

MINUTES

**SPECIAL TELEPHONIC MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF REGENTS**

THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

HELD IN

COLLEGE STATION, TEXAS

December 5, 2018

(Approved January 17, 2019)

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BOARD OF REGENTS**

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**MINUTES OF THE
SPECIAL TELEPHONIC MEETING
BOARD OF REGENTS, THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM**

December 5, 2018

CONVENE

Chairman Charles W. Schwartz convened a special telephonic meeting of the Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System at 3:00 p.m., Wednesday, December 5, 2018, in the Board of Regents Meeting Room, on the campus of Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas.

As the first order of business, Chairman Schwartz acknowledged the passing of President George H. W. Bush. He said on this national day of mourning, the Board convened in memory of President Bush and his lifetime of public service. He said they were thankful for his life as a member of our country, as a member of the military service, as a member of our state, and then ultimately as our leading Aggie. He stated that they were grateful that President Bush chose Texas A&M University as the home of his presidential library and the next day they would welcome President Bush home for the last time. Chairman Schwartz said, "Rest in peace Mr. President, we will see you tomorrow."

Chairman Schwartz said the Board would have a formal resolution at the January regular meeting, but given that this is a national day of mourning, the Board felt it appropriate to lead this special meeting with an acknowledgement of President Bush's unbelievable life.

Chairman Schwartz said the purpose of this meeting was for the consideration and action on three agenda items as shown in the agenda materials posted with the Secretary of State. He said that each party to the conference call should clearly identify himself or herself prior to speaking.

The following members of the Board were present by phone:

Mr. Charles W. Schwartz, Chairman
Ms. Elaine Mendoza, Vice Chairman
Mr. Phil Adams
Mr. Anthony G. Buzbee
Mr. Morris Foster
Mr. Tim Leach
Mr. Bill Mahomes
Mr. Clifton L. Thomas, Jr.

The following members of the Board were not present:

Mr. Robert L. Albritton
Mr. Ervin Bryant (Student Regent)

RECESS TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairman Schwartz announced that a quorum was present and said the Board would recess to executive session to consider matters as permitted by Chapter 551, Sections 71 and 74 of the Texas Government Code. He 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.

(Note: The Board met in executive session from 3:04 p.m. until 3:12 p.m.)

RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION

Chairman Schwartz reconvened the meeting in open session at 3:13 p.m. and announced that the Board had met in executive session from 3:04 p.m. until 3:12 p.m., and conferred with Chancellor Sharp, administration and attorneys on personnel and legal matters.

Chairman Schwartz called for a motion regarding Items 1 and 2. Vice Chairman Mendoza moved for adoption of the minute orders contained in Items 1 and 2. Regent Adams seconded the motion. Chairman Schwartz called each regent's name for the vote. The record of the vote is as follows: Adams – yes, Buzbee – yes, Foster – yes, Leach – yes, Mahomes – yes, Mendoza – yes, Thomas – yes, and Chairman Schwartz voted “yes.”

The following minute orders were approved (265 through 266).

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**MINUTE ORDER 265-2018 (ITEM 1)**

**APPOINTMENT OF CHIEF W. NIM KIDD  
AS VICE CHANCELLOR FOR DISASTER AND EMERGENCY SERVICES,  
THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM**

Effective immediately, the Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System hereby appoints Chief W. Nim Kidd as Vice Chancellor for Disaster and Emergency Services, The Texas A&M University System, at an initial salary of \$400,000.

**MINUTE ORDER 266-2018 (ITEM 2)**

**APPOINTMENT OF MS. JENNY E. JONES  
AS VICE CHANCELLOR FOR GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS,  
THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM**

Effective immediately, the Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System hereby appoints Ms. Jenny E. Jones as Vice Chancellor for Governmental Relations, The Texas A&M University System, at an initial salary of \$345,000.

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Chairman Schwartz presented Item 3 and said it relates to the formation of a special committee of the Board of Regents on the general subject of deferred maintenance. He said over the last several years, the Board has focused significant attention on the issue of deferred maintenance adding that this has been a topic of discussion in the Committee on Buildings and Physical Plant meetings, the strategic planning session, the budget reviews and the Committee on Finance meetings. He said at the recent workshop, the Board received a briefing from Mr. Joseph Duron, A&M System Executive Director for Budgets and Accounting, and Dr. Jerry Strawser, A&M Executive Vice President for Finance & Administration and Chief Financial Officer, to update them on deferred maintenance. During that briefing, the Board was informed that the estimated replacement value of the educational and general campus facilities is approximately \$1.5 billion and estimated deferred maintenance is about 5% of that figure. The Board was also advised that the A&M System was projecting to spend approximately \$60 million per year for the next several years on deferred maintenance and facility renewal projects. Chairman Schwartz said while the overall condition of these facilities is good, it is important that we continue to monitor this issue. He said at the suggestion of several regents, the formation of a special committee to oversee the deferred maintenance issue was desirable. He suggested Regent Leach from the Committee on Buildings and Physical Plant, Regent Mahomes from the Committee on Finance and Regent Foster who expressed a particular interest and expertise in this matter in prior meetings, and himself, be on this special committee. Chairman Schwartz added that he proposed Regent Leach chair the committee. He said as a special committee, the Board's bylaws provide that the committee have a single year of existence, subject to renewal. He said the committee would not have any power other than to report to the Board. He asked if there was any discussion or questions. There was none.

Chairman Schwartz called for a motion regarding Item 3. Regent Leach moved for adoption of the minute order contained in Item 3. Regent Foster seconded the motion. Chairman Schwartz called each regent's name for the vote. The record of the vote is as follows: Adams – yes, Buzbee – yes, Foster – yes, Leach – yes, Mahomes – yes, Mendoza – yes, Thomas – yes, and Chairman Schwartz voted “yes.”

The following minute order was approved (267).

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**MINUTE ORDER 267-2018 (ITEM 3)**

**FORMATION OF A  
SPECIAL COMMITTEE OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS  
ON DEFERRED MAINTENANCE,  
THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM**

The formation of a Board of Regents' Special Committee on Deferred Maintenance is hereby approved. Regents Charles Schwartz, Morris Foster, Bill Mahomes, and Tim Leach are appointed to this special committee, and Regent Leach is designated as its chairman. This special committee shall be advisory to the Board, shall provide oversight of system deferred maintenance activities and expenditures, and shall report to the Board on significant matters relating to such activities as appropriate.

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ADJOURN

There being no further business, on motion of Regent Mahomes, Chairman Schwartz adjourned the meeting at 3:18 p.m.

Vickie Burt Spillers
Executive Director, Board of Regents

(Minutes transcribed by Jackie Bell, Office of the Board of Regents.)