

OKLAHOMA STATE REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION
655 Research Parkway, Suite 200 Oklahoma City

**MINUTES OF THE
COMMITTEE-OF-THE-WHOLE**
Wednesday, June 28, 2023

1. **ANNOUNCEMENT OF FILING OF MEETING NOTICE AND POSTING OF THE AGENDA IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE OPEN MEETING ACT.** The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education held a regular meeting at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, June 28, 2023, at the State Regents' offices, 655 Research Parkway, Suite 200, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Notice of the meeting had been filed with the Secretary of State on Wednesday, November 2, 2022. A copy of the agenda for the meeting had been posted in accordance with the Open Meeting Act.
2. **CALL TO ORDER.** Chair Michael C. Turpen called the meeting to order and presided. Present for the meeting were State Regents Michael C. Turpen, Jack Sherry, Dennis Casey, Courtney Warmington, Dustin J. Hilliary, Jeffrey W. Hickman, Phillip Mitchell "Mitch" Adwon and Steven W. Taylor. Regent Ann Holloway did not attend.
3. **SECRETARY OF EDUCATION.** Update on education priorities from Oklahoma's Secretary of State. Chancellor Allison Garrett introduced Dr. Katherine Curry, the Oklahoma Secretary of Education, who expressed that her primary goals for the future of education revolve around addressing the workforce requirements of the State of Oklahoma. Additionally, she emphasized her desire to concentrate the State Department of Education's efforts on childhood literacy, artificial intelligence (AI), and teacher preparation as other key areas of focus.
4. **BLUEPRINT 2030.** Update on progress in support of Strategy #1C – Develop, promote and advertise well-defined career pathways for students in critical workforce areas (e.g., teacher education, aerospace, nursing, engineering, computer science).

Dr. Goldie Thompson, Associate Vice Chancellor for Teacher Preparation and Special Programs, presented an update on the Inspired to Teach Program. She highlighted the critical issue of the national teacher shortage, which is particularly pronounced in Oklahoma, as evidenced by the state starting the 2022-23 school year with 1,019 teaching vacancies. Over a six-year period, approximately 30,000 Oklahoma teachers left the public-school system.

To address this challenge, the Inspired to Teach Program was established during the 2022 legislative session. The program's primary objective is to combat the teacher shortage in Oklahoma by creating a steady stream of high-quality and effective educators for public schools. Aligned with the goals of Blueprint 2030, the Inspired to Teach Program aims to produce graduates who are workforce-ready while also bolstering the student pipeline for future growth.

Representative Mark McBride, chair of the House A&B Subcommittee on Education and author of the Inspired to Teach legislation, addressed the Regents and provided comments in support of the Inspired to Teach Program.

5. **TUITION.**

- a. Tuition and Mandatory Fees Review. Review of 2023-24 institutional tuition and mandatory fee requests. Mark Tygret, Vice Chancellor for Budget & Finance, briefly reviewed the requests being brought forth for consideration by the system presidents. Thirteen of the State Institutions are requesting an increase in either tuition and fees while twelve are not raising either tuition or fees. The system-wide average of increase is 1.8% for resident in-state tuition and fees.
- b. Presidents Presentations. College and University Presidents present tuition and mandatory fee requests. The following Presidents requesting increases provided brief presentations and answered question from the Regents.

University of Oklahoma	President Joe Harroz
University of Central Oklahoma	Interim President Andrew Benton
Southwestern Oklahoma State University	President Diana Lovell
East Central University	President Wendell Godwin
Northeastern State University	President Steve Turner
Southeastern Oklahoma State University	President Thomas Newsom
Murray State College	Vice President Justin Cellum
Northern Oklahoma College	President Clark Harris
Langston University	Interim President Ruth Ray Jackson
Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College	President Kyle Stafford
Oklahoma Panhandle State University	President Julie Dinger
Cameron University	President John McArthur
Rogers State University	President Larry Rice

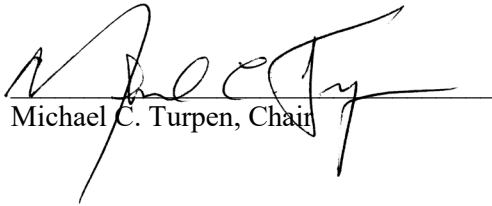
- 6. **BUDGET REPORT AND REVENUE UPDATE.** Report on the State budget and revenue. Mark Tygret, Vice Chancellor for Budget and Finance, explained that it was a very good year for higher education and the State of Oklahoma.
- 7. **LEGISLATIVE UPDATE.** Update on legislative activity. Dr. Jarrett Jobe, Vice Chancellor for Governmental Relations, stated that the State Legislature is currently in a special session to discuss the potential override of vetoes by the Governor. During his review, he addressed the status of property insurance increases and explored potential legislative methods to counteract these increases. He indicated that Representative Chris Sneed has expressed his intent to conduct an interim study on this particular topic. Additionally, Dr. Jobe highlighted other proposed interim studies that will be undertaken, focusing on concurrent enrollment, the teacher pipeline, workforce and Oklahoma's Promise.
- 8. **PROPOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION.** Matt Stangl, General Council indicated that an executive session was not needed at this time.

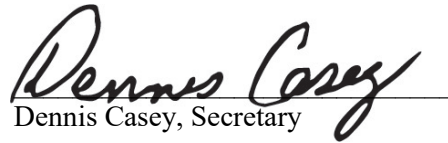
Possible discussion and vote to enter into executive session pursuant to 25 O.S. § 307(B)(4) for confidential communications between the board and its attorneys concerning: (1) Shepherd v. Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, et al., CJ-2020-2383, Oklahoma County District Court; (2) Black Emergency Response Team, et al. v. O'Connor, et al., Case No. 5:21-cv-01022-G, in the United States District Court for the Western District of Oklahoma; (3) Wisdom Ministries, Inc. v. Garrett, et al., Case No. 4:22-cv-00477-CVE, in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Oklahoma; and (4) Larry Love University, Muskogee, if the board, with the

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.

9. **“BEST OF HIGHER EDUCATION.”** Regents received the June 2023 update on institutional activities via e-mail.
10. **CALENDAR OF EVENTS.** The calendar of events was distributed in written form to the Regents.
11. **ADJOURNMENT.** With no other items to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.

ATTEST:


Michael C. Turpen, Chair


Dennis Casey, Secretary