

OKLAHOMA STATE REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

655 Research Parkway, Suite 200, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

MINUTES

Eight Hundred and Thirty-Two Meeting



September 7, 2023

OKLAHOMA STATE REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION
655 Research Parkway, Suite 200, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Minutes of the Eight Hundred and Thirty-Two Meeting
September 7, 2023

CONTENTS

| | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| Announcement of Filing of Meeting and Posting of the Agenda | 20140 |
| Call to Order | 20140 |
| Minutes of the Previous Meeting | 20140 |
| Comments from the Chair | 20140 |
| Comments from the Chancellor | 20141 |
| Free Speech Committee | 20141 |
| New Programs | 20141 |
| Program Deletion | 20141 |
| Academic Plans | 20141 |
| Degree Completion | 20142 |
| Policy | 20142 |
| Teacher Education | 20142 |
| Academic Scholars Program | 20143 |
| Regional University Baccalaureate Scholarship Program | 20143 |
| Scholars for Excellence in Child Care | 20143 |
| Institutional Student Assessment | 20143 |
| Administrative Rules | 20143 |
| E&G Allocations | 20144 |
| Grants | 20144 |
| Tuition | 20145 |
| EPSCoR | 20145 |
| Contracts and Purchases | 20146 |
| Investments | 20146 |
| Policy | 20146 |
| Legislative Agenda | 20147 |
| State Regents Meetings | 20147 |
| Commendations | 20147 |
| Consent Docket | 20148 |
| Reports | 20148 |
| Report of Committees | 20149 |
| Proposed Executive Session | 20149 |
| New Business | 20149 |
| Announcement of Next Regular Meeting | 20149 |
| Adjournment | 20149 |

OKLAHOMA STATE REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION
655 Research Parkway, Suite 200, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

**Minutes of the Eight Hundred and Thirty-Two Meeting
of the
Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education
September 7, 2023**

1. **ANNOUNCEMENT OF FILING OF MEETING NOTICE AND POSTING OF THE AGENDA IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE OPEN MEETING ACT.** The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education held a regular meeting at 9 a.m. on Thursday, September 7, 2023, at the State Regents' offices, 655 Research Parkway, Suite 200, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Notice of the meeting had been filed with the Secretary of State on Wednesday, November 2, 2022. A copy of the agenda for the meeting had been posted in accordance with the Open Meeting Act.
2. **CALL TO ORDER.** Chair Jack Sherry called the meeting to order and presided. Present for the meeting were State Regents Jack Sherry, Ann Holloway, Dennis Casey, Courtney Warmington, Dustin J. Hilliary, Jeffrey W. Hickman, Phillip Mitchell "Mitch" Adwon and Steven W. Taylor. Regent Michael C. Turpen did not attend.
3. **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS.** Regent Adwon moved, seconded by Regent Holloway, to approve the minutes of the State Regents' meetings in June 2023. Voting for the motion were Regents Adwon, Sherry, Casey, Warmington, Taylor, Holloway, Hilliary and Hickman. Voting against the motion were none.
4. **COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR.** Chair Sherry expressed his gratitude for the chance to assume the role of chair. He then reviewed the 2023 Distinguished Service Awards list, announcing that they would be presented during Higher Education Day at the Capitol in February 2024. Subsequently, Chair Sherry provided an update on forthcoming events, which include the Regents Education Program Annual Conference set for Wednesday, October 11, 2023 at Rose State College, the Legal Issues in Higher Education Conference planned for Thursday, October 26, 2023 at the University of Oklahoma, and the Campus Safety and Security Summit slated for Tuesday, November 7, 2023 at the University of Central Oklahoma.

5. **COMMENTS FROM THE CHANCELLOR.** Chancellor Garrett delivered a progress report on various initiatives, which encompassed the development of the new OSRHE website and the achievements of the Upskill, Okcollegestart, and Show What You Know programs. She also highlighted a significant 30 percent surge in education majors within the state. Chancellor Garrett then introduced Mitzi Bennett, who has taken on the role of Director of Human Resources, and Chad Fuston, who has been appointed as the new Executive Director of IT, filling the position left vacant by the retirement of Ricky Steele.

6. **FREE SPEECH COMMITTEE.** Report on updates and activities of the Oklahoma Free Speech Committee. Andy Lester, State Regent Emeritus and Chair of the Free Speech Committee, offered an overview of the ongoing work of the Free Speech Committee. He elaborated on the committee's work in policy development and their preparations for training sessions which are required by law. Regent Hickman, a member of the Free Speech Committee, commended the committee's efforts, praised the bipartisan nature of the committee, and expressed gratitude to Regent Emeritus Lester for his dedication to the cause.

7. **NEW PROGRAMS.**
 - a. Regent Casey moved, seconded by Regent Hilliary, to approve a request from Oklahoma State University to offer the Bachelor of Science in Applied Computer Programming. No institution protested the proposal within the 45-day protest period. Voting for the motion were Regents Hilliary, Adwon, Sherry, Casey, Warmington, Taylor, Holloway and Hickman. Voting against the motion were none.

 - b. Regent Casey moved, seconded by Regent Hilliary, to approve a request from the University of Oklahoma to offer a Master of Science in Applied Computing. No institution protested the proposal within the 45-day protest period. Voting for the motion were Regents Adwon, Sherry, Casey, Warmington, Taylor, Holloway, Hickman and Hilliary. Voting against the motion were none.

8. **PROGRAM DELETION.** Regent Casey moved, seconded by Regent Holloway, to approve requests for program deletions from Cameron University and Oklahoma State University. Voting for the motion were Regents Sherry, Casey, Warmington, Taylor, Holloway, Hickman, Hilliary, and Adwon. Voting against the motion were none.

9. **ACADEMIC PLANS.** Regent Casey moved, seconded by Regent Holloway, to acknowledge

receipt of academic plans submitted by institutions. Voting for the motion were Regents Casey, Warmington, Taylor, Holloway, Hickman, Hilliary, Adwon and Sherry. Voting against the motion were none.

10. **DEGREE COMPLETION PLANS.** Regent Casey moved, seconded by Regent Hickman, to acknowledge receipt of degree completion plans submitted by institutions. Voting for the motion were Regents Warmington, Taylor, Holloway, Hickman, Hilliary, Adwon, Sherry and Casey. Voting against the motion were none.

11. **POLICY.**

a. Regent Casey moved, seconded by Regent Holloway, to approve revisions to the Function of Research in the State System, Intensive English Program Approval and Review, Academic Program Review, Institutional Admission and Retention, Grading, Granting of Degrees, Undergraduate Degree Requirements, Credit for Prior Learning, In-state/Out-of-state Status of Enrolled Students, Academic Calendars, and Teacher Education policies. Voting for the motion were Regents Taylor, Holloway, Hickman, Hilliary, Adwon, Sherry, Casey and Warmington. Voting against the motion were none.

b. Regent Casey moved, seconded by Regent Adwon, to approve a policy exception from Oklahoma State University for a five-year pilot program to use Duolingo to assess student English language proficiency for admission. Voting for the motion were Regents Holloway, Hickman, Hilliary, Adwon, Sherry, Casey, Warmington and Taylor. Voting against the motion were none.

c. This item was a posting of revisions to the Distance Education and Traditional Off-Campus Courses and Programs, Student Assessment and Remediation, and Professional Programs policies. This item was for posting only.

d. Regent Casey moved, seconded by Regent Holloway, to approve Murray State College to institute additional Early College High School programs. Voting for the motion were Regents Hickman, Hilliary, Adwon, Sherry, Casey, Warmington, Taylor and Holloway. Voting against the motion were none.

12. **TEACHER EDUCATION.** Regent Casey moved, seconded by Regent Taylor, to approve the proposed Oklahoma Teacher Connection Pre-Collegiate and Collegiate Program expenditures in

the amount of \$98,908.00. Voting for the motion were Regents Hilliary, Adwon, Sherry, Casey, Warmington, Taylor, Holloway and Hickman. Voting against the motion were none.

13. **ACADEMIC SCHOLARS PROGRAM.** Regent Casey moved, seconded by Regent Adwon, to approve the number of authorized freshmen Institutional Nominees for each institution and approve the proposed increase in scholarship award levels for 2024-25. Voting for the motion were Regents Adwon, Sherry, Casey, Warmington, Taylor, Holloway, Hickman and Hilliary. Voting against the motion were none.
14. **REGIONAL UNIVERSITY BACCALAUREATE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM.** Regent Casey moved, seconded by Regent Holloway, to authorize 15 freshmen scholarship slots for each institution participating in the Regional University Baccalaureate Scholarship program for Fall 2024. Voting for the motion were Regents Sherry, Casey, Warmington, Taylor, Holloway, Hickman, Hilliary and Adwon. Voting against the motion were none.
15. **SCHOLARS FOR EXCELLENCE IN CHILD CARE.** Regent Casey moved, seconded by Regent Adwon, to approve the Scholars for Excellence in Child Care scholarship. Voting for the motion were Regents Casey, Warmington, Taylor, Holloway, Hickman, Hilliary, Adwon and Sherry. Voting against the motion were none.
16. **INSTITUTIONAL STUDENT ASSESSMENT.** Regent Casey moved, seconded by Regent Adwon, to approve the Student Assessment Plans as required by the Assessment and Remediation policy. The institutional assessment plans must address four categories of student assessment: (1) entry level and course placement, (2) general education, (3) academic program learning outcomes, and (4) student engagement and satisfaction. Voting for the motion were Regents Warmington, Taylor, Holloway, Hickman, Hilliary, Adwon, Sherry and Casey. Voting against the motion were none.
17. **ADMINISTRATIVE RULES.**
 - a. Regent Casey moved, seconded by Regent Adwon, to approve and adopt permanent rule revisions for the Tulsa Reconciliation Education and Scholarship Program (TRESP). The proposed permanent rule revisions would allow the State Regents to designate Langston University – Tulsa (LU-Tulsa) as administrators to coordinate the application process for the scholarship program. Regent Taylor noted that TRESP is intended to be an endowment with an appropriate distribution spend policy. Voting for the motion were Regents Taylor,

Holloway, Hickman, Hilliary, Adwon, Sherry, Casey and Warmington. Voting against the motion were none.

- b. Regent Casey moved, seconded by Regent Holloway, to adopt proposed emergency rules and to initiate permanent rulemaking process for the Oklahoma Future Teacher Scholarship and Employment Incentive Program or “Inspired to Teach.” These rules are based on statutory amendments that were passed by the Oklahoma Legislature and signed by the Governor and will not take effect until November 1, 2023. The emergency rules will help ensure students in the new eligibility categories can be enrolled in the program in a timely manner. Voting for the motion were Regents Holloway, Hickman, Hilliary, Adwon, Sherry, Casey, Warmington and Taylor. Voting against the motion were none.

18. **E&G ALLOCATIONS.**

- a. Regent Hilliary moved, seconded by Regent Taylor, to approve the allocation from Cigarette and Tobacco Tax Revenue for OU and OSU in the amount of \$814,978.02. The current accumulated allocation to each institution, including this allocation, totals to \$108,394,961.08. Voting for the motion were Regents Hickman, Hilliary, Adwon, Sherry, Casey, Warmington, Taylor and Holloway. Voting against the motion were none.
- b. Regent Hilliary moved, seconded by Regent Taylor, to approve the proposed American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) program expenditures in the amount of \$4,900,000. The recommended allocations will go to Northeastern State University and the University of Central Oklahoma to fund the Teacher Certification Acceleration Programs, which were selected through an RFP process. The State Regents will retain up to 2 percent of the initial \$5,000,000 funding for administrative costs associated with the grant funding. The funds were accepted at the last State Regents meeting. Voting for the motion were Regents Hilliary, Adwon, Sherry, Casey, Warmington, Taylor, Holloway and Hickman. Voting against the motion were none.

19. **GRANTS.** Regent Hilliary presented a request to accept the National Science Foundation (NSF) Campus Cyberinfrastructure (CC*) Award #2321401 in the amount of \$1,179,147. Under the terms of this two-year grant cycle, Mid-America Christian University, Northwestern Oklahoma State University, Oklahoma State University Biomedical Imaging Center, Rose State College and Western Oklahoma State College will receive new connections to the OneOklahoma Friction Free Network. Regent Casey moved, seconded by Regent Taylor, to accept the grant award. Voting for

the motion were Regents Adwon, Sherry, Casey, Warmington, Taylor, Holloway, and Hickman. Regent Hilliary abstained from the item. Voting against the motion were none.

20. **TUITION.** Regent Taylor moved, seconded by Regent Adwon, to approve the modification to the FY24 Tuition and Mandatory Fee Request for Murray State College. Murray State College initially presented a fee proposal during the June meeting, which did not receive approval. President Tim Faltyn presented a revised proposal for consideration, addressing the primary concerns raised by the Regents. The key concerns included the universality of the fee and its expiration date. In response to these concerns, the revised request includes a \$13 per credit hour student union fee specifically applicable to face-to-face students, with exemptions for online and concurrent students. Additionally, 30 percent of the total costs will be covered through external resources. Funding will also be sourced from reserves, dedicated auxiliary funds, and Section 13 offset funds. Notably, the fee is set to expire upon the maturation of the master lease, which is scheduled to occur after 30-years. Voting for the motion were Regents Sherry, Casey, Taylor, and Holloway. Voting against the motion were Regents Warmington, Hilliary, Adwon and Hickman. Motion failed.
- Following additional discussion by Regents, Regent Taylor moved, seconded by Regent Adwon, to approve a revised proposal of a \$7 per credit hour student union fee for all students to begin in the Fall of 2024. Regent Hickman asked to amend the motion with a start date of the Summer of 2024. Regent Taylor withdrew his motion. Regent Taylor moved, seconded by Regent Adwon, to approve a revised proposal of a \$7 per credit hour student union fee for all students to begin in the Summer of 2024 and to expire in 2054 or earlier if paid off prior to the 30-year loan end date. Voting for the motion were Regents Sherry, Casey, Adwon, Hickman, Taylor, and Holloway. Voting against the motion were Regents Warmington and Hilliary.

21. **EPSCoR.**

- a. Regent Hilliary moved, seconded by Regent Taylor, to approve EPSCoR matching funds in the amount of \$40,000 to participating institutions for NASA EPSCoR projects. Voting for the motion were Regents Casey, Warmington, Taylor, Holloway, Hickman, Hilliary, Adwon and Sherry. Voting against the motion were none.
- b. Regent Hilliary moved, seconded by Regent Taylor, to acknowledge receipt of the 2023 Oklahoma EPSCoR Advisory Committee Annual Report. Dr. Raman Singh, Oklahoma EPSCoR Director provided the annual Oklahoma EPSCoR report. Voting for the motion were Regents Warmington, Taylor, Holloway, Hickman, Hilliary, Adwon, Sherry and Casey. Voting against the motion were none.

22. **CONTRACTS AND PURCHASES.**

- a. Regent Hilliary presented contracts and purchases over \$100,000 for FY2024. Regent Casey moved, seconded by Regent Taylor, to approve the item. Voting for the motion were Regents Taylor, Holloway, Hickman, Adwon, Sherry, Casey and Warmington. Regent Hilliary abstained from the item. Voting against the motion were none.

- b. Regent Hilliary moved, seconded by Regent Casey, to ratify the agreement with the Oklahoma Board of Career and Technology Education for FY2024. The agreement provides for the transfer of approximately \$2 million in state and federal funding from the Oklahoma State Board of Career and Technology Education to the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education (OSRHE) and State System Institutions in exchange for services. The services provided by Oklahoma colleges and universities relate to the operation of Tech Prep programs, Carl D. Perkins programs and teacher in-service/professional development for Career Tech teachers, and Adult Education and Family Literacy programs. Voting for the motion were Regents Holloway, Hickman, Hilliary, Adwon, Sherry, Casey, Warmington and Taylor. Voting against the motion were none.

23. **INVESTMENTS.** Regent Taylor moved, seconded by Regent Hilliary, to approve the proposed investment managers as follows:

- Quantum Energy Partners VIII -- \$10,000,000. This fund will provide equity to large platform companies in multiple energy subsectors including upstream, mid-stream and energy transition and decarbonization partners. This manager is expected to invest in companies at multiple stages of their life- cycles. Investments will be focused in the United States.

Voting for the motion were Regents Hickman, Hilliary, Adwon, Sherry, Casey, Warmington, Taylor and Holloway. Voting against the motion were none.

- Regent Taylor added that as part of the continual analysis and review of the endowment portfolio, Mercer has recommended the full redemption of the holdings in Hillhouse Gaoling. The approval of the termination will allow for the written notice within the 60-day required notice period and funds will be expected after the first of the new year. A reinvestment strategy to be recommended in the next quarter.

Regent Taylor moved, seconded by Regent Holloway, to approve the redemption of the holdings in Hillhouse Gaoling. Voting for the motion were Regents Hickman, Hilliary, Adwon, Sherry, Casey, Warmington, Taylor and Holloway. Voting against the motion were none.

24. **POLICY.** Posting of revisions to Chapter 1 (“Governance”) and Chapter 2 (“Administrative Operations”) of the OSRHE Policy and Procedures Manual. The proposed revisions are the result of a request for a policy audit by the Chancellor and conducted by State Regents’ staff under the direction of our General Counsel. This is for posting only.

25. **LEGISLATIVE AGENDA.** Regent Warmington presented the 2024 Legislative Agenda, which includes the following priorities, many of which align with recommendations contained in the State Regents’ new strategic plan, Blueprint 2030:

- Oklahoma’s Promise
- Grow Oklahoma’s STEM workforce
- Enhance campus safety and security
- Stabilize mandatory cost increases
- Maintain campus infrastructure
- Staff salary support
- Concurrent enrollment, and
- Adult degree completion

Regent Hickman moved to approve the item with one amendment on staff salaries: to strike the word “earmarking” and strike the phrase “in support of appropriate salary” and add “additional financial resources available for merit increases.” Regent Warmington seconded the motion..

Voting for the motion were Regents Hilliary, Adwon, Sherry, Casey, Warmington, Taylor, Holloway and Hickman. Voting against the motion were none.

26. **STATE REGENTS MEETINGS.** Regent Warmington moved, seconded by Regent Taylor, to approve the 2024 schedule of regular meetings for the State Regents for filing with the Office of the Secretary of State. Voting for the motion were Regents Adwon, Sherry, Casey, Warmington, Taylor, Holloway, Hickman and Hilliary. Voting against the motion were none.

27. **COMMENDATIONS.** Regent Holloway moved, seconded by Regent Adwon, to recognize State Regents’ staff for service and recognition on state and national. Regents Sherry, Casey, Warmington, Taylor, Holloway, Hickman, Hilliary and Adwon. Voting against the motion were none.

28. **CONSENT DOCKET.** Regent Casey moved, seconded by Regent Adwon, to approve/ratify the following routine requests which are consistent with State Regents' policies and procedures or previous actions:

- a. Program Name Changes. Approval of institutional requests.
- b. Electronic Delivery.
 - (1) Eastern Oklahoma State College. Approval to offer the existing Associate in Applied Science in Nursing by electronic delivery.
 - (2) University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center. Approval to offer the existing Master of Public Health in Public Health by electronic delivery.
- c. State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement.
 - (1) Ratification of institutional requests for annual renewal of participation in the State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement.
 - (2) Ratification of an institutional request to begin participating in the State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement. Page
- d. Operations.
 - (1) Ratification of purchases over \$25,000.
 - (2) Contract with Attorney General for legal services.
 - (3) Personnel. Ratification of appointment of Executive Director of IT.
- e. Non-Academic Degrees. Ratification of institutional request.

Regents Casey, Warmington, Taylor, Holloway, Hickman, Adwon and Sherry. Regent Hilliary abstained from Item #28-d (1) and Regent Taylor abstained from Item #28-d (1) in reference to AT&T. Voting against the motion were none

29. **REPORTS.** Regent Hickman moved, seconded by Regent Taylor, to acknowledge receipt of the following reports:

- a. Programs. Current Status Report on program requests. (Supplement)
- b. Annual Reports.
 - (1) Acknowledge receipt of the Teacher Education Annual Report on Systemwide Review. (Supplement)
 - (2) Acknowledge receipt of the Teacher Education Program Admission Study.
 - (3) Acknowledge receipt of the Quarterly Policy Exception Report.

- (4) Acknowledge receipt of the Annual Status Report on Program Requests.
(Supplement)
- (5) Acknowledge receipt of the Tuition and Fees Rate Book, FY2024. (Supplement)
- (6) Acknowledge receipt of the Student Cost Survey, FY2024. (Supplement)
- (7) Acknowledge receipt of the Cash Reserve Report for FY2024. (Supplement)
- (8) Acknowledge receipt of the Faculty Salary Report FY2023. (Supplement)
- (9) Acknowledge receipt of the Concurrent Enrollment Annual Report, 2021-22.
(Supplement)

Voting for the motion were Regents Warmington, Taylor, Holloway, Hickman, Hilliary, Adwon, Sherry and Casey. Voting against the motion were none

30. **REPORT OF THE COMMITTEES.**

- a. Academic Affairs and Social Justice and Student Services Committees. The Academic Affairs and Social Justice and Student Services Committees had no additional items for Regents' action.
- b. Budget and Audit Committee. The Budget and Audit Committee had no additional items for Regents' action.
- c. Strategic Planning and Personnel and Technology Committee. The Strategic Planning and Personnel and Technology Committee had no additional items for Regents' action.
- d. Investment Committee. The Investment Committee had no additional items for Regents' action.

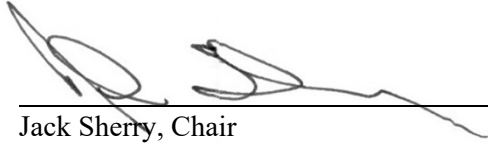
31. **PROPOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION.** Mr. Matt Stangl, General Counsel for the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, advised State Regents that an executive session was not needed.

32. **NEW BUSINESS.** No new business was discussed.

33. **ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT REGULAR MEETING.** Chair Sherry announced that the next regular meetings are scheduled to be held on Wednesday, October 18, 2023 at 10:30 a.m. and Thursday, October 19, 2023 at 9 a.m. at the State Regents office.

34. **ADJOURNMENT.** With no new business and no additional items to address, the meeting was adjourned.

ATTEST:



Jack Sherry, Chair



Steven Taylor, Secretary