

**ARKANSAS TEACHER RETIREMENT SYSTEM
BOARD OF TRUSTEE MEETING – CALLED MEETING**

Wednesday, May 3, 2021

4:15 p.m.

**1400 West Third Street
Little Rock, AR 72201**

ATTENDEES

Board Members Present

Danny Knight, Chair
Lloyd Black, Vice Chair*
June Barron*
Anita Bell *
Kathy Clayton*
Kelly Davis*
Dr. Mike Hernandez*
Shawn Higginbotham*
Michael Johnson*
Hon. Andrea Lea, State Auditor*
Bobby Lester*
Susannah Marshall, Bank Commissioner*
Chip Martin*
Jason Brady, designee for Hon. Dennis Milligan*
Robin Nichols*

ATRS Staff Present

Clint Rhoden, Executive Director
Rod Graves, Deputy Director
Tammy Porter, Ex. Asst/Board Secretary
Vicky Fowler, Manager, Human Resources*
Willie Kincade, Director of Operations*
Martha Miller, General Counsel*
Manju, Director, Information Services*
Brenda West, Internal Audit/Risk Mgmt.*

Board Members Absent

Johnny Key, Secretary, Dept. of Education

* *via ZOOM*

- I. **Call to Order/Roll Call.** Mr. Danny Knight, called the Board of Trustees meeting to order at 4:26 p.m. Roll call was taken. Mr. Johnny Key was absent. Mr. Bobby Lester joined the meeting at 4:28.

- II. **Adoption of Agenda.**

Mr. Higginbotham *moved* for *adoption* of the Agenda. Ms. Clayton *seconded* the *motion*, and the Committee *unanimously approved the motion*.

- III. **Executive Summary.** The Executive Summary was provided for reference with no questions or expansions on the written summary.

- IV. Audit Committee Report.** Ms. Kelly Davis, Chair, gave a report on the Audit Committee Meeting.
- A. Evaluation of Internal Auditor Brenda West.** The Audit Committee went into executive session to discuss the evaluation of Ms. Brenda West. The Committee moved to submit the evaluation of Ms. West to the Executive Director to be sent to the appropriate agency for approval.
- V. 2021 Board of Trustee Election Results.** Director Rhoden presented the Committee with the official Election Results regarding the 2021 Board election. A total of 5 positions were up for reelection.

Of the five positions, 2 were contested: Position #2, Member Trustee – 2nd Congressional District and Position #7 – Member Trustee, Non Certified. The winners of the contested positions were Mr. Michael Johnson, Position #2 and Ms. Kelly Davis, Position #7.

Ms. Anita Bell moved for adoption of Resolutions 2021-19, certifying Mr. Michael Johnson as winner of Position #2, and Ms. Kelly Davis, winner of Position #7 in the 2021 ATRS Board of Trustees Election. Ms. Clayton seconded the motion, and the Committee unanimously approved the motion.

The remaining 3 positions were unopposed: Position #5 – Administrator Trustee, Position #6 – Administrator Trustee, and Position #8 – Minority Trustee. The winners of the uncontested positions were Dr. Michael Hernandez, Position #5, Mr. Shawn Higginbotham, Position #6, and Ms. Anita Bell, Position #8

Hon. Auditor Lea moved for adoption of Resolutions 2021-20, 2021-21, and 2021-22, certifying Dr. Michael Hernandez, Position #5, Mr. Shawn Higginbotham, Position #6, and Ms. Anita Bell, Position #8 as unopposed candidates in the 2021 ATRS Board of Trustees Election. Mr. Lester seconded the motion, and the Committee unanimously approved the motion.

- VI. Executive Session to Discuss Executive Director's Performance Evaluation.**

Mr. Lester moved to convene the Board into Executive Session. Mr. Martin seconded the motion, and the Board unanimously approved the motion.

Mr. Knight, chair, called the Executive Session of the Board of Trustees to order at 4:31 p.m.

Mr. Lester *moved to reconvene* the Board from Executive Session. Ms. Davis *seconded* the *motion*, and the Board *unanimously approved* the *motion*.

Mr. Knight, chair, reconvened the Board of Trustees at 4:48 p.m.

The Board expressed their satisfaction and appreciation to Director Rhoden for his hard work and service to ATRS. The Board was very pleased with the work he has done and looks forward to continue working with Director Rhoden. The Board will pass the evaluation to HR for processing.

VII. Other Business. Ms. Robin Nichols announced that she would be retiring after the June 7, 2021 meeting.

VIII. Adjourn.

Mr. Lloyd Black *moved to adjourn* the Board meeting. Ms. Nichols *seconded the motion* and the Board *unanimously approved the motion*.

Meeting adjourned at 4:58 p.m.

Clint Rhoden
Executive Director

Mr. Danny Knight Chair
Board of Trustees

Tammy Porter,
Board Secretary

Date Approved