

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE  
UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
VIA VIRTUALLY  
LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS  
11:00 A.M., JUNE 26, 2023

TRUSTEES PRESENT:

Chairman Morrill Harriman; Trustees Kelly Eichler; Ed Fryar, Ph.D.; Nate Todd and Kevin Crass.

TRUSTEES PRESENT VIA ZOOM:

Trustees Sheffield Nelson; Tommy Boyer; Steve Cox; Ted Dickey and Jeremy Wilson.

UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATORS  
AND OTHERS PRESENT:

System Administration:

President Donald R. Bobbitt, Vice President for Academic Affairs Michael Moore, Interim General Counsel Patrick Hollingsworth, Associate General Counsel Sarah James, Vice President for Finance and Chief Financial Officer Tara Smith, Associate Chief Audit Executive Laura Cheak, Associate Vice President for Finance Chaundra Hall, Senior Director of Policy and Public Affairs Ben Beaumont, Director of Communications Nate Hinkel, Chief Information Officer Steven Fulkerson, Assistant to the President Angela Hudson and Associate for Administration Sylvia White.

Campus Representatives:

UAF Chancellor Charles Robinson, Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration Ann Bordelon, Vice Chancellor and Athletic Director Hunter Yurachek, Deputy Athletic Director-CFO Clayton Hamilton, Associate Vice Chancellor for Facilities Scott Turley and Vice Chancellor for Economic Development Mike Malone; UALR Chancellor Christina Drale and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Ann Bain; UAFS Chancellor Terisa Riley, Vice Chancellor Finance and Administration Carey

Tucker and Director of Athletics Curtis Janz;  
UAPB Chancellor Laurence Alexander, Vice  
Chancellor for Finance and Administration  
Carla Martin; Interim Provost and Vice  
Chancellor for Academic Affairs Andrea  
Stewart.

Members of the Press.

The special meeting of the Board of Trustees of the University of Arkansas was called to order at 11:00 a.m. on Monday, June 26, 2023, in Little Rock, Arkansas, and via virtually. Upon motion of Trustee Eichler and second by Trustee Fryar, Chairman Harriman stated the Board would go into Executive Session for the purpose of considering the approval of salaries in excess of the line item maximum and the employment, appointment, promotion, demotion, disciplining or resignation of public officers or employees for the various campuses of the University of Arkansas System.

1. Executive Session:

Chairman Harriman reconvened the Regular Session of the Board at 12:59 p.m. and called for action on the following matters discussed in Executive Session:

1.1 Approval of Salaries in Excess of the Line-Item Maximum, UAF:

Upon motion by Trustee Eichler and second by Trustee Fryar, the following resolution was approved.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS THAT salaries, as set forth below, in excess of the line-item maximum established by law, are hereby approved for the following individuals at the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, in accordance with Arkansas Code Annotated section 6-62-103:

Deke Adams, Assistant Football Coach	\$607,200*
Michael Adams, Assistant Golf Coach	\$132,000*
Anthony Alaniz, Associate Athletic Trainer	\$78,350*
Christopher Bader, Mental Health Clinician	\$119,749*
One-time Merit	\$2,281
Ann Bordelon, Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration	\$346,500

Car allowance	\$12,000
One-time Merit	\$6,600
Howard Brill, University Professor	\$258,077
One-time Merit	
Christopher Brooks, Assistant Gymnastics Coach	\$140,500*
Jeremy R. Carrell, HE Public Safety Commander I	\$94,237
One-time Merit	\$1,306
Doug Case, Assistant Track Coach	\$305,353*
Michael Cawood, Media Facilities Coordinator	\$108,789*
Mathew Clark, Assistant Coach	\$98,350*
Tucker, Clary, Head Women's Tennis Coach	\$168,400*
Effective retroactive to 6/1/23	
Jason Clendenin, Pilot	\$115,500*
One-time Merit	\$2,200
Bryan Compton, Assistant Track Coach	\$214,797*
Derita Renee-Ratcliffe Dawkins, Deputy Director of Athletics	\$265,490*
Courtney Deifel, Head Softball Coach	\$628,125*
Katherine Devenport, Project/Program Specialist	\$100,794*
Dawn Didier, Associate Athletic Trainer	\$86,702*
Patrick Doherty, Sr. Project/Program Director	\$246,000*
Effective retroactive to 5/16/23	
Matthew Downs, Project/Program Specialist	\$154,210*
Megan Elliott, Project/Program Specialist	\$123,600*
John English, Professor	\$375,896
One-time Merit	\$7,299
Dan Enos, Offensive Coordinator	\$1,273,867*

Effective retroactive to 1/19/23	
Shauna Estes-Taylor, Head Golf Coach	\$365,567*
Christopher Evans, Academic Counselor	\$117,689*
Hunter Scott Fountain, Assistant Football Coach	\$693,867*
Suzie Fritz, Assistant Volleyball Coach Effective retroactive to 3/1/23	\$112,667*
Ryan Gearheart, Associate Director of Strength and Conditioning Coach	\$141,333*
Travis Geopfert, Assistant Track Coach	\$244,703*
Amanda Gilpin, Project/Program Specialist Effective retractive to 5/16/23	\$177,333*
Sarah Goforth, Director of Outreach One-time Merit	\$227,864 \$3,814
Lacy Goldwire, Assistant Basketball Coach	\$253,543*
Varun Grover, Distinguished Professor WCOB One-time Merit	\$442,676* \$6,877
Kenny Guiton, Assistant Football Coach	\$460,533*
Colby Hale, Head Soccer Coach	\$395,033*
Kevin Hall, Associate Dean of Academics, COE One-time Merit	\$311,585 \$6,050
Riley Hall, Director of Internal Operations	\$96,133*
Clayton Hamilton, Executive Associate Athletic Director	\$269,633*
Neal Harper, Head Swimming Coach	\$255,067*
Jonathan Harvey, Assistant Soccer Coach	\$126,000*
Tamaria Hibbler, Assistant Trainer	\$87,701*
Rodney Hill, Assistant Coach	\$117,333*

David Hinton, Associate Director of Technology Ventures One-time Merit	\$190,866 \$3,250
Matt Hobbs, Assistant Baseball Coach	\$439,333*
Karla Horsfall, Nutritionist	\$143,000*
Chris Johnson, Assistant Track Coach	\$291,678*
Cody Kennedy, Assistant Football Coach	\$873,867*
Andrew Kreis, Assistant Trainer	\$82,043*
Todd Lee, Project/Program Manager	\$123,600*
Antornette Pauline Love, Assistant Basketball Coach	\$250,427*
Colin MacDonald, Project/Program Specialist	\$96,133*
Peter MacKeith, Dean, Fay Jones School of Architecture One-time Merit	\$295,951 \$5,747
Mike Malone, Vice Chancellor for Economic Development Car Allowance One-time Merit	\$309,000 \$12,000 \$6,000
Kate Mamiseishvili, Dean, COEHP One-time Merit	\$298,700 \$5,800
Terry Martin, Provost & VC for Academic Affairs Car Allowance One-time Merit	\$346,500 \$12,000 \$6,600
Tricia Matysak, Head Trainer	\$124,765*
Margaret McCabe, Professor Car Allowance One-time Merit	\$321,980 \$12,000 \$6,133
Taylor McGillis, Assistant Director of Athletics	\$155,000*
Debbie McLoud, Chief Transformation Officer	\$171,897

Brad McMakin, Head Golf Coach	\$373,567*
Yolanda McRae, Assistant Softball Coach	\$151,344*
Mathew Meuchel, Assistant Softball Coach	\$208,295*
Jean-Francois Meullenet, Interim Dean & Sr. Assoc. VP	\$293,550
One-time Merit	\$5,700
Tamesha Muse, Academic Counselor	\$127,546*
Eric Musselman, Head Basketball Coach	\$5,008,400*
Michael Musselman, Director of Men's Basketball Operations	\$177,667*
Cynthia Nance, Dean, School of Law	\$312,246
One-time Merit	
Mike Neighbors, Head Basketball Coach	\$1,155,000*
Bryan Nelson, Pilot	\$131,250*
One-time Merit	\$2,500
Brian Overton, Assistant to the Head Coach	\$120,000*
Lance Pedersen, Administrative Specialist III	\$69,295*
Samuel Pittman, Head Football Coach	\$6,600,000*
Ed Pohl, Dean of Graduate School & International Education	\$288,000
One-time Merit	
Effective retroactive to 6/1/23	
David Polanski, Head Trainer	\$196,962*
Christopher Ramey, HE Public Safety Commander I	\$98,156
One-time Merit	\$1,306
David Richardson, Assistant Strength Coach	\$174,836*
Charles F. Robinson, Chancellor	\$477,920
Car allowance	\$12,000
Deferred compensation	\$250,000

Kyla Ross, Assistant Gymnastics Coach	\$115,867*
Simone Rush, Assistant Trainer	\$91,684*
Anthony Ruta, Project/Program Manager	\$239,467*
Dan Sabock, Project/Program Manager	\$113,333*
Abel Sanchez, Head Diving Coach	\$113,080*
Lewis Aurmon Satchell, Sr. Assoc. Dir. of Strength and Cond. Coach	\$184,000*
Todd Schaefer, Assistant Basketball Coach	\$288,652*
Cristine Scheets, Academic Counselor	\$113,674*
Samantha Scofield, Associate Head Soccer Coach	\$126,000*
Amber Shirey, Project/Program Director	\$137,189*
Kathryn Sloan, Dean, Fulbright College One-time Merit	\$296,400 \$5,700
Keith Smart, Assistant Basketball Coach	\$539,333*
Jermaine Smith, Assistant Football Coach	\$487,200*
David Snow, Assoc. Vice Provost for Research & Dir. of Technology Ventures One-time Merit	\$278,100 \$5,400
Ben Sowders, Director of Strength and Conditioning	\$540,533*
Nate Thompson, Assistant Baseball Coach	\$309,000*
Rick Thorpe, Executive Associate Athletic Director	\$266,101*
Nicole Tira, Director of Track & Associate Athletic Trainer Effective retroactive to 3/20/23	\$86,000*
Matt Trantham, Senior Associate Athletic Director	\$255,520*
Dan Trump, Deputy Athletics Director	\$262,950*
Jake Trump, Defensive Quality Control	\$116,733*

Morgan Turner, Assistant Football Coach	\$440,533*
Jay Udvardia, Head Men's Tennis Coach	\$248,400*
Dave Van Horn, Head Baseball Coach	\$1,789,600*
Jason Watson, Head Volleyball Coach	\$316,733*
Danny Wheeler, Assistant of Student Athlete Development	\$151,067*
Jordyn Wieber, Head Gymnastics Coach	\$324,233*
Charlie Williams, Project/Program Specialist	\$96,133*
Travis Williams, Defensive Coordinator	\$1,273,867*
Deron Wilson, Assistant Football Coach/Secondary Coach	\$407,200*
Michelle Hargis Wolfe, Associate Vice Chancellor for HR	\$250,000
Corey Wood, Assistant Trainer	\$99,817*
Marcus Woodson, Assistant Football Coach/Co-Defensive Coordinator	\$873,867*
Hunter Yurachek, Vice Chancellor of Intercollegiate Athletics	\$1,750,000*

One-time Merit lump sums are not part of the base salaries. Maximum potential earning due to summer/intersession teaching, extra comp or other allowances, including overtime for UA Police Department and Facilities Management employees due to number of annual events on campus, and \*post season compensation for Athletic Department coaches & staff.

1.2 Approval of Salary in Excess of the Line-Item Maximum, UALR:

Upon motion by Trustee Crass and second by Trustee Dickey, the following resolution was approved:

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS THAT salaries, as set forth below, in excess of the line-item maximum established by law, are hereby approved for the following individuals at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock, in accordance with Arkansas Code Annotated section 6-62-103:



Nitin Agarwal, Professor and Maulden-Entergy Chair \$200,000  
Effective July 1, 2023

1.3 Approval of Salary in Excess of the Line-Item Maximum, UASYS:

Upon motion by Trustee Fryar and second by Trustee Eichler, the following resolution was approved.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS THAT the salary, as set forth below, in excess of the line-item maximum established by law, is hereby approved for the following individual, in accordance with Arkansas Code Annotated sections 6-62-103:

Deacue Fields III, Vice President for Agriculture, Eff. 7-1-23	\$335,000
Car Allowance	\$12,000
Housing Allowance	\$18,000

1.4 Approval of Resolution Responding to Trustee Nelson's Email:

Chairman Harriman stated that an email from Trustee Nelson to the members of the Board and a letter from Former General Counsel JoAnn Maxey to the Charman were to be reflected in the minutes of this meeting. Those documents are set forth below. Further, Chairman Harriman called for a vote on a resolution addressing the concerns which had arisen from Trustee Nelson's email. Upon motion by Trustee Fryar and second by Trustee Todd, the following resolution was approved (with seven votes in favor and three votes opposed):

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of the University of Arkansas received, via email message on June 21, 2023, allegations from Trustee Sheffield Nelson that President Donald R. Bobbitt misled the Board regarding the proposed affiliation between the University of Arkansas System and Transformative Education Services (TES), Inc., and

WHEREAS, Trustee Nelson alleged that revisions to Board Policy 340.1 *Related Entities* approved in March of 2022 were proposed by the President to allow for him to execute the proposed affiliation with TES without Board of Trustees approval; and

WHEREAS, Trustee Nelson suggested that Trustees consider these alleged actions by the President before casting a vote on extending his employment agreement; and

WHEREAS, Board Policy 340.1 *Related Entities* did not apply to the proposed affiliation since TES was not an affiliated entity as defined in the policy; and

WHEREAS, Board of Trustees Policy 300.1 *Contracting Authority* has for many years delegated authority to the President to execute contracts on behalf of the Board and the University, allowing the President to sign agreements with external entities without a formal vote of the Board; and

WHEREAS, despite the authority delegated to him in Board Policy 300.1, President Bobbitt brought a resolution of support for the proposed affiliation with TES to the Board for consideration at a special meeting on April 19, 2023.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS THAT the Board hereby finds the allegation that President Donald R. Bobbitt misled the Board regarding the proposed affiliation with Transformative Education Services, Inc., and the revisions to Board Policy 340.1 *Related Entities* to be inaccurate and false.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board finds that President Bobbitt did not seek nor was he to receive personal gain from the proposed affiliation with TES and that he pursued the project in good faith and with the best interests of the UA System in mind.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board finds that it is inappropriate for the Board to share its confidential discussions regarding the employment of public officers or employees outside of an executive session of the Board.

{Trustee Nelson's Email}

Many of you will remember the afternoon U of A Board meeting on April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023, during which I asked Don Bobbitt if he had followed all the Code and Procedures requirements in arriving at the point where he could complete the Phoenix deal without our approval. He stated yes, he could complete the Phoenix deal without our approval. He stated that he had done everything necessary and did not even need our signatures to complete the deal. However, in about thirty minutes this was contradicted by one of the people he had brought to the meeting who stated that we had to approve a Resolution that had been prepared, which would authorize Transformative Education Services, Inc, (TES), Phoenix and the University of Arkansas to operate together. He further stated that this had to be done quickly (within 5 days) or the deal would fall through. None of us liked this since we had just been told by Bobbitt, he did not need our approval on anything to complete the deal on Phoenix, and we were being pushed to have a rushed-up meeting to do it. We scheduled a Zoom meeting for the following Monday, which we held and defeated the Resolution by a 5 to 4 vote, thereby killing Bobbitt's project.

Several things are important enough to mention, in addition to the above. I had been asked by the Board to schedule a meeting in 2022 to try to work out an agreement with Bobbitt about an extension of his contract of employment which is to end late this year. I was very surprised when he answered that he did not want to discuss an extension at that time. Board members were as surprised as I at his reply. Of course, what we did not know was that on March 17 of 2022 he had gotten our Board to approve a revision in the Related Entities Policy of the Board, which opened the main avenue for him to pursue the Phoenix deal on his own. This was done as part of a routine updating of Board policies, and there was absolutely no mention of Phoenix. We voted, as we almost always do when the president or general counsel make a presentation on matters that are in the normal course of business. By sheer deception, this was run through, and Bobbitt was off to the races. What it did was the most important thing done in the entire matter in that it gave a lot of powers of the Board to the President, and he used them liberally.

When we became aware of Phoenix and Bobbitt let us know that he did not need our vote on anything, we started scrambling to determine if that was true, and how it was done. Once we learned, it was clear that Bobbitt had breached his fiduciary duty as president to be open and honest with the U of A Board, and in many minds, it was the end of trust we had held with him. As a safeguard for the future, we need to move quickly to close the loophole he had prepared for himself, so he, or any other president, cannot duplicate this event.

This, very importantly, also awakened us to why he did not want to consider a contract extension with the U of A, and it became totally clear that Bobbitt had chosen Phoenix's best interests over those of the University of Arkansas, and the wishes of the U of A Board.

A final point for consideration is that there is no telling what Bobbitt's two-year-long venture to purchase Phoenix cost us, his salary, and the hidden costs of staff time on the project would be just a starting point to determine the true costs to the people of Arkansas.

We have a U of A Board meeting scheduled for June 26<sup>th</sup> to discuss a few matters, including a possible contract extension for Bobbitt. Now that his Phoenix dream is dead, he is interested in a contract extension. It is my hope that you will consider the subterfuge, deception, and the general conduct of Bobbitt before casting your vote. This will decide whether you want to endorse his actions and reward him with a contract extension or want to take the positive action of beginning the search for a new president. The latter choice is the one that is best for the future of the University of Arkansas and for Arkansans who want our university to excel.

#### RECAP OF THE FOUR ATTACHED DOCUMENTS

As reflected by the attached Confidentiality Acknowledgment (which was distributed to Trustees on February 15, 2023) Don Bobbitt signed a Non-Disclosure-Agreement

regarding the Phoenix deal on **March 9, 2021**. So, for some time prior to March 9, 2021, Bobbitt was working on the Phoenix deal.

As reflected by the second attachment to this email, the UA Board of Trustees has long had a policy regulating arrangements between UA and separate corporate entities because of conflict-of-interest concerns. This policy was adopted on October 2, **2001**, and reflects that historically the Board of Trustees had made the decision whether UA should affiliate and do business with a separate corporate entity and reflects a concern that no employee or official of UA be an officer or director of the separate corporate entity that is affiliating with UA.

As reflected by the third attachment to this email, on **March 17, 2022**, the related entities policy was revised as part of a routine updating of Board policies, and same now contains a specific provision that a “separate legal entity owned or controlled, in whole or in part, by the University . . . may **only** be created . . . with the consent of the President, who may exercise the discretion to bring the matter to the Board of Trustees for approval.” In effect, this revision of policy transferred approval of a UA affiliated entity from the Board of Trustees to Bobbitt. No one – not Bobbitt or anyone else – saw fit to tell the Board of Trustees that this revision had something to do with the Phoenix deal or was something other than a routine update of the policy. That is a breach of Bobbitt’s fiduciary duty to be open and honest with UA and the Board of Trustees.

As reflected by the fourth attachment to this email, on **August 8, 2022**, a nonprofit corporation known as Transformative Education Services, Inc. (commonly referred to as “TES”) was established with the Arkansas Secretary of State’s Office. TES was the separate corporate entity set up by Bobbitt and those acting in concert with him to buy Phoenix.

In late **January 2023**, press reports uncovered the \$500 Million Phoenix deal being pursued by Bobbitt and others acting in concert with him. This was the first knowledge that most Board members had about the negotiations with Phoenix. It had been hidden from us for almost two years.

Sincerely,  
Sheffield Nelson

{JoAnn Maxey’s Letter}

Trustee Harriman:

I am writing regarding recent allegations made by Trustee Nelson as reported in the Arkansas Democrat Gazette. I am disappointed that he would make such inaccurate and disparaging statements without seeking to learn the facts. I am confident Interim General Counsel Patrick Hollingsworth can answer questions the board might have based on Trustee Nelson’s allegations but I feel compelled to respond because much about which Trustee Nelson maligns occurred during my tenure as general counsel.

Let me first address the issue regarding the edits to board policy 340.1 on related entities. That policy was updated as part of the general counsel's ongoing review of policies. Dr. Bobbitt played no part in the decision to update that particular policy, or, for that matter, most of the policies that were updated during my tenure. Generally, I would identify policies for the general counsel's policy committee to review and edit, and the review process often took several months to complete. If this policy was approved in March 2022, the review process likely started in the summer of 2021. While I do not have access to relevant records and I am relying on my memory, my recollection is that the update to this policy was prompted by various business activities involving UAMS and in preparation of the on-boarding of Grantham, which the board approved earlier that summer. However, I know with certainty that Dr. Bobbitt did not ask for changes to this policy and did not offer any input on the changes ultimately made. I also know with certainty that the University of Phoenix transaction was not the impetus for making changes to this policy. I am disheartened Trustee Nelson or anyone else would suggest that I or anyone in the general counsel office would be part of any plan to deceive the board or to do anything that would be harmful to the University.

Trustee Nelson is also wrong that the changes to BP 340.1 allowed Dr. Bobbitt to do something not previously allowed under the policy. The earlier version of the policy allowed Dr. Bobbitt along with others to execute affiliation agreements without Board approval pursuant to BP 300.1. Affiliation agreements, particularly with other health care entities, are among some of the most common agreements into which our campuses routinely enter and I suspect only few are brought to the board.

The former policy also recognized that separate entities could be formed as supporting organizations for the University and that a potential conflict of interests might exist if persons connected with the University served on those boards or served as incorporators. While the policy provided a path to get approval for an officer or employee to do work with a supporting organization, the former policy failed to provide an approval process for the formation of related entities created to support the University. The updated policy incorporated an approval process for the formation of such related entities in order to provide more structure and accountability. TES was not formed as a related or supporting entity that came under this policy, primarily to minimize the financial risks to the University. It was created as an independent non-profit organization with which the University of Arkansas system was to have an affiliation agreement. I assure you, all of the decisions and recommendations made with this matter were made to best protect the University.

I also want to address Trustee Nelson's assertion that he did not learn about the University of Phoenix project until shortly before it was presented to the board for a vote. I do not know when he learned about the project but this project was handled like many other complex business transactions, including the Grantham acquisition, that we worked on. These transactions take time and sometimes never make their way to the board. The Grantham project lasted a couple of years before being presented to the board. It was on,

then it was off, and then on again. We worked through various iterations and the end product presented to the board in the summer of 2021 was much different than earlier versions. If you recall, the information regarding that acquisition was presented to the board shortly before the board voted on that deal. Because of NDAs, it is challenging to provide information broadly or prematurely about projects of this nature because the potential for information being inadvertently or intentionally shared outside the University. The University of Phoenix transaction was handled much the same as Grantham, albeit on a different scale. During the time we worked on the project, we put pencils down several times. At the time of my retirement in early January, I was still not certain if it would go to the board for a vote for a variety of issues.

Duplicity is not part of my DNA. Moreover, I believe I am fairly good at discerning the character of others. Dr. Bobbitt is not someone I would ever call deceitful. I would not have worked for him had I thought he was someone either the Board or I could not trust.

Please feel free to call me if you have any questions. I am happy to make myself available to you or any other member of the board.

JoAnn C. Maxey

2. Approval of the Recommendation for the University of Arkansas at Fort Smith to Accept an Invitation to Become a Member of the Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association, UAFS:

UAFS Chancellor Terisa Riley presented a request to accept an invitation to join the Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association. Upon motion by Trustee Crass and second by Trustee Eichler, the following resolution was approved.

WHEREAS, the University of Arkansas at Fort Smith is the easternmost school within the Lone Star Athletic Conference (LSC), a 17-member league that spans four states (Texas, Oklahoma, New Mexico, and Arkansas); and

WHEREAS, UAFS student-athletes endure lengthy commutes to competitions with eight LSC schools located more than 500 miles from Fort Smith, and two others more than 450 miles from the UAFS campus; and

WHEREAS, these lengthy commutes to competitions require student-athletes to be out of the classroom for extended periods of time and create a financial burden on the institution; and

WHEREAS, the Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association (MIAA) has invited UAFS to become a member of its association; and

WHEREAS, the mission, vision, and values of the MIAA and its member institutions are philosophically aligned with those of UAFS and the University of Arkansas System; and

WHEREAS, accepting this invitation would result in a reduction of travel time required for competition, improving the academic and athletic experience of UAFS student-athletes, and encouraging the development of natural geographic rivals;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS THAT the President and Chancellor of the University of Arkansas at Fort Smith shall be, and hereby are, authorized to execute such documents and instruments as may be required for UAFS to become a member of the Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletic Association (MIAA) provided that the President shall determine that any documents and instruments required for such membership are in the best interest of UAFS and have been reviewed by the General Counsel.

3. Project Approval of the Phase 1 Study of Bud Walton Arena Renovation and Selection of Design Professionals and a Construction Manager/General Contractor for the Project, UAF:

UAF Chancellor Charles Robinson presented the request. Upon motion by Trustee Dickey and second by Trustee Fryar, the following resolution was approved.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS THAT Phase 1 of the Bud Walton Arena Renovation Project at the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, is hereby approved.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS THAT the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, is authorized to select AECOM *with* Cromwell as the design professionals for the Phase 1 Study Bud Walton Arena Renovation Project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, is authorized to select Mortenson/Nabholz as the contractor for the Phase 1 Study Bud Walton Arena Renovation Project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT upon completion of Phase 1 as described in the Capital Project Proposal Form presented to the Trustees for this Project, the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, shall present Phase 2 to the Board for approval and shall include a revised Capital Project Proposal with details concerning the scope, budget, source of funds and phasing.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the President, Chief Financial Officer, Chancellor and Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration of the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, or their designees, shall be, and hereby are, authorized to take such further action and execute such documents and instruments as may be necessary to implement this resolution.

4. Presentation Concerning Sale of “SEFOR” Property, UAF:

Executive Vice Chancellor for Finance & Administration Ann Bordelon presented information concerning the proposed sale of the Southwest Experimental Fast Oxide Reactor (SEFOR) property located east of Strickler, Arkansas. The property has been idle since the 1980s and decommissioned in 2019. The sale will be public using a sealed bid process, and the University will come back to the Board when a bid is received. Trustee Cox requested that the value of the timber on the land be considered in the sale. This was an information item.

5. Approval of Academic Unanimous Consent Item, UAPB:

The following resolution was presented to the Board for unanimous consent and Chair Harriman noted no objections, the resolution was approved as follows.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS THAT the Board hereby approves the UAPB Academic consent item as presented to the Board at its Special June 26, 2023, meeting [Request to the Higher Learning Commission to increase UAPB’s capacity to offer online programs].

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a letter of notification will be submitted to ADHE following the Board meeting setting forth this item.

Chairman Harriman stated that another special meeting of the Board will be held on Thursday, July 6, 2023, at 1:30 p.m., for the sole purpose of considering President Bobbitt’s contract, which currently expires in December.

There being no further business to come before the Board, upon motion by Trustee Cox and second by Trustee Fryar, the meeting adjourned at 1:26 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/

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Kelly Eichler, Secretary