



MINUTES
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS FOR THE
UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA SYSTEM
April 23, 2026

A. Call to Order

The Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System convened at 10:05 a.m. on Thursday, April 23, 2026, in the University of Louisiana Monroe Library, Terrace - 7th floor. The meeting was called to order by Mr. Mark Romero, Chair.

B. Roll Call

Members Present

Mr. Steve Davison
Mr. Ronald Hogan
Mr. Keith Myers
Ms. Maria Nechaeva
Mr. Dana Peterson

Ms. Elizabeth Pierre
Mr. Mark Romero
Mr. Robert Salim
Mr. Brad Stevens
Ms. Julie Stokes

Members Absent

Mr. Barry Busada
Mr. Lee Jackson, Jr.
Dr. Jo Lethermon

Dr. John Noble, Jr.
Mr. Alejandro "Al" Perkins
Ms. Kristine Russell

Also in attendance were System President Rick Gallot, Campus Representatives, System Staff, and Legal Counsel, Mr. Brandon DeCuir.

C. Invocation/Pledge of Allegiance

The invocation was given by Mr. Pedro Rubio, representative of Focus Missions and Catholic Campus Ministries, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Ms. Maria Nechaeva.

D. Welcome by President Carrie Castille, University of Louisiana Monroe

Dr. Carrie Castille provided opening remarks and welcomed the Board of Supervisors along with other stakeholders to ULM's campus. She also introduced Ms. Hannah Habisreiter, ULM's Student Government Association President, and acknowledged other students present.

E. Approval of Meeting Minutes - November 13, 2025, February 26, 2026, and February 27, 2026

Upon motion of Ms. Elizabeth Pierre, seconded by Mr. Robert Salim, the Board unanimously approved the minutes of the November 13, 2025, February 26, 2026, and February 27, 2026 meetings.

Additionally, upon motion of Ms. Maria Nechaeva, seconded by Mr. Brad Stevens, the Board unanimously voted to conduct business as a Committee of the Whole.

F. Academic and Student Affairs Committee

Mr. Dana Peterson asked Dr. Jeannine O'Rourke to report on the Academic and Student Affairs items. Upon the motion of Mr. Stevens, seconded by Mr. Salim, the Board unanimously voted to approve Items F.1.-F.4.

1. Grambling State University's request for approval to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Alamo Colleges District.

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves Grambling State University's request to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with Alamo Colleges District.*

2. Louisiana Tech University's request for approval to change the Speech Language Pathology degree designations (BA to BS; MA to MS).

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves Louisiana Tech University's request to change the Speech-Language Pathology degree designations (BA to BS; MA to MS).*

3. McNeese State University's request for approval to award an Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters to Captain Lee Jackson during the Spring 2026 Commencement Exercises.

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves McNeese State University's request to award an Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters to Captain Lee Jackson.*

4. Southeastern Louisiana University's request for approval to terminate the Master of Science in Population Health Management, effective December 2026.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves Southeastern Louisiana University's request to terminate the Master of Science in Population Health Management, effective December 2026.

G. Athletic Committee

Mr. Keith Myers asked Mr. Bruce Janet to report on the Athletic items. Upon motion of Mr. Ronald Hogan, seconded by Mr. Steve Davison, the Board unanimously voted to approve Items G.1.-G.15.

1. Louisiana Tech University's request for approval of contractual agreements with Mr. Luke Olson, Defensive Coordinator, and Mr. Nathan Young, Offensive Coordinator, Louisiana Tech University, and Louisiana Tech University Foundation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves Louisiana Tech University's request for approval of contracts with Mr. Luke Olson, Defensive Coordinator, and Mr. Nathan Young, Offensive Coordinator, Louisiana Tech University, and Louisiana Tech University Foundation.

2. Louisiana Tech University's request for approval of contractual agreements between various Assistant Football Coaches, Louisiana Tech University, and Louisiana Tech University Foundation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves Louisiana Tech University's request for approval of contracts with Assistant Football Coaches: Mr. Dan Sharp, Mr. Teddy Veal, Mr. Lorenzo Joe, Mr. Vincent Johnson, Mr. Josh Creech, Mr. Dexter McCoil, Mr. Paul Randolph, and Mr. Carlton Buckels, Louisiana Tech University, and Louisiana Tech University Foundation.

3. McNeese State University's request for approval of a contract with Mr. Bill Armstrong, Head Men's Basketball Coach, effective March 16, 2026.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves McNeese State University's request for approval of a contract with Mr. Bill Armstrong, Head Men's Basketball Coach, effective March 16, 2026.

4. McNeese State University's request for approval of a contract with Ms. Ashton Feldhaus, Head Women's Basketball Coach, effective April 8, 2026.

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves McNeese State University's request for approval of a contract with Ms. Ashton Feldhaus, Head Women's Basketball Coach, effective April 8, 2026.*

5. McNeese State University's request for approval of a contract with Ms. Ayla Guzzardo, Former Head Women's Basketball Coach, effective April 2, 2026 (change in termination language by Coach).

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves McNeese State University's request for approval of a contract with Ms. Ayla Guzzardo, Former Head Women's Basketball Coach, effective April 2, 2026.*

6. McNeese State University's request for approval of a contract with Ms. Bridget Martin, Athletic Director, effective April 13, 2026.

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves McNeese State University's request for approval of a contract with Ms. Bridget Martin, Athletic Director, effective April 13, 2026.*

7. Southeastern Louisiana University's request for approval of a contract with Ms. Angela Simpson, Head Beach Volleyball Coach, effective March 1, 2026.

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves Southeastern Louisiana University's request for approval of a contract with Ms. Angela Simpson, Head Beach Volleyball Coach, effective March 1, 2026.*

8. Southeastern Louisiana University's request for approval of contractual agreements between various Football Assistant Coaches, Southeastern Louisiana University, and the Lions Athletic Association.

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves Southeastern Louisiana University's request for approval of contracts with Mr. Billy D'Ottavio, Mr. Dustin Landry, Mr. Thomas Rinaldi, Mr. Antonio Baker, Mr. Alvin Slaughter, Mr. Trey Nunez, Mr. Trey Willie, Mr. Matthew Bergeron, Mr. Edward Groth, and Mr. Ryan Allgood.*

9. University of Louisiana at Lafayette's request for approval of a contract with Mr. Marquase Lovings, Assistant Football Coach for Running Backs, effective April 23, 2026.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves University of Louisiana at Lafayette's request for approval of a contract with Mr. Marquase Lovings, Assistant Football Coach for Running Backs, effective April 23, 2026.

10. University of Louisiana Monroe's request for approval of a contract with Mr. Antony Blackburn, Head Women's Soccer Coach, effective March 13, 2026.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves University of Louisiana Monroe's request for approval of a contract for Mr. Antony Blackburn, Head Women's Soccer Coach, effective March 13, 2026.

11. University of Louisiana Monroe's request for approval of a contract with Mr. Ryan Cross, Head Men's Basketball Coach, effective April 1, 2026.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves University of Louisiana Monroe's request for approval of a contract for Mr. Ryan Cross, Head Men's Basketball Coach, effective April 1, 2026.

12. University of Louisiana Monroe's request for approval of a contract with Ms. Molly Fichtner, Head Softball Coach, effective April 1, 2026.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves University of Louisiana Monroe's request for approval of a contract for Ms. Molly Fichtner, Head Softball Coach, effective April 1, 2026.

13. University of Louisiana Monroe's request for approval of a contract with Mr. Scotty Fletcher, Head Women's Basketball Coach, effective April 1, 2026.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves University of Louisiana Monroe's request for approval of a contract for Mr. Scotty Fletcher, Head Women's Basketball Coach, effective April 1, 2026.

14. University of Louisiana Monroe's request for approval of a contract with Mr. Ford Pemberton, Head Baseball Coach, effective March 13, 2026.

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves University of Louisiana Monroe's request for approval of a contract for Mr. Ford Pemberton, Head Baseball Coach, effective March 13, 2026.*

15. University of Louisiana Monroe's request for approval of a contract with Mr. SJ Tuohy, Athletic Director, effective April 1, 2026.

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves University of Louisiana Monroe's request for approval of a contract with Mr. SJ Tuohy, Athletic Director, effective April 1, 2026.*

H. Audit Committee

Ms. Elizabeth Pierre asked Mr. Fernando Cordova to report on the Audit items. After his report, upon motion of Mr. Brad Stevens, seconded by Ms. Maria Nechaeva, the Board unanimously voted to approve Item H.2.

1. University of Louisiana System's report on internal and external audit activity for the period of February 6, 2026, to April 2, 2026.

Item H.1. was a report only and no action by the Board was necessary.

2. Northwestern State University's request for approval to appoint Ms. Bethany Edwards as the Director of Internal Audit effective April 13, 2026.

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves Northwestern State University's request to appoint Ms. Bethany Edwards as Director of Internal Audit effective April 13, 2026.*

I. Facilities Planning Committee

Mr. Steve Davison asked Mr. Janet to report on the items, and he described the Facilities items. Upon motion of Mr. Salim, seconded by Mr. Myers, the Board unanimously voted to approve Items I.1.-I.6.

1. Grambling State University's request for approval to revise the projects in its initial application to seek an HBCU Capital Financing Loan for \$100 million for several projects and deferred maintenance.

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves Grambling State University's request for approval to revise the projects in its initial application to seek an HBCU Capital Financing Loan for up to \$100,000,000 for the construction of three projects, and additional funds to address campus deferred maintenance needs.*

***BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the Board further authorizes Grambling State University to seek approval from Facility Planning and Control for authority to oversee and manage these projects located on the campus of Grambling State University.*

***BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that Grambling State University through its President or designee is authorized to enter into a loan upon satisfaction and review of all documents by Foley & Judell as the assigned bond counsel in coordination with the UL System Counsel and shall return to the Board with the complete project terms and final documents for the Board's approval.*

***BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that Grambling State University shall: (a) Provide evidence to UL System staff and legal counsel from agencies/parties with transaction process oversight that all transactional and administrative requirements have been satisfied; (b) Obtain final review and approval from UL System staff; and (c) Obtain approval from legal counsel that all necessary actions and approvals have been obtained and that documents are in appropriate order for execution.*

***BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the President of Grambling State University and his or her designee are hereby designated and authorized to execute any and all documents necessary to manage the Project using HBCU Capital Financing.*

***AND FURTHER,** that Grambling State University will provide the System office with copies of all final executed documents for the Board files.*

2. Grambling State University's request for approval to purchase an apartment complex and 3.46 Acres at 138 Edith Rose Lane, Grambling, Louisiana.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves Grambling State University's request for approval to purchase the apartment complex being identified as the improvements and 3.46 acres with a municipal address of 138 Edith Rose Lane, Grambling, Louisiana, for \$3,000,000, plus cost of the sale.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the purchase shall be contingent upon Grambling State University obtaining an independent appraisal and satisfactory environmental review and warranties for the Property.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Grambling State University is authorized to place a refundable earnest money deposit in the amount of \$15,000 into escrow, which shall be fully refundable in the event required approvals are not obtained or contingencies are not satisfied.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the acquisition shall be contingent upon the availability and lawful appropriation of funds necessary to complete the transaction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Grambling State University shall be responsible for costs associated with title examination, inspections, and payment of a realtor fee not to exceed four percent of the final sales price.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all rents, utilities, and other applicable expenses shall be prorated between the parties as of the date of closing.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all tenant security deposits held in connection with existing lease agreements shall be fully accounted for and assigned to the University at closing.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Seller shall provide appropriate notices to vacate to any delinquent tenants prior to closing, unless otherwise agreed to in writing by both parties.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the University shall: (a) Provide evidence to UL System staff and legal counsel from agencies/parties with transaction process oversight that all transactional and administrative requirements have been satisfied; (b) Obtain final review and approval from UL System staff; and (c) Obtain approval from legal counsel that all necessary actions and approvals have been obtained and that documents are in appropriate order for execution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the President of Grambling State University and his or her designee is hereby designated and authorized to execute any and all documents necessary to manage the acquisition.

AND FURTHER, that Grambling State University will provide System office with copies of all final executed documents for the Board files.

3. Louisiana Tech University's request for approval to name various spaces within the Forest Products Innovation Center.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves Louisiana Tech University's request for approval to name various spaces within the Forest Products Innovation Center as described herein.

4. Nicholls State University's request for approval to designate all interior campus streets as a School Zone regarding LSA-R.S. 32:59 - Use of Wireless Telecommunication Devices Prohibited.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves Nicholls State University's request to designate all interior campus streets as a School Zone regarding LSA- R.S. 32:59 - Use of Wireless Telecommunication Devices Prohibited.

5. Southeastern Louisiana University's request for approval to name room number 223 in Fayard Hall, the "Patricia A. Ahrens Gallery."

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves Southeastern Louisiana University's request for approval to name room number 223 in Fayard Hall, the "Patricia A. Ahrens Gallery."

6. University of Louisiana Monroe's request for approval to enter into a Ground and Facilities Lease Agreement with the ULM Facilities Corporation to make improvements to the softball complex.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves the University of Louisiana Monroe's request for approval to enter into a Ground and Facilities Lease Agreement with the ULM Facilities Corporation to make improvements to the softball complex and fully enclose the hitting facility, pursuant to La. R.S. 17:3361.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the University of Louisiana Monroe shall obtain final review from UL System staff, legal counsel, and shall secure all other appropriate approvals from agencies/parties of processes, documents, and administrative requirements prior to execution of documents.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the President of the University of Louisiana Monroe or his or her designee is hereby designated and authorized to execute any and all documents associated with said lease by the University of Louisiana System on behalf of and for the use of the University of Louisiana Monroe.

AND FURTHER, that the University of Louisiana Monroe will provide the System office with copies of all final executed documents for Board files.

J. Finance Committee

Mr. Ron Hogan headed the Finance Committee and asked Mr. Eddie Meche and Ms. Ashley McIntyre to present the items. Upon motion of Ms. Stokes, and seconded by Mr. Davison, the Board unanimously voted to approve Items J.1.-J.10.

1. Grambling State University's request for approval to establish LEQSF (8g) Endowed Scholarships.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves the requests from Grambling State University to establish LEQSF (8g) Endowed Scholarships as noted.

2. Grambling State University's request for approval to increase student tuition and fees in accordance with Act 790 of the 2024 Regular Legislative Session.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves Grambling State University's request for approval to increase tuition and fee increases by 1.7% for its undergraduate programs and 3.0% for its graduate programs as authorized by Act 790 of the 2024 Regular Legislative Session.

3. Louisiana Tech University's request for approval to amend its contract with Barnes and Noble Booksellers, LLC to create the Room Service Program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves Louisiana Tech University's request for approval to amend its contract with Barnes and Noble Booksellers, LLC to create the Room Service Program.

4. Nicholls State University's request for approval of a contract for professional legal services with Sun Sovereign LLC, dba Ware Immigration.

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves Nicholls State University's request for approval of the contract with Sun Sovereign LLC, dba Ware Immigration for the maximum fee of \$45,000 for the period July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027.*

5. Northwestern State University's request for approval to increase student fees in accordance with Act 790 of the 2024 Regular Legislative Session.

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves Northwestern State University's request for approval to increase student fees by 2.5% as authorized by Act 790 of the 2024 Regular Legislative Session.*

6. Northwestern State University's request for approval to increase its online programs as allowed by Act 426 of the 2013 Regular Legislative Session.

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves Northwestern State University's request to assess an online program tuition rate of \$200 per credit hour for undergraduate credit hours 13 through 15, \$200 per graduate credit hour beginning at 10 credit hours, and \$260 per credit hour for the online RN to BSN program for all credit hours as allowed under Act 426 of the 2013 Regular Session.*

7. University of Louisiana at Lafayette's request to enter into an Affiliation Agreement with the Louisiana Research and Economic Development Foundation, in accordance with Policy and Procedures Memorandum Number: FB-IV. (4)a.

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves University of Louisiana at Lafayette's request to enter into an Affiliation Agreement with the Louisiana Research and Economic Development Foundation, in accordance with Policy and Procedures Memorandum Number: FB-IV.(4)a.*

***BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the President of the University of Louisiana at Lafayette or his designee is hereby designated and authorized to execute any and all documents associated with said Affiliation Agreement.*

***AND FURTHER,** that the University of Louisiana at Lafayette will provide the System office with copies of all final executed documents for Board files.*

8. University of New Orleans' request for approval to increase student fees in accordance with Act 790 of the 2024 Regular Legislative Session.

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves University of New Orleans' request for approval to increase student fees by 6% as authorized by Act 790 of the 2024 Regular Legislative Session.*

9. University of Louisiana System's recommendation to approve a contract extension for professional legal services with DeCuir, Clark & Adams, L.L.P.

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves the System's recommendation for approval of the contract extension with DeCuir, Clark & Adams, L.L.P. for the year from July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027.*

10. University of Louisiana System's recommendation to approve Campus Housing and Meal Plan Rates, Auxiliary Rates, Energy Surcharge, and Non-Governmental Charges for Academic Year 2026-27.

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves the University of Louisiana System's recommendation for Campus Housing and Meal Plan Rates, Auxiliary Rates, Energy Surcharge, and Non-Governmental Charges for Academic Year 2026-27 for the campuses.*

K. Legislation Committee

Mr. Rich Vath provided an update on the current legislative session and noted higher education bills that are being monitored.

L. Personnel Committee

Mr. Salim asked Ms. Tonyetta Jackson to report on the Personnel items. Upon motion of Mr. Davison, seconded by Ms. Nechaeva, the Board unanimously voted to approve Items L.1.-L.5.

1. Grambling State University's request for approval to appoint Mr. Marcus Kennedy as the Dean of Campus Life and Holistic Development, effective February 23, 2026.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves Grambling State University's request to appoint Mr. Marcus Kennedy as the Dean of Campus Life and Holistic Development, effective February 23, 2026.

2. Southeastern Louisiana University's request for approval to retitle the position of Mr. Sam Domiano to Senior Vice President for Administration and Finance and Strategic Initiatives, effective November 29, 2025.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves Southeastern Louisiana University's request for approval to retitle the position of Mr. Sam Domiano to Senior Vice President for Administration and Finance and Strategic Initiatives, effective November 29, 2025.

3. University of Louisiana at Lafayette's request for approval to appoint Dr. Kumer Das as Interim Vice President for Research, Innovation, and Economic Development, effective November 14, 2025.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves University of Louisiana at Lafayette's request to appoint Dr. Kumer Das as Interim Vice President for Research, Innovation, and Economic Development, effective November 14, 2025.

4. University of New Orleans' request for approval to appoint Mr. Norman Barnum as Interim Chief Financial Officer, effective March 10, 2026.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves University of New Orleans' request for approval to appoint Mr. Norman Barnum as Interim Chief Financial Officer, effective March 10, 2026.

5. University of New Orleans' request for approval to appoint Ms. Jeanette Weiland as the Interim Chief Administrative Officer, effective March 1, 2026.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves University of New Orleans' request for approval to appoint Ms. Jeanette Weiland as the Interim Chief Administrative Officer, effective March 1, 2026.

Grambling President Martin Lemelle introduced Mr. Marcus Kennedy who provided remarks. Additionally, Southeastern President William Wainwright introduced Mr. Sam Domiano who also provided remarks.

Ms. Tonyetta Jackson expressed her appreciation to the Board for the opportunity to support the Personnel Committee. Additionally, she informed the Board that Dr. Caprice Ieyoub will be staffing the Personnel Committee moving forward.

M. System President's Business

1. Personnel Actions and Summer Budget

President Rick Gallot reported that campus Personnel Actions and Summer Budgets had been reviewed by System staff and staff recommends approval. Upon motion of Mr. Stevens, seconded by Mr. Salim, the Board unanimously voted to approve the campus Personnel Actions and Summer Budgets.

President Rick Gallot also mentioned that beginning with the June 25, 2026, Board meeting, Personnel Actions will be considered by the Personnel Committee rather than under System President's Business.

2. System President's Report

ULS United

The Board received an update on the continued development of the System Integration and Transformation Task Force, now operating as "ULS United." The initiative aligns with *One System. One Mission.* strategic framework and focuses on the areas of Operational Excellence, Student Success, Research and Talent Development, and External Affairs. Leadership from all eight institutions are participating in working groups related to these priorities. A systemwide stakeholder survey will also be distributed to gather feedback from students, faculty, staff, and external partners.

Academic Summit

Dr. Gallot informed the Board that Southeastern Louisiana University had recently hosted the annual Academic Summit. The event highlighted academic collaboration across the System and provided opportunities for institutions to share research, ideas, and best practices.

Digital Evidence Training

The Board received an update regarding recent systemwide virtual training on digital evidence held in partnership with Grand River Solutions. The training provided campus teams with guidance on evaluating electronic materials in equity-related cases and addressed topics of growing importance in higher education.

ADA Compliance and Summer Programming

Dr. Gallot said that the federal deadline for ADA compliance has been extended to April 2027. System leadership stated that current accessibility efforts will continue despite the extension. Over the past two months, eight accessibility-focused webinars have been conducted with participation from all institutions. Additional work will continue through the Bridging the Divide programming initiative to support compliance efforts and professional development opportunities.

Management and Leadership Institute

President Gallot said that nominations are open for the tenth cohort of the Management and Leadership Institute. The program continues to support leadership development across the University of Louisiana System. Appreciation was also expressed to campus Presidents and institutional teams for their continued support and participation in the program. He thanked Dr. Caprice Ieyoub for her leadership.

3. Litigation Updates

Chair Mark Romero informed the Board that they would adjourn into Executive Session to discuss matters related to pending litigation. A motion was made by Mr. Stevens and seconded by Ms. Pierre to go into Executive Session.

The following roll call vote was noted:

Yeas: Mr. Davison, Mr. Hogan, Mr. Myers, Ms. Nechaeva, Mr. Peterson, Ms. Pierre, Mr. Romero, Mr. Salim, Mr. Stevens, and Ms. Stokes

Nays: None

Absent: Mr. Busada, Mr. Jackson, Dr. Lethermon, Dr. Noble, Mr. Perkins, and Ms. Russell

The Board adjourned to Executive Session at 11:05 a.m.

At 11:43 a.m., upon motion of Mr. Stevens, seconded by Ms. Nechaeva, the Board unanimously voted to return to Open Session.

Mr. Romero stated that while in Executive Session, no motions were made nor votes taken.

Mr. Stevens made a motion to authorize Dr. Jim Henderson, President of Louisiana Tech University, to execute on behalf of the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System the Settlement Agreement between the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System on behalf of Louisiana Tech University and Conference USA, with all final edits, revisions, or modifications being approved by DeCuir, Clark, and Adams L.L.C. and related dismissal documents as necessary. Mr. Steve Davison seconded the motion.

The Board voted to approve the motion.

Mr. Stevens made a motion to approve the requested conflict waiver to allow Special Assistant Attorney General Stephen Miles to represent the Board in connection with the Price, Ronald V. vs. International Paper Company matter, subject to the review and approval of the Louisiana Attorney General's Office. Mr. Davison seconded the motion.

The Board unanimously approved the motion.

N. Board Chair's Business

11. Board Chair's Report

Student Board Member Recognition

Chair Mark Romero recognized Student Member Maria Nechaeva as it was her last regular Board meeting. He thanked her for her contributions and commended her level of engagement. She was given a token of appreciation by the Board.

McNeese Presidential Search Update

Mr. Romero stated that the inaugural meeting of the Presidential Search Committee was held on the campus of McNeese on March 26. He said he anticipated a successful process. The Committee will meet in Baton Rouge on May 7 to review applications and select semifinalists. On May 13 the semifinalists will be interviewed on campus, with a Special Board Meeting on May 19 in Baton Rouge to interview the finalists and select a President for McNeese State University.

Annual Requirements

Chair Romero reminded Board members who served during the 2025 calendar year to submit their Annual Personal Financial Disclosure Statements to the Louisiana Board of Ethics by May 15, 2026.

Mr. Romero also reminded the members that Ethics Training and Preventing Sexual Harassment Training must be completed by December 31, 2026. Additionally, the members were asked to submit completed certificates to Mr. Janet for compliance documentation.

Commencement Exercises

Chair Romero mentioned that the commencement schedule had been distributed via email. He urged the Board members to notify Dr. Erica Calais if they plan to participate so that arrangements can be coordinated with the campuses. Again, he thanked the members for supporting the students with their presence at the ceremonies.

Upcoming Board Meetings

Mr. Romero said that a Special Board meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 19, 2026, in the Claiborne Building to interview finalists and select a President for McNeese State University. The meeting is scheduled to begin at 10:00 a.m.

He also reminded them that the next Regular Board meeting will be held in Baton Rouge on Thursday, June 25, 2026.

At 11:53 a.m., upon motion of Mr. Steve Davison, seconded by Ms. Maria Nechaeva, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn.