

MINUTES

OF THE

SPECIAL TELEPHONIC MEETING OF THE

BOARD OF REGENTS

OF

THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

HELD IN

COLLEGE STATION, TEXAS

January 3, 2008

(Approved March 27-28, 2008)

TABLE OF CONTENTS

**MINUTES OF THE
SPECIAL TELEPHONIC MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS
January 3, 2008**

CONVENE..... 1

RECESS TO EXECUTIVE SESSION..... 1

RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION..... 2

*MINUTE ORDER 01-2008 (AGENDA ITEM 1) APPOINTMENT OF DR. ELSA MURANO
AS PRESIDENT OF TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY AND DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY TO
CONFIRM THE TERMS OF THE EMPLOYMENT, THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM*..... 2

*MINUTE ORDER 02-2008 (AGENDA ITEM 2) APPOINTMENT OF MR. GARY F. SERA
AS DIRECTOR OF THE TEXAS ENGINEERING EXTENSION SERVICE,
THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM*..... 3

ADJOURNMENT..... 3

**MINUTES OF THE
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OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS
January 3, 2008**

CONVENE

Mr. Bill Jones, Chairman of the Board, convened a special telephonic meeting of the Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System, at 9:05 a.m., on Thursday, January 3, 2008, in the Board of Regents Meeting Room, Memorial Student Center, on the campus of Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas.

The following members of the Board were present by telephone:

Mr. Bill Jones, Chairman
Mr. John White, Vice Chairman
Mr. Morris Foster
Mr. Lupe Fraga
Mr. J.L. Huffines
Mr. Erle Nye
Mr. Gene Stallings
Ms. Ida Clement Steen
Mr. Jim Wilson
Ms. Cassie Daniel (Student Regent)

Mr. Jones said in accordance with the Texas Government Code that allows governing boards to meet by telephone, each party to the conference call must clearly identify himself/herself prior to speaking. Mr. Jones called the roll and said a quorum was present.

Mr. Jones said the posted purpose of this special meeting was to consider and take action on the following items: Item 1 - Appointment of Dr. Elsa Murano as President of Texas A&M University and Delegation of Authority to Confirm the Terms of the Employment; and Item 2 - Appointment of Mr. Gary F. Sera as Director of the Texas Engineering Extension Service.

RECESS TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 9:08 a.m., Mr. Jones announced that having convened in open session, the Board would enter into executive session to consider matters as permitted by Section 551.074 of the Texas Government Code (deliberations regarding personnel matters relating to appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline or dismissal of an officer or employee, or to hear complaints or charges against an officer or employee).

Mr. Jones said in accordance with the law, no final action, decision, or vote with regard to any matter considered in the executive session would be made or taken. Mr. Jones asked the following members of the administration to stay for the executive session: Dr. Mike McKinney (Chancellor), Mr. Jay Kimbrough (Deputy Chancellor and General Counsel), and Ms. Vickie Spillers (Executive Secretary to the Board).

RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION

Mr. Jones reconvened the meeting in open session at 9:28 a.m. He announced that the Board met in executive session from 9:08 a.m. until 9:27 a.m. and considered Items 1 and 2. He said in accordance with the law, no final action, decision or vote with regard to any matter considered in the executive session had been made or taken.

Mr. Jones presented Item 1 and the Board took action as set forth below:

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**MINUTE ORDER 01-2008 (AGENDA ITEM 1)**

**APPOINTMENT OF  
DR. ELSA MURANO  
AS PRESIDENT OF TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY  
AND DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY TO  
CONFIRM THE TERMS OF THE EMPLOYMENT,  
THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM**

Mr. Nye moved adoption of the minute order. Mr. White seconded the motion. Mr. Jones said that he would call the regents names so their votes were properly recorded. The regents voted as follows: Foster – yes, Fraga – yes, Huffines – yes, Nye – yes, Stallings – no, Steen – yes, White – yes, Wilson – yes. Mr. Jones said he voted “yes.” The following minute order was adopted:

“Dr. Elsa Murano is hereby appointed President of Texas A&M University of The Texas A&M University System, at an initial salary of \$425,000, effective immediately.

“The Chancellor of The Texas A&M University System is hereby delegated the authority to confirm the terms of employment with Dr. Murano.”

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Mr. Jones said that Item 1 was approved. Mr. Nye said he had been very encouraged by Dr. Murano’s outreach to the various constituencies around the campus, students, faculty, administration and support organizations. He said she has demonstrated an openness to the faculty and staff which was very healthy and commended her for her efforts.

Mr. Jones presented Item 2 and the Board took action as set forth below:

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**MINUTE ORDER 02-2008 (AGENDA ITEM 2)**

**APPOINTMENT OF  
MR. GARY F. SERA  
AS DIRECTOR OF THE  
TEXAS ENGINEERING EXTENSION SERVICE,  
THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM**

Mr. White moved adoption of the minute order. Mr. Nye seconded the motion. Mr. Jones said that he would call the regents names so their votes were properly recorded. The regents voted as follows: Foster – yes, Fraga – yes, Huffines – yes, Nye – yes, Stallings – yes, Steen – yes, White – yes, Wilson – yes. Mr. Jones said that he voted “yes.” The following minute order was adopted:

Mr. Gary F. Sera is hereby appointed Director of the Texas Engineering Extension Service of The Texas A&M University System, at an initial salary of \$176,400, effective immediately.

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Mr. Nye asked the staff to prepare a draft resolution to express the Board’s appreciation, admiration and respect for Dr. Ed Davis, Interim President of Texas A&M University. Mr. Jones said he thought that would be very appropriate. Mr. Jones said the Board appreciated Dr. Davis’ service and dedication. He added that Dr. Davis would continue to serve as President of the Texas A&M Foundation. Mr. Jones asked that the resolution be prepared for the January 24-25, 2008, Board meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Mr. Nye, seconded by Mr. Huffines and by a unanimous vote, the special telephonic meeting was adjourned at 9:33 a.m., the same day.

Vickie Burt Spillers
Executive Secretary to the Board
The Texas A&M University System