

## MINUTES

May 29, 2024

Via Videoconference and PBS North Carolina Livestream

### Call to Order

The University of North Carolina Board of Governors met in special session on May 29, 2024, via videoconference and PBS North Carolina Livestream. Chair Randy Ramsey called the meeting to order at 1 p.m. He welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked Secretary Meredith McCullen to call the roll.

### Roll Call

Secretary McCullen called the roll. The following members were present:

Lee Barnes	John Fraley
Kellie Hunt Blue	Reginald Ronald Holley
Kirk Bradley	Mark Holton
Cameron Brown	Terry Hutchens
Harry Brown	Alex Mitchell
Pearl Burris-Floyd	Wendy Murphy
C. Philip Byers	Sonja Phillips Nichols
Swadesh Chatterjee	Randy Ramsey
Jimmy D. Clark	O. Temple Sloan
Carolyn Coward	Woody White
Gene Davis	
Joel D. Ford	

The following members were absent:

Art Pope  
Michael Williford

### State Ethics Act

Chair Ramsey stated that under the State Ethics Act, members have a duty to avoid conflicts of interest and appearances of conflicts and asked if anyone had a potential conflict. There were none.

Chair Ramsey called for a motion to go into closed session.

**Motion:** Resolved, that the Board go into closed session pursuant to N.C. General Statutes §143-748 and §143-318.11(a)(1), (2), (3), and (6), for the purposes stated in the written motion that was included in the meeting materials, which have been publicly noticed (APPENDIX A). The motion was properly seconded.

**Motion:** Mr. Davis

**Motion carried**

The Board went into closed session at 1:04 p.m. and returned to open session at 1:14 p.m. Chair Ramsey called on Mrs. Coward to give the report of the Committee on University Personnel.

#### **Report of the Committee on University Personnel**

Mrs. Coward, chair of the committee, stated in the Committee on University Personnel's meeting earlier that day, President Peter Hans, in closed session, presented his nominee for the next chancellor of Winston-Salem State University. The Committee on University Personnel voted to accept the president's recommendation and to submit his nominee and the proposed terms of appointment to the full Board. She asked President Hans to present this candidate for an open session vote.

#### **President's Report**

President Hans nominated Ms. Bonita J. Brown to be the next chancellor of Winston-Salem State University. He thanked provost Dr. Anthony Graham for his thoughtful leadership over the past year, serving as interim chancellor. President Hans stated Ms. Brown has demonstrated confident leadership at the highest levels of universities in three states and has devoted her life and talent to educational access and student success. As an attorney, daughter of WSSU alumni, and double graduate of Wake Forest University, Ms. Brown has deep roots in Winston-Salem. He noted her fluency in the language of policymakers and public officials, as well as her commitment to putting students first. President Hans spoke of her numerous past successes at other institutions of higher learning, as well as nonprofits. She knows the value of education, and stated her prior roles demanded experience across a range of functions. He noted her experience in ensuring that Northern Kentucky University, where she served as interim president, emerged "stronger and better prepared for a changing higher education landscape." He reported that WSSU is a special place and requires a leader with passion, enthusiasm, and a strong work ethic; Ms. Brown has it all. He thanked the members of the search advisory committee for their thoughtful and constructive process, noting the leadership of WSSU Board of Trustees Chair Kathleen Kelly. He said the state's public HBCUs are a source of pride for the state, and he was impressed by the strength of the candidates in the applicant pool.

For President Hans' complete report, please see (APPENDIX B).

**Motion:** Resolved, that on behalf of the Committee on University Personnel, I move that the Board of Governors vote to elect Ms. Bonita Brown as chancellor of Winston-Salem State University.

**Motion:** Mrs. Coward

**Motion carried**

Chair Ramsey congratulated Chancellor-elect Brown. He asked if there were any more questions. There were none. He reminded the Board of the confidential nature of the search materials, and that materials will be presented two days in advance of the meetings.

There being no further business and without objection, the meeting was adjourned at 1:26 p.m. The next meeting of the Board of Governors is scheduled for Thursday, June 6, 2024, via videoconference and PBS North Carolina Livestream.

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Pearl Burris-Floyd, *Secretary*

## **APPENDICES**

The Appendices are part of the official record of the meeting and are posted on the UNC System website at:

<http://www.northcarolina.edu/apps/bog/index.php>

Appendix A      Closed Session Motion

Appendix B      President Hans' Report