

**TEXAS WOMAN’S UNIVERSITY SYSTEM BOARD OF REGENTS  
FULL BOARD MINUTES  
November 10, 2023**

**The University of Texas System Building, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
210 West 7<sup>th</sup> Street, Austin, Texas 70701**

**Roll Call:**

**Present Full Board Members:**

Regents McDavid (Chair), Amirkhan, Coleman, Hyde, Jester, Shepard, Wilson, Wright, Wu, and Covarelli (non-voting)

**Present Administrators:**

Dr. Carine M. Feyten, Chancellor and President; Ms. Katherine A. Antwi, General Counsel, Secretary to the Board, and Chief Compliance Officer; Dr. O. Finley Graves, Interim Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost; Ms. Kristina Kaskel-Ruiz, Vice President for Marketing and Communication; Dr. Monica Mendez-Grant, Vice President for Student Life; Ms. Lisa Rampy, Interim Vice President for University Advancement; Mr. Jason Tomlinson, Vice President for Finance and Administration; and Dr. Javier Flores, Vice President for Enrollment Management.

**I. Call Full Board Meeting to Order**

With a quorum present, Regent McDavid, Chair of the Board of Regents, called the meeting to order at **8:27 a.m.** Regent McDavid welcomed attendees to The University of Texas System Building.

Regent McDavid thanked the Board Chairman Kevin Eltife, all University of Texas System Regents, and Chancellor James Milliken for welcoming the Board to The University of Texas System Building for the November meeting.

Regent McDavid also thanked the Office of the Board of Regents, the Office of Technology and Information Services, the Office of the Director of Police, the Office of Events, and every University of Texas System employee for their support.

Finally, Regent McDavid acknowledged Veterans Day and thanked all veterans for their courage, sacrifice, and service.

**II. Consider Approval of the Minutes of the Full Board Meeting of August 11, 2023**

**Motion to Approve Minutes:** Regent Hyde motioned and Regent Wilson seconded. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

The minutes of the Full Board Meeting of **August 11, 2023** were approved as submitted.

**III. Adjourn Full Board Meeting to Executive Closed Session**

Regent McDavid then announced that the Board would recess to Executive Closed Session for Deliberations Regarding Personnel Matters Relating to Appointment, Employment, Evaluation, Reassignment, Duties, Discipline, or Dismissal of Public Officers or Employees pursuant to Section

551.074 of the Texas Government Code. Specifically, she stated that the Board will hear a Recommend Approval of University Personnel Matters.

The meeting adjourned at **8:32 a.m.**

#### **IV. Reconvene into Open Session and Take Any Possible Action Regarding Matters Discussed in Executive Closed Session**

At the conclusion of the Executive Closed Session, Regent McDavid reconvened the meeting of the Full Board into open session, a quorum being present at **8:59 a.m.** Regent McDavid stated the Board would take any possible action regarding matters discussed in Executive Closed Session.

Regent McDavid then read the following statement:

At this time, on behalf of the Board, I would like to address all TWU employees. In our executive closed session, Chancellor Feyten talked with the Board about the challenges faculty and staff have faced due to inflation and other economic factors.

She shared her and her team's approach to awarding merit in this biennium. She acknowledged that it is a step forward in addressing the challenges for faculty and staff. It is but one step of many needed in the years ahead. Right now, she wants the faculty and staff to begin feeling the university's momentum for those who do not already.

This Board knows careful consideration was necessary in this biennium due to the lag in expected enrollment growth. And with these financial considerations in mind, Chancellor Feyten and her team implemented this award process to not only ensure that faculty and staff received recognition for their hard work but also to secure the financial stability of this institution. To that end, we want to thank Chancellor Feyten and her team for taking tangible steps toward addressing the needs of the faculty and staff in this biennium.

Speaking on behalf of this Board, we recognize the vital work of all of you as faculty and staff at Texas Woman's and, without question, your efforts propel our mission. We applaud all of you for your commitment and dedication to this institution. The success of Texas Woman's is due to the excellence that you put forth every day.

As a regent and alumna, I am proud to be a part of what is Texas Woman's. I know I speak for the entire Board when I say we are grateful for the efforts of faculty and staff, efforts that lead to this sense of pride. Again, thank you to the Texas Woman's faculty and staff. Your efforts on behalf of this university are sincerely appreciated.

Regent McDavid stated that the Board would consider approval of delegation of authority to the Board Secretary to take appropriate action related to University System Personnel Matters consistent with the Board's discussion in Executive Closed Session and to take any and all further action necessary or advisable to carry out the purpose and intent of this action.

**Motion to Approve Item A.1 Recommend Approval of University System Personnel Matters with delegation to the Board Secretary, as described above:** Regent Jester motioned and Regent Wu seconded. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

## V. Presentation

### Item A. Presentation Recognizing Texas Woman's University Achieving the Seal of *Excelencia*

Mr. Christopher Johnson, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Strategy and Chief of Staff, presented to the Board recognition of TWU earning the Seal of *Excelencia*. Mr. Johnson explained the Seal of *Excelencia* criteria and requirements and then provided additional information relating to TWU's achievement. Chancellor Feyten thanked everyone for their efforts in achieving the Seal of *Excelencia*.

## VI. Full Board Agenda

Regent McDavid said that the Board would now take up the Agenda Items as listed.

**Motion to Take up Agenda Items as Listed:** Regent Wu motioned and Regent Coleman seconded. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

### Item A. Report on Fall 2023 Enrollment and Spring 2024 Enrollment Projections

Dr. Javier Flores, Vice President for Enrollment Management, provided an update to the Board on TWU Fall 2023 Enrollment and Spring 2024 Enrollment Projections. Dr. Flores announced that the Fall 2023 First Time in College cohort is the largest in the history of the University for the second consecutive year and detailed additional information related to Fall 2023 enrollment. He then provided details related to top undergraduate and graduate programs enrollment, enrollment data by location, and financial aid and scholarships, including the Zero Tuition Guarantee program. Dr. Flores concluded his report by reviewing Spring 2024 enrollment projections, activities of the Strategic Enrollment Management Council, and highlighted programs for 2023-2024.

### Item B. Report on Philanthropic Support and the Texas Woman's University Foundation

Ms. Lisa Rampy, Interim Vice President for University Advancement, provided information to the Board on philanthropic support of the TWU Foundation for Quarter 1 of Fiscal Year 2024. Ms. Rampy summarized the TWU Foundation's Quarter 1 commitments, five-year comparison, investment performance, assets, liabilities, and net assets. Finally, she informed the Board of recent alumni events, including the Dream Big Campaign Launches and Health Science Center groundbreaking.

### Item C. Report on Office of Audit Services

Ms. Sharon Delgado, Chief Audit Executive, briefed the Board on the activity of the Office of Audit Services for the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of Fiscal Year 2024. Ms. Delgado shared with the Board an audit project that was completed and presented information related to follow-up recommendations. She presented the status of ongoing audit projects and their current phases. Finally, Ms. Delgado highlighted the Office of Audit Services' administrative activities for the quarter and the office's student assistant training activities as well.

### Item D. Report on the New Provost's Fellows Leadership Academy

Dr. O. Finley Graves, Interim Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost, presented to the Board information related to the Provost Fellows Leadership Academy. Dr. Graves explained the rationale for the Leadership Academy and reviewed the planned activities for the two-year program. Finally, Dr. Graves introduced the inaugural cohort of seventeen (17) members to the Board.

### **Item E. Report on Veteran Student Experience**

Dr. Monica Mendez-Grant, Vice President for Student Life, introduced Ms. Amy O'Keefe, Executive Director, Campus Alliance for Resource Education, to the Board. Ms. O'Keefe briefed the Board on TWU's mission to serve its veteran students. She provided information related to student veterans, support services available to them, and the Student Veterans Association. Ms. O'Keefe concluded her report by sharing the voices and viewpoints from the following TWU students: Ms. Emily Romo, Ms. Angel Durkee, Ms. Dominique Chesley, and the following TWU alumni: Mr. Hai Nguyen and Ms. Nikki Perez.

### **Item F. Report on University Housing**

Dr. Monica Mendez-Grant, Vice President for Student Life, introduced Ms. Jill Eckardt, Executive Director, University Housing and Dining, to the Board. Ms. Eckardt presented information related to University housing and dining to the Board, including an overview of all residence halls and Fall 2023 housing numbers. She concluded her report by reviewing successes of housing and dining as demonstrated by recent annual survey results.

### **Item G. Report on Office of Government and Legislative Affairs**

Mr. Kevin Crusier, Director of Governmental and Legislative Affairs, provided an update on the Office of Governmental and Legislative Affairs. Mr. Crusier provided information related to special sessions for the 88<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session. He informed the Board that several meetings took place in Washington, D.C. recently and an area of focus was TWU's new aviation program. Mr. Crusier concluded his report by providing an update on state senators.

### **Item H. Report on Deferred Maintenance**

Mr. Rob Ramirez, Senior Associate Vice President for Facilities Management and Construction, provided deferred maintenance information to the Board. He explained TWU's deferred maintenance data and the Facilities Condition Index ("FCI") key performance indicator. Mr. Ramirez informed the Board that TWU's current FCI status is considered "good" per industry standards.

The meeting adjourned for recess at **10:45 a.m.**

Regent McDavid reconvened the meeting of the Full Board into open session, a quorum being present at **10:56 a.m.**

### **Item I. Recommend Approval of Interstate Highway 35 Branding Project**

Ms. Kris Kaskel-Ruiz, Vice President of Marketing and Communication, and Mr. Rob Ramirez, Senior Associate Vice President for Facilities Management and Construction, recommended approval of Interstate Highway 35 branding project. Ms. Kaskel-Ruiz provided information related to this opportunity, the importance of this project to TWU, and the proposed location. Mr. Ramirez then presented the concept medallions and wing logos.

**Motion to Approve Item I:** Regent Hyde motioned and Regent Jester seconded. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

### **Item J. Recommend Approval of Preschool Facility Project Scope and Budget Revisions**

Mr. Jason Tomlinson, Vice President for Finance and Administration, and Mr. Rob Ramirez, Senior Associate Vice President for Facilities Management and Construction, recommended approval of preschool facility project scope and budget revisions. Mr. Tomlinson provided information related to the history of this project to the Board and explained that scope and budget revisions are required due to City of Denton partnership in this project.

**Motion to Approve Item J:** Regent Jester motioned and Regent Wilson seconded. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

### **Item K. Recommend Approval of Reaffirmation of Regent Policy E.50100: Investment Policy and Regent Policy E.50110: Endowment Investment and Distribution Policy**

Mr. Jason Tomlinson, Vice President for Finance and Administration, recommended approval of reaffirmation of Regent Policy E.505100: Investment Policy and Regent Policy E.50110: Endowment Investment and Distribution Policy. Mr. Tomlinson stated that the Board is required to annually review these policies and no policy changes are required this year.

**Motion to Approve Item K:** Regent Shepard motioned and Regent Wu seconded. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

### **Item L. Recommend Approval of Revisions to Regent Policy E.50500: Clery Act Reporting Policy**

Mr. Jason Tomlinson, Vice President for Finance and Administration, recommended approval of revisions to Regent Policy E.50500: Clery Act Reporting Policy. He explained the policy was updated as a part of the Executive Policy Committee schedule and detailed the substantive revisions made to the policy.

**Motion to Approve Item L:** Regent Wu motioned and Regent Hyde seconded. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

### **Item M. Recommend Approval of Acceptance of Grants**

Mr. Jason Tomlinson, Vice President for Finance and Administration, recommended approval of grants awarded to Texas Woman's University from July 14, 2023, to October 12, 2023.

**Motion to Approve Item M:** Regent Wright motioned and Regent Shepard seconded. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

## **VII. Report on the Office of the Chancellor and President**

Chancellor Carine M. Feyten, Chancellor and President, presented to the Board. Chancellor Feyten began her report by providing information related to recent meetings on the Houston and Dallas Campuses about the future leadership for those campuses. Chancellor Feyten then highlighted that TWU's landscaping received a national award, that she will be receiving the Dallas History Makers Award, and the Wall Street Journal ranking of seventh in the country for student learning experience. Chancellor Feyten concluded her report by thanking Regent McDavid and the Board for their comments to the TWU faculty and staff.

## **VIII. Future Business**

Regent McDavid asked if there were any comments or requests from any Regents regarding future issues

or subjects to discuss. The Regents made no comments or requests.

**IX. Regents' Remarks**

Regent McDavid asked if any Regents want to make any remarks regarding the November meeting. Regent Amirkhan expressed that all the presenters were impressive, enthusiastic, had tremendous expertise, and it was a joy to listen to the reports. Regent Hyde echoed Regent Amirkhan's statement and stated that he appreciated the presenters' efforts, talents, and leadership.

Regent McDavid reminded everyone that the next Board of Regents meeting is scheduled for February 15 and 16, 2024 in Denton, Texas.

**X. Adjourn Full Board Meeting**

With no further business coming before the Board of Regents, Regent McDavid adjourned the Board of Regents meeting at **11:24 a.m.**