to stay at the current trend and allow for a deposit into the rainy day fund. She concluded by discussing CARES expenditures reported by the institutions, highlighting that institutions reporting spending \$175.1 million of CARES money and that \$94.9 million had gone to student grants.
7. **LEGISLATIVE UPDATE.** Chancellor Glen D. Johnson provided Regents with the legislative update. He began by first thanking Representative Mark McBride for his support throughout the legislative session and for his attendance at the meeting, and stated that higher education is very appreciative of the additional \$42.4 million in funding appropriated by the Legislature and Governor for Fiscal Year 2022. He highlighted Senate Bill 132 by Senator David Bullard and Representative Baker, which extends the enrollment deadline for the Oklahoma's Promisescholarshipprogram from the end of the 10th grade to the end of the 11th grade year, noting that this expands opportunities for college access and student success. He discussed House Bill 1821 by Representative Mark McBride, Representative Toni Hasenbeck and Senator Dewayne Pemberton, which restructured the Oklahoma Tuition Aid Grant to provide more flexibility. Chancellor Johnson also highlighted Senate Bill 292 by Senator John Haste and Representative Jadine Nolan regarding the creation of a task force to make recommendations on concurrent enrollment needs, noting that their first meeting to be held on September 1st. He also discussed the recommendation from the Task Force on the Future of Higher Education regarding voluntary mergers, and highlighted the voluntary merger between the University Center of Southern Oklahoma and Murray State College. He stated that House Bill 2934 by Speaker Charles McCall and Senate President Pro Tempore Greg Treat that was signed by Governor Stitt on May 18, 2021 authorized this merger. Regent Taylor stated that he wanted to highlight the work by Connors State College, Eastern Oklahoma State College, and Carl Albert State College to share resources in order to save money and provide a more vibrant academic product for the

students of those campuses. Chancellor Johnson stated that they hope to see more collaboration on similar initiatives from institutions that are geographically situated closely together.

8. **TASK FORCE REPORTS.**

a. **Online Education Task Force.** Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs Debbie Blanke began by stating that the Online Education Task Force really guided the work last year for institutions as they transitioned from face-to-face to online instruction. She stated that their goals are to look at what they can do for the institutions to ensure they are providing high quality online instruction, and what can be done for students to ensure that they can access that and be successful and progress toward a degree. Dr. Blanke then provided background on the Council for Online Learning Excellence (COLE) which is composed of institutions and different entities and noted that this group works on ideas, working on policy, advanced technology, professional development, and how students can be successful. She then discussed the Online Consortium of Oklahoma, a member-paying group, which puts funding and implementation behind the ideas that come out of COLE. She stated that COLE is changing their leadership and making sure they have good representation among the tiers and that they are also doing a lot of work with online proctoring. She added that they had arranged for four companies to provide demonstrations of their proctoring capabilities and functionality of their services, and then the group will look to see if there are any opportunities for managed contracts. She stated that as students move online, their goal is to make sure that students have access to resources at low cost or no cost. Dr. Blanke added that OCO has worked on and developed an agreement with PressBooks for open education resources, noting that five institutions have gone unlimited with PressBooks and will be developing a lot of open resources. Dr. Blanke then discussed some course equivalency projects that institutions are working on and mentioned a project with Reach Higher regarding shared curriculum across the state. Dr. Blanke also discussed a Learner Readiness Tool provided by COLE which will help students determine if they are ready and will be successful in an online learning environment. Dr. Blanke concluded by discussing a project they are working on with OneNet regarding a virtual reality tool.

b. **State Regents Campus Safety and Security Task Force.** Associate Vice Chancellor for Communications Angela Caddell provided an update on the Campus Safety and Security Task Force. She began by discussing the Campus Safety and Security Summit planned for November 1 at the Reed Center in Midwest City, noting that keynote speaker, Scott Lewis, will be sponsored by the Oklahoma Office of Homeland Security. She then discussed some of the topics that will be covered during the summit. Ms. Caddell stated that the plan is to repeat every session that they offer so more participants have access to as much of the content as possible. She stated that one of their projects this summer was to work with the Midwest City Police Department to develop a live exercise scenario for the summit. She stated that the next meeting will be on September 1, 2021.

9. **“BEST OF HIGHER EDUCATION.”** Regents received the June 2021 update on institutional activities via e-mail on Tuesday, June 22, 2021.

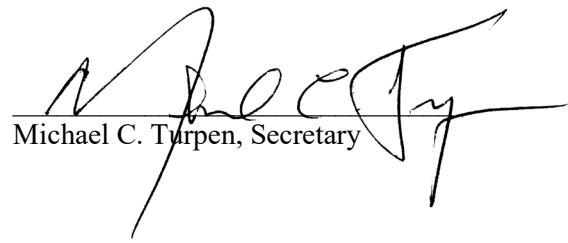
10. **CALENDAR OF EVENTS.** The calendar of events was distributed in written form to the Regents.

11. **RECOGNITION.** Regents recognized 2020 Chair Jody Parker.

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

ATTEST:


Ann Holloway, Chair


Michael C. Turpen, Secretary