

AGENDA
ARKANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
July 30, 2010
1:30 p.m.
Arkansas State University Little Rock Office

I. Call to Order
Mrs. Florine Tousant Milligan, Chair

II. Report on Presidential Search Process
Mrs. Milligan

*III. Agenda

- Proposed ASU System Resolutions

- Resolution recommending and requesting that the Arkansas State University Foundation retain Dr. Tom Meredith and Effective Leadership, LLC to assist in the search for a new president of the ASU System.

- Resolution naming a search advisory committee to participate in the search for a new president of the ASU System.

IV. Other Business

*V. Adjournment

*Action Items

**Arkansas State University
Board of Trustees
July 30, 2010**

The Arkansas State University Board of Trustees met on July 30, 2010, in the conference room of the ASU System Office in Little Rock. Mrs. Florine Milligan, chair of the Board of Trustees, called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. Board members present were: Mrs. Florine Milligan, Mr. Howard Slinkard, Mr. Ron Rhodes, Mr. Mike Gibson, and Mr. Dan Pierce.

Mrs. Milligan announced that the search process for a new president to lead the ASU System will begin today.

ASU System Resolutions:

- Resolution 10-56 approving ASU System to recommend and request that the ASU Foundation retain Dr. Tom Meredith and Effective Leadership, LLC to assist in the search for a new president of the ASU System.

Dr. Robert Potts, interim president of the ASU System, stated that finding the right person for job is a significant task and that most president and chancellor searches at major public universities are conducted with the assistance of a professional search consultant. He cited the relative infrequency of such vacancies, and the need for objective current advice and guidance from experts in such searches. Search firms also have current and nation-wide knowledge of the academic landscape and access to potential candidates with the qualification needed for the job. They offer objectivity in evaluating candidates, narrowing the candidate pool, and conducting background searches. In addition, search consultants assist with the transition to a new president, including conducting contract negotiations for the board. Several firms were considered, but based on the qualifications and cost, Dr. Potts recommended to the board that it recommend to

the ASU Foundation the employment of Dr. Tom Meredith of Effective Leadership, LLC, for assistance with the search.

Upon motion by Mr. Slinkard, second by Mr. Gibson, Resolution 10-56 was approved.

AYES: Milligan, Slinkard, Rhodes, Gibson, Pierce

NAYS: None

- Resolution 10-57 approving the ASU System to name a search advisory committee to participate in the search for a new president of the ASU System.

Mrs. Milligan stated that the advisory committee will assist the board in the listening process and the screening and interviewing of candidates. She recommended the following as members of the Presidential Search Advisory Committee: Florine Milligan, chair; Pat Bailey, provost and vice chancellor for Academic Affairs, ASU-Mountain Home; Dan Howard, interim chancellor, ASU-Jonesboro; JW Mason, vice chancellor for Administrative Services, ASU-Jonesboro and ASU System; Beverly McCollum, chair elect, Jonesboro Regional Chamber of Commerce Executive Committee; Eugene McKay, chancellor, ASU-Beebe; Harold Perrin, Trustee Emeritus; Randall Pope, board chair, Arkansas State University Foundation; Robert Potts, interim president, ASU System; Mary Robertson, vice chancellor for Student Affairs, ASU-Newport; and Paul Rowton, president, Arkansas State University Alumni Association. Pam Kail, executive assistance to the President, will serve as the liaison for the board and advisory committee. She said that it is not customary to include representatives from the faculty, staff, or students as a part of the advisory committee when selecting a CEO of a university system; however all constituent groups will have input when the committee visits the campuses for listening sessions.

Upon motion by Mr. Pierce, second by Mr. Rhodes, Resolution 10-57 was approved.

AYES: Milligan, Slinkard, Rhodes, Gibson, Pierce

NAYS: None

Other Business

Dr. Tom Meredith thanked the board for the opportunity to assist in the search and added that nothing the board will do will be more important than the selection of a new system president. Under his direction, a list of characteristics for the new president and a job description will be developed. Listening sessions to obtain input from constituents will be scheduled for groups on- and off-campus. After the sessions, modifications can be made and then the advertisement for the position will be placed. He stressed finding the right person by the end of the year is an ambitious but doable schedule; however he advised the board that it is critical to get the right person and they should not be bound to the timeline.

Dr. Meredith would like to meet with the Search Advisory Committee in Jonesboro on Friday, August 6, to have Mrs. Milligan deliver their charge and outline of responsibilities to the committee. Then, within the next two weeks, conduct listening sessions. Around August 20 the ad should be finalized. He will begin immediately making contact with individuals to identify potential candidates. He also said that all listening sessions and meetings of the Search Advisory Committee may be open to the public until such time that individual applicants are discussed. Dr. Meredith reiterated that the committee is an advisory committee not a decision-making one and that the final decision rests with the board.


Mr. Slinkard asked how many chief executive officer positions are currently open that are similar to ASU. Dr. Meredith reported that in the Mid-South there is one in Arkansas and one in Louisiana.

Mrs. Milligan said that the search process has officially begun and a formal plan will be adopted. A system profile is being developed for marketing purposes, as well as a list of characteristics of the new president, a job description, and the advertisement for the position. A search website also is being created. It is the desire of the board to have interviews in the fall and a new president in place by January 2011, but the process will not be rushed and the timeline may be extended if necessary. Cost of the search was considered as well as the expertise of the search consultant in developing the plan. On behalf of the entire board, she asked all that persons present and all constituency groups within the ASU System assist in developing a large, diverse and high-quality pool of candidates for this important position.


Upon motion by Mr. Rhodes, second by Mr. Slinkard, the meeting adjourned at 1:55 p.m.

AYES: Milligan, Slinkard, Rhodes, Gibson, Pierce

NAYS: None



Ron Rhodes, Secretary



Florine Tousant Milligan, Chair

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Contact: Robert L. Potts (870) 933-7900

ACTION ITEM: Dr. Robert Potts, Interim President of the Arkansas State University System (ASU System), recommends that a consultant be retained to assist with the search for a new president of the ASU System.

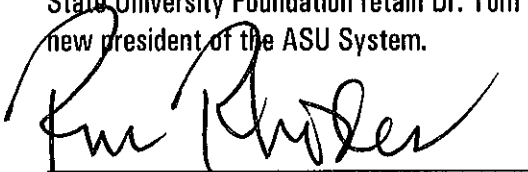
ISSUE: The Board of Trustees is responsible for appointing the president of the university system and wishes to conduct a search process that results in an excellent and diverse pool of candidates from which to select an outstanding president.

BACKGROUND:

- Dr. Leslie Wyatt resigned as president of the Arkansas State University System effective June 30, 2010.
- The Board of Trustees is responsible for establishing the search process for a new president to replace Dr. Wyatt.
- Use of a search consultant is considered a "best practice" for helping to fill vacancies at this level of higher education.
- Excellent search consultants have current, nationwide knowledge of the academic landscape and of potential candidates suitable to serve as a university system president.
- An external firm will provide expertise in assisting in the search process as well as providing objectivity to help evaluate the slate of candidates for consideration.
- Dr. Tom Meredith of the firm Effective Leadership, LLC is recommended to assist in this important search.

RECOMMENDATION/RESOLUTION:

Be it resolved that the Arkansas State University Board of Trustees recommends and requests that the Arkansas State University Foundation retain Dr. Tom Meredith and Effective Leadership, LLC to assist in the search for a new president of the ASU System.



Ron Rhodes, Secretary


Florine Tousant Milligan, Chair

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Contact: Robert L. Potts (870) 933-7900

ACTION ITEM:

Dr. Robert Potts, Interim President of the Arkansas State University System (ASU System), recommends that the Board of Trustees of Arkansas State University name a search advisory committee to participate in the search for a new president of the ASU System.

ISSUE:

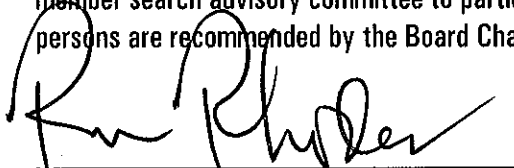
The Board of Trustees is responsible for appointing the president of the university system and wishes to establish a search process that results in an excellent and diverse pool of candidates from which to select an outstanding president.

BACKGROUND:

- Dr. Leslie Wyatt resigned as president of the Arkansas State University System effective June 30, 2010.
- The Board of Trustees is responsible for establishing the search process for a new president to replace Dr. Wyatt.
- A search advisory committee will be a valuable resource to the Board of Trustees as it assists the board in the development of an ASU System profile, a statement of desired qualifications for a new president, and an advertisement for the position; by participating in the listening process with constituents of the system; by assisting with the screening process; by participating in the interview process in a manner prescribed by the board; and in other ways to facilitate the development and narrowing of an excellent and diverse candidate pool from which the Board of Trustees can make a selection.

RECOMMENDATION/RESOLUTION:

Be it resolved that the Arkansas State University Board of Trustees hereby approves the naming of an eleven-member search advisory committee to participate in the search for a new president of the ASU System which persons are recommended by the Board Chair and are listed on Attachment "A" hereto.



Ron Rhodes, Secretary



Florine Tousant Milligan, Chair

Attachment "A"

ASU System Presidential Search Advisory Committee

Chair of the Committee:

Mrs. Florine Tousant Milligan - Chair, Arkansas State University Board of Trustees

Members of the Committee:

Dr. Pat Bailey - Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, ASU-Mountain Home

Dr. Dan Howard - Interim Chancellor, ASU-Jonesboro

Dr. JW Mason, Vice Chancellor for Administrative Services, ASU-Jonesboro and ASU System

Ms. Beverly McCollum - Chairman Elect, Jonesboro Regional Chamber of Commerce Executive Committee

Dr. Eugene McKay - Chancellor, ASU-Beebe

Mayor Harold Perrin - Trustee Emeritus

Mr. Randall Pope - Board Chair, Arkansas State University Foundation

Dr. Robert Potts - Interim President, ASU System

Dr. Mary Robertson, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, ASU-Newport

Mr. Paul Rowton - President, Arkansas State University Alumni Association